

The Teacher-Student Dance

Workshop Overview

The goal of this course is to provide participants with strategies for helping students with behavioral and social challenges in the school setting. There are a variety of tools in the Thrive Method toolkit that are proven to help educators build a constructive relationship with each of their students. This workshop gives practical strategies and interventions that educators and others will be able to use to predict, prevent, and manage the following problem behaviors and more:

- Anxiety, rigidity, and controlling behavior
- Distractibility and difficulty paying attention and focusing and/or an inability to sit still
- Lack of motivation or withdrawn
- Lack of respect for their own and others' property
- Taunting, shaming, intimidation, and bullying
- Tantrums and attention-seeking behaviors
- Risk-taking behaviors
- Physical aggression
- Difficulty calming down
- Lack of cleanliness or hygiene

It can feel like a tightrope walk to find the right balance between running the classroom, helping a student, and coping with disturbing behaviors. Teachers need effective methods to transform challenges into positive performance so they can spend more time helping their students progress and less time dealing with disruptions. *The Teacher-Student Dance* is designed to help educators develop a constructive relationship with their students in order to maximize their students' social and emotional potential.

Who Should Attend?

This workshop is designed for educators and all school personnel who want to understand, influence and improve their students' performance.

What will Educators Learn?

- How to identify the four most common challenging behavior categories.
- How to structure those students using effective sensory techniques.
- How to regulate the child, *without* personal enmeshment and emotional reactivity.
- How educators can regulate themselves to achieve calmness when facing challenging behaviors.
- Activities that have been taught to hundreds of parents, educators, therapists, psychologists, and occupational therapy students, that have been proven to help adults reduce or eliminate the behaviors listed on page one of this workshop outline.

Presenter Profile: Miriam Manela, OTR

- Pediatric behavior expert
- Occupational therapist
- Author, *The Parent-Child Dance: A Guide to Help You Understand and Shape Your Child's Behavior* (October, 2014).
- Sought after international presenter
- Legislative Co-chair of The New Jersey Occupational Therapy Association (NJOTA)
- Founder, The Thrive Group
- Past representative for the representative assembly of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)
- Awards:
 - CBS Radio Women's Achievement Award
 - Top Doctor's in New Jersey award 2015, 2016, and 2017



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