

Safe and Civil: Professional Learning

Summer Sessions

The Iowa Department of Education is pleased to offer professional learning sessions provided by Safe & Civil Schools. The variety of sessions will focus on providing evidence-based strategies for Tier I, II, and III behavior supports. This learning is provided at no cost to classroom teachers, instructional coaches, building and district leaders, and educational partners. Invitations to the summer professional learning sessions will be tiered based on school designation and need.

[Registration Link](#)

Sessions:

Coaching CHAMPS

Session Specifics	Session Details
Session Length	3 Days
Dates and Times	August 3 & 4, 2026, October 6, 2026 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Presenter	Safe & Civil Schools Tricia Skyles
Location	Waukee Community School District (<i>Exact Location within the district TBD</i>)
Description	<p><i>Pre-requisite: CHAMPS or Discipline in the Secondary Training</i></p> <p><i>Training is intended for: District and building leaders, coaches and teacher leaders.</i></p> <p>The three-day training will be split into two sections, two days back-to-back and one day later. This schedule allows leaders and coaches to take what they learn back into practice immediately. This training will dig deeper into data collection, data analysis, and action steps.</p> <p>Coaching CHAMPS training provides detailed guidance on building a schoolwide program to implement proven, research-based classroom management practices. A formalized structure for collaborative coaching clears the path for administrators and nonevaluative coaches to support teachers in creating calm, orderly, and positive classrooms.</p> <p>Coaching CHAMPS is designed to close the gap between the ideal of research-based practices and the actual implementation of positive classroom management.</p> <p>Drawing on what we know about effective support for students, Coaching CHAMPS training offers a comprehensive guide to supporting teachers in using effective behavior management practices. Through a structured, tiered coaching model, Coaching CHAMPS training empowers schools to more effectively bridge professional development and real-world classroom success. By offering a clear framework rooted in research and aligned with MTSS principles, it equips administrators and coaches to provide differentiated support that meets the unique needs of every teacher. With Coaching CHAMPS training, schools can build a strong foundation for positive, effective classroom management—ensuring that every teacher is supported, and every student benefits.</p>

CHAMPS & Discipline in the Secondary Classroom (combined session)

Session Specifics	Session Details
Session Length	2 Days
Dates and Times	June 23 & 24, 2026 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Presenter	Safe & Civil Schools Jacob Edwards
Location	Waukee Community School District (<i>Exact Location within the district TBD</i>)
Description	<p><i>Training is intended for: District and building leaders, K-12 classroom teachers, coaches and support staff.</i></p> <p>At its heart, the CHAMPS/DSC approach is designed to help teachers create and implement a classroom management plan that is proactive, positive, and instructional. Using practical strategies that set the stage for appropriate behavior, the teacher can focus on maintaining positive interactions. Students become more motivated and engaged in the classroom. This process improves the classroom dynamics by building a strong sense of classroom community.</p> <p>Through CHAMPS/DSC training, teachers learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a desired classroom culture and environment • Organize their classroom effectively • Identify and teach expectations • Learn effective supervision • Improve student motivation through positive interactions • Correct in a calm, consistent, and concise manner

Early-Stage Intervention

Session Specifics	Session Details
Session Length	2 Days
Dates and Times	June 23 & 24, 2026 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Presenter	Safe & Civil Schools Tricia Skyles
Location	Mississippi Bend AEA, 729 21st St., Bettendorf, IA 52722
Description	<p>Early-Stage Interventions help teachers <i>start strong</i>, intervene early with approachable tools, and reserve more intensive support for when early attempts don't work.</p> <p>Attendees will learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and implement a sequence of simple classroom interventions to address an individual student's chronic misbehavior • Collect data to determine the scope of a problem and assess the effectiveness of interventions • Identify and improve classroom management issues that may be contributing to student misbehavior • Consider academic issues that may play a role in student misbehavior • Address problem behavior in its early stages so a school's Tier 2 and 3 resources can be focused on the most difficult problems <p>Teachers and other staff report the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and maintain productive, respectful learning environments. • Respond effectively to behavior, discipline, and motivation problems. • Develop a repertoire of evidence-based strategies such as planned discussion, using reinforcement, responding consistently to inappropriate behavior, setting goals, and so on. • Learn to collect data to ensure that the function of the behavior is identified and that results of intervention can be evaluated objectively.

Tough Kids

Session Specifics	Session Details
Session Length	2 Days <i>Note: There are two locations for this training. Please register for the correct location.</i>
Dates and Times	Locations 1 and 2: June 25 & 26, 2026 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Presenter	Location 1: Safe & Civil Schools Jacob Edwards Location 2: Safe & Civil Schools Dennis Griffin
Location	Location 1: Waukee Community School District (<i>Exact Location within the district TBD</i>) Location 2: Mississippi Bend AEA, 729 21st St., Bettendorf, IA 52722
Description	<p><i>Training is intended for: K-8 District and building leaders, classroom teachers, coaches and support staff.</i></p> <p>Featuring content from William R. Jenson's The Tough Kid Series, this professional development is designed to provide ready- to-use, classroom-tested materials to help motivate and manage even the toughest-to-teach students. Tough Kid Training focuses on providing practical, proven strategies to help difficult students manage their behavioral excesses and deficits and learn appropriate behaviors. Minimize Tough Kid disruptions and maximize learning for all.</p> <p>Training covers practical, evidence-based strategies for dealing effectively with tough problems like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguing • Aggression toward staff and other students • Noncompliance • Lack of motivation • Poor academic performance <p>Staff will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What causes Tough Kid behavior • How to practically assess it • How to implement proactive strategies to remediate Tough Kid behavior <p>This training focuses on the 1-3 students in your classroom who are pushing up against Tier 2 and have behavior excesses such as noncompliance, as well as have behavior and social deficits. It will walk you through using antecedent and motivational strategies for tough kids and, lastly, "reductive techniques" (corrections) that are effective with them.</p> <p>The Tough Kid training provides deeper insight and a broader toolkit for educators dealing with more complex behavioral issues or when early interventions are insufficient.</p>