

Good to Great Development Program

Elementary school students work with their teacher using high-quality instructional materials.



The Challenge

Students have big goals for their lives, and teachers want to make them possible. But helping students meet new, higher standards requires advanced instructional skills and content knowledge. It also takes an unwavering belief that students can do the work that will prepare them for college or a career—and a commitment to let them try, even when it's challenging. None of this is automatic, even for experienced teachers. Teachers need support that shows them how to combine high expectations with strong instruction to make grade-level content accessible to all their students—and see how it can help students reach new heights.

TNTP's Good to Great Development Program helps teachers push their practice to the next level—so they can help all students master challenging content.

Our Approach

Good to Great is a coaching and learning experience that helps experienced teachers and school leaders internalize high standards and align their practice around the belief that all kids—even kids who are far behind—can master challenging content.

Seeing What's Possible

Teachers believe their students can master more challenging material when they've seen them demonstrate success.¹ *Good to Great* gives teachers a safe and supportive environment in multi-day teaching intensives during the school year or longer summer teaching institutes to lead rigorous academic experiences for their students, using high-quality instructional materials and setting students up for success. They can watch first-hand as students rise to the challenge and demonstrate immediate growth.

¹ Guskey, T.R. (2002). Professional development and teacher change. Teachers and Teaching: theory and practice, 8(3), 381-391.



Developing collective efficacy

Schools are more successful when teachers work together to improve the student experience. Teachers work with experienced coaches and their peers to practice identifying, planning for, and delivering challenging content, receive immediate feedback to use as they hone their skills, and develop effective habits for collaboration.

School Leader Training and Support

For high expectations to stick, everyone in a school must be on board. Working alongside their teachers, leaders learn how to recognize key elements of strong teaching in each subject area. With the support of a TNTP leadership coach, leaders practice analyzing standards-based instruction in a classroom, giving effective feedback to develop content skills, and leading teachers to analyze student work and rehearse lessons.

"Good to Great has transformed everything I am doing with my teaching. I was an average teacher and now I'm able to grasp that feeling of being a great teacher." — Good to Great Participant

Our Support

Each new partnership begins with a diagnostic, which may include interviewing teachers and school leaders, observing classrooms, and reviewing student work samples to understand pressing needs. We then select the Good to Great model that best fits the partner's needs and help integrate the approach into their existing professional development and support systems.

Our Results

Since 2015, over 900 teachers have participated in Good to Great experiences across 51 programs. Accelerating Student Learning Intensives have been implemented in California, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Nevada, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas. Teachers holding high expectations for students have increased by 20% after participating in Accelerating Student Learning Intensives, and across all classrooms 8% more students said that teachers in their class take the time to make sure they understand; that they "push themselves to understand the content in this class" and "if a problem is hard, I'll continue working until I solve it" after just four days. Schools that committed to a full year of support for literacy instruction alongside a commitment to utilizing high-quality instructional materials saw significant gains in ELA assessment results – enough to improve by a level in the state accountability system.

Get in Touch

To learn more about bringing the Good to Great Development Program to your school or district, reach out to Valerie Barron, Partner (valerie.barron@tntp.org).