## SMARTER & STRONGER

Houston A+ Challenge 2021-2022

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

CORE TEACHING SKILLS FOR REAL ACADEMIC GAINS

Challenge Institute workshops coach educators to drive gains through research-supported practices. Unlike sit-and-get PD's, Houston A+learning sessions are opportunities for teachers to practice, collaborate, build relationships and walk away with skills and lesson ideas they can immediately put into practice. Houston A+ Challenge tailors learning sessions based on campus needs.

'The professional development received from Houston A+ Challenge allowed our teachers to learn a lot of good mathematics and inspiring teaching models. Their structure allowed us to think of new ways to meet the needs of a new generation of students who we want to love math and be able think logically."

~Toneka Wise Teacher and Math Specialist, Aldine ISD

## **COACHING**

COACHING FOR PERFORMANCE

Like a personal trainer, A+ coaches pair personalized expert support with trust and inspiration. They help educators push themselves to be smarter and stronger - just as we want teachers to do for students. A+ coaches value teachers, specialists, and school leaders by putting clients' and schools' goals first. Coaches bring a toolkit of research-based solutions designed to increase rigor in classrooms, while offering them in the context of learning and planning together. This work is truly job-embedded and will strengthen educators' and leaders' ability to reflect and grow.

Since we began using Houston A+ Challenge we have had double digit improvement in math two years in a row. The coach, Jen Mascheck was professional, an expert in her field, and collaborated seamlessly.

> ~ Dion Varnado Principal, Beaumont ISD

## **ACADEMIES**

WORKING GROUPS FOR WORKING LEADERS

Houston A+ Challenge has over 20 years' experience as a convener of education professionals. Academies provide like-minded professionals from a wide variety of districts and schools an opportunity to study, and learn and discuss ways they can improve their performance toward becoming more effective in their current positions. Participants can reflect on professional challenges, gain insight from fellow practitioners, take part in professional development tailored to their unique position and goals, or simply step back from the work to assess, strategize and regroup. Challenge Academies are driven by you and your work, and provide the flexible support you need.

Houston A+ Challenge has been instrumental in the growth of our mathematics teachers. Over the last few years, they've helped us train and coach teachers across our district. James, Torrey and Jen are the Mathematics Dream team whose professionalism, content knowledge and heart for students has helped our teachers grow students as well as grow themselves professionally.

~Tiffany Reyes Development Specialist, Spring ISD

