

Having Hard Conversations

As administrators, coaches or teacher leaders, we often come up against situations where difficult topics must be addressed. What do we know about the best strategies for those moments? What questions should we be asking ourselves before we speak up and what words shall we use so the conversation can be as humane and growth producing as possible?

Having Hard Conversations is an interactive PD activity to master the art of challenging conversations. The strategies in the workshop address a wide range of situations, including communications with supervisees and supervisors. The workshop will help directors speak with clarity and courage to directly address difficult situations within their programs.

Audience: Directors and leadership team members who have supervisory experience or those who have successfully completed the three courses in the instructional leadership series offered by the SABES PD Center for Educational Leadership and Strengthening ABE Programs.

Date and Time: Monday, September 26, 2016 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: World Education, 44 Farnsworth St., Boston

Length: Six hours face-to face plus two-hour webinar in spring 2017

Register: SABES calendar <http://calendar.sabes.org> (register early - limited capacity)

Presenter: Jennifer Abrams

Biography

Jennifer Abrams is an international educational and communications consultant for public and private schools, universities, and non-profits. She trains and coaches teachers and administrators, on successful instructional practices, new employee support, supervision and evaluation, generational savvy, having hard conversations and effective collaboration skills. In her educational consulting work, she has presented at annual conferences such as Learning Forward and ASCD.

Her publications include *Having Hard Conversations* (Corwin Press, 2009); "Planning Productive Talk," an article for ASCD's *Educational Leadership* (October, 2011); the chapter "Habits of Mind for the School Savvy Leader" in Art Costa's and Bena Kallick's book *Learning and Leading with Habits of Mind: 16 Essential Characteristics for Success*; and contributions to the book *Mentors in the Making: Developing New Leaders for New Teachers* published by Teachers College Press. Her newest book, with coauthor Valerie Von Frank, is titled *The Multigenerational Workplace: Communicate, Collaborate, and Create Community* (Corwin Press, November 2013).

Jennifer considers herself a "voice coach," helping others learn how to best use their voices— be it collaborating on a team, coaching a colleague, or supervising an employee. Jennifer holds a Master's degree in Education from Stanford University.

