

A professional development offering for: K-12 Classroom Teachers, Department Chairs, Curriculum Coordinators, School Leaders, Assistant Principals, Principals, Special Educators, and Literacy Coaches



What is Rigor?: How to Challenge All of Our Students and Maintain High Standards



Featuring **TEACHERS21** Presenter
Dr. Debra Block

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 NEW DATE!
at the MSAA Office, Franklin

Sign-In/Registration: 8:00 am to 8:30 am

Workshop: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Fees: Member \$195/Non-Member \$260

6 Professional Development Hours

PD Content Area: *Curriculum and Instruction*

How can we challenge our students while also supporting all learners? In this workshop, participants will dig deep to understand what makes for a rigorous learning environment, while they also consider the pacing and location of curriculum elements that challenge our students. As we reach a common understanding, participants will identify and isolate elements of rigor in their own teaching and in sample curricula. They will then practice increasing the richness of more traditional materials while appreciating the need for differentiation through a variety of pedagogic approaches, such as cooperative learning and performance assessments. Finally, they will acquire new materials to add to their teaching repertoire.

Participants will:

- Unpack their own pedagogy.
- Appreciate opportunities for rigor in unexpected places.
- Assess sample curriculum.
- Model and practice creating rigorous lessons.
- Acquire effective curriculum materials that simultaneously differentiate and challenge.

Debbie Block specializes in curriculum development consulting. Dr. Block earned her Bachelor's Degree from Brown University, a Master's Degree from Columbia, and her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Her education focused on both History and Special Education, and her career applications are wide and varied. She taught history at the secondary level, including serving as chair of the History Department at the Maimonides School in Brookline. She was Director of Education at the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library from 2004-2012, and her recent consulting activities include Curriculum Development, Exhibition Support and Professional Development. Dr. Block currently serves as an Educational Consultant with TEACHERS21, focusing in the areas of Assessment, Curriculum Development and Critical Thinking.

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Massachusetts School Administrators' Association ~ 33 Forge Parkway, Franklin, MA 02038

Workshop Contact: Linda Taylor | Phone: (508) 541-9832 | E-mail: taylor@msaa.org