

Breaking Ranks in the Middle & New England League of Middle Schools

As you would expect from the region's premier leader of professional development in middle level education, NELMS now offers training for B.R.I.M. (Breaking Ranks in the Middle). This researched based opportunity will help school leaders identify key practice that will help improve student learning.

B.R.I.M. was developed by NASSP and the Education Alliance at Brown University in order to help school leaders apply the latest research to improve middle level learning. Breaking Ranks In the Middle training provides middle school leadership teams with quality information that help schools get better. Help ensure the success of your entire school by engaging in this successful school renewal through B.R.I.M. In Connecticut, the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) is the service provider for B.R.I.M. training. NELMS is collaborating with CAS on this important initiative.

"The training offers participants the tools and strategies to address and deal with the unique challenges facing middle level leadership including personalization, advisories, teaming, transition from elementary and transition to high school, use of data and other critical topics. The training program's design includes an interactive format for small and large group discussions, problem-solving assignments, as well as analysis and reflections necessary for meaningful comprehension and learning." (NASSP website)

NELMS "trainers of trainers" consultants are ready to assist school leadership teams. Our consultants are licensed by NASSP and have the expertise to help ensure the success of this program in your school. As always, NELMS member discounts apply.

Standard B.R.I.M. Program: *Required*

The standard B.R.I.M. program *requires* two days of training with two consultants. NELMS is offering the program with custom no cost enhancements, not offered anywhere else. We offer B.R.I.M. at a very reasonable price without the high costs of long distance travel. The two day training can be on or off the school site. We strongly recommend a gap of at least two weeks, but preferably one month between day one and day two to allow time for reading, assimilation, reflection and practice. The recommended size of the leadership team from each school should be between three and eight educators depending on the size of the school.

NELMS strongly suggests an initial consultation regarding the careful selection of the leadership team. We encourage leaders to consult with us before the leadership team is formed. The effectiveness of the team is the most important component will leads to the success of B.R.I.M. Team members will become licensed B.R.I.M. trainer/leaders in their school. If needed, NELMS can provide additional training for team members to enhance effectiveness.

In addition, NELMS encourages schools to develop an implementation plan. This plan will help school leadership team focus on priority and important activities in logical sequential steps. This plan should be signed and supported by both the school and district administration.

Appropriate phone consultation related to team selection, team development, as well as consultation related to the creation of the implementation plan are included in the costs identified. We want you to be successful!

NELMS Program Enhancements and Additional Services

Because we know that it takes sustained energy to change culture and current practice, NELMS offers a variety of enhancements that are in addition to the two day required training. The options described are only available after leadership teams have committed to the B.R.I.M. two day training.

B.R.I.M. Plus (One day plus the two day training)

- Offers an introductory experience to develop whole staff awareness and enthusiasm for the B.R.I.M. process. It includes time with the leadership team on role awareness and responsibilities (max. 7 hours)

B.R.I.M. Gold (Three days plus the two day training)

- Initial experience outlined for B.R.I.M. Plus, developing the leadership team
- One consult day with the leadership team based on cornerstone activities after the B.R.I.M. two day training
- One consult day with the whole staff for mentoring, coaching, troubleshooting, etc

B.R.I.M. Platinum (Five days plus the two day training)

- Initial experience outlined for B.R.I.M. Plus, developing the leadership team
- One consult day with the leadership team based on cornerstone activities after the B.R.I.M. two day training
- Three consulting and learning days with the whole staff for mentoring, coaching, troubleshooting, and/or specific topics or courses on related and relevant topics such as differentiated instruction, effective teaming practices, adjusting instruction based on data and observation. (More days available at additional cost)

B.R.I.M. Multi-year (plus the two day training)

- Five consulting and learning days each year for with the whole staff for mentoring, coaching, troubleshooting, and/or professional development topics or courses on related and relevant topics such as differentiated instruction, effective teaming practices, adjusting instruction based on data and observation. (More days available at additional cost)

B.R.I.M. Custom (plus the two day training)

- Custom designed program for individual schools, multiple schools in a district, or neighboring schools collaborating on the training. Number of days beyond the two day training required for B.R.I.M. can be designed to best meet local needs.

If you want or need to know more, need to ask some questions, want to talk it over, or desire more information, call the office at 978-887-6263 or email us at pst@nelms.org or look over the options at www.nelms.org. We want you to be successful at educating Young Adolescents. Please consider this new option for school improvement today!