

MASSACHUSETTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION
and RIBAS ASSOCIATES PRESENTS

**Closing Achievement Gaps for
Special Education and Minority Students**

Course: #17-436

**Presented by:
Paul Ash**

In this workshop, you will learn 15 high-leverage, research-based strategies to close achievement gaps for special education and minority students. "The facts are clear in every state: our education system does far worse for special education students, low-income students, and students of color than for their white or more affluent peers". (Education Trust, 2015)

Here are some of the major strategies we will discuss: The importance of educational leadership, creating a compelling vision, clarifying the importance of why, overcoming a culture of low expectations, building team strategies and effectiveness, creating a data/problem-solving culture, academic and social intervention strategies that work, overcoming social and political obstacles, and diffusing successful practices and innovation.

Dr. Ash will share with you how the Lexington Public Schools and other schools in the US and abroad closed achievement gaps for special education and minority students. You will learn how you can significantly narrow and close achievement gaps. These research-based strategies have been shared with superintendent and secondary principals at state conferences, and with educators throughout Massachusetts.

In Lexington,

- **Grade 10 ELA Special Education MCAS scores increased from 79% proficient and advanced in 2010 to 100% in 2014;**
- **Grade 10 Special Education mathematics scores increased from 81% proficient and advanced in 2010 to 95% in 2014;**
- **Grade 10 ELA African American MCAS scores increased from 43% proficient and advanced in 2007 to 100% in 2014;**
- **Grade 10 African American mathematics scores increased from 68% proficient and advanced in 2007 to 96% in 2014; and**
- **SAT scores for African American students increased by a total of 294 points on the writing, reading, and mathematics tests combined over a seven-year period.**

Tuesday, January 24, 2017
at the MESPA Education Center
28 Lord Road, Suite 125, Marlborough

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

All staff members and office personnel from a principal's school/district *in which* the principal is a MESPA member receive the member rate.



6 Professional Development Points