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getting to the heart of learning



# Sustainability Program

## Overview

This year-long, in-school program helps school communities achieve and maintain comprehensive use of Open Circle. Team members learn key concepts and practical strategies to help Open Circle and social and emotional learning (SEL) grow and flourish over time. This whole-school approach helps schools enhance classroom and school climate, creating a positive environment for students, staff, and families, and strengthens students' use of SEL skills throughout the school day. The program also helps foster a strong leadership team from your school which shares a commitment to making SEL and Open Circle a vital part of your school culture.

As a Sustainability Team, you will learn to conduct an ongoing, cyclical planning process in which members of the school community develop a vision around their use of SEL; assess the current reality of implementation and its context; set measurable goals; develop and implement an action plan to address the school's specific needs and interests; monitor progress; and evaluate results.

Participation in this program includes:


- 1 ½ days of on-site training during the summer and ½ day of on-site training in early winter
- On-site, telephone, and email consultations with Open Circle trainers
- One copy of the *Open Circle Sustainability Manual* for each team member
- 1 Professional Development Point for each hour of training completed

## Who Should Attend

The Sustainability Program requires a year-long commitment so that participants can create and implement their action plan over the course of the school year. Each sustainability team typically consists of 5-8 members, including:

- At least one administrator (e.g. principal or assistant principal)
- At least two grade-level teachers who use the *Open Circle Curriculum*, preferably from a range of grades
- Other invested staff and members of the school community, such as counselors, school psychologists, special subject teachers, media specialists, afterschool program staff, paraprofessionals, and parents

**Fee: \$4,000 per school plus \$20/Team member materials fee and travel costs (if applicable)**

 This program is provided at your school. Call 781-283-3277 for scheduling.

*Participants say:*

*“The Sustainability Program keeps the purpose of Open Circle intentional in the building so that it doesn’t slide over time.”*

*“Our Sustainability Team brings a sense of shared leadership and clarity of vision that helps get everyone in the building on the same page and working toward the same goals.”*

*“On our Sustainability Team, a team of teachers and other staff can share individual expertise and develop ideas together that enable us to build more potent instruction for our children.”*

*“As a specialist, participating in the leadership of our school’s Sustainability Team has enabled me to have a voice in something important.”*

*“The training made me realize that sustainability is more than just continuing what we’ve been doing. It is broadening Open Circle in my school community.”*