

# DSAMT School Partnership Program Down Syndrome Specialist Training

**The Down Syndrome Specialist Partnership Program** trains & supports general education and special education teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, therapists and other educational professionals on best practice strategies to help improve the success of students with Down syndrome in the classroom.

It provides advanced training on Down syndrome, how it can affect the learning process and academic performance. Importantly, it trains participants on techniques, approaches and materials that have been proven to be successful for exceptional learners. Trainings are specifically designed to assist professionals in teaching students with Down syndrome, although many topics are applicable to all students, with or without special needs.

This program is a collaborative effort between DSAMT and Middle Tennessee school districts with the main goal of providing support for educators and families seeking to build a meaningful education for students with Down syndrome. The program began in 2010 and continues to be one of DSAMT's top priorities.

Trained Specialists become valued resources in their respective school districts on teaching students with Down syndrome, particularly in an inclusive setting. Participants receive a certificate of completion and access to additional trainings and resources, which provide additional support on reading, inclusion, transition, behavioral strategies and more.

The Down Syndrome Specialist Partnership Program works to address the need that many educators feel for more support and information concerning the educational needs of students with Down syndrome. DSAMT hopes that through this program, we can bridge the communication gap between parents and educators by improving the exchange of perspectives and information. In Middle TN in-person training is \$1,000 and virtual is \$750. Out of area \$2,000 + travel expenses or \$1,500 for virtual. These are typically scheduled as a 3-hour in-service training.

**If you are a school professional and are interested in giving your educators more tools to maximize the success of your school's exceptional learners, please contact DSAMT's Executive Director, Alecia Talbott, at [alecia@ somethingextra.org](mailto:alecia@somethingextra.org) or c. 615.881.4261 to schedule a training.**

