

# Responsive Facilitation



# Public Speaking

## BUILDING ESSENTIAL SKILLS for Youth-Adult Partners in School Change



**This is a remarkable era of education redesign in Vermont.** With the advent of Act 77: Flexible Pathways and new Education Quality Standards, there are unprecedented opportunities for youth to partner with adults as messengers and co-creators of school remodeling. In order to be effective change agents, individuals of all ages require core skill development. UP for Learning is offering two highly effective workshops, Responsive Facilitation and Public Speaking, to support any youth-adult team currently reshaping the nature of learning in their schools.

**Who Should Come:** These workshops are for high school students, teachers, administrators, school board members, or other individuals partnering in school change efforts. Participants should be members of youth-adult teams actively engaged in redesign efforts. It is important to note that we are not offering general skill training, but rather fostering capacity building for teams already involved in a change process. (Examples are YATST teams, Act 77 or Education Quality Standards implementation groups, League of Innovative Schools or Proficiency-Based Learning teams.) It is expected that participants will immediately apply these new facilitation and communication skills back at home. The recommended team composition is two adults and two to four

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youth; team size can vary but a mix of youth and adults is required.

## Responsive Facilitation Workshop

### Overview:

Our Responsive Facilitation interactive workshop introduces highly effective facilitation protocols developed by the national School Reform Initiative (SRI). We will explore core attributes of effective facilitation and experience a wide variety of dialogue strategies that can be readily utilized in school change work. Participants will be prepared to take a lead role in planning and facilitating interactive dialogue events in multiple settings back at home, with audiences of all sizes and with attendees of all ages. Nationally recognized facilitator and SRI co-founder Daniel Baron will model these strategies; participants will experience and then reflect on their use from a facilitator's perspective. Daniel has spent 40 years working in public, private, and Native American education, and pre-K through college, as a teacher, coach, whole school change facilitator and school leader.

## Public Speaking Workshop

### Overview:

Those involved in school change often find themselves "on the spot" in varied public speaking settings. Common fears about speaking in public will be replaced by a simple approach to organizing and focusing ideas, based on a belief that public speaking is not about perfection, or performing, but rather sharing and exchanging ideas. Participants will learn the essential components of public speaking, including tips and exercises to improve speaking and listening skills, the impact of body language, the power of our gestures, and the use of vocal variety. In large and small groups exercises, attendees will gain confidence by speaking and listening to one another, learning how to receive

and give meaningful, supportive reflections. This workshop will be facilitated by Dona Bate, President and owner of dbate speaking, a communications consulting firm in Montpelier. Dona has 35 years of achievements as speaker, trainer, manager, mediator and group facilitator.

## Logistics and Registration

### February 5: Responsive Facilitation Workshop

9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Labor Hall, 46 Granite Street, Barre  
To register, go to [tinyurl.com/upbaronlabor](http://tinyurl.com/upbaronlabor)

### February 6: Responsive Facilitation Workshop

9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., The Clementwood Mansion, College of St. Joseph, 13 Clement Road., Rutland  
To register, go to [tinyurl.com/upbaroncsj](http://tinyurl.com/upbaroncsj)

### March 17: Public Speaking Workshop

9 a.m.–2 p.m., Community College of Vermont, 660 Elm Street, Montpelier

To register, go to [tinyurl.com/updbate](http://tinyurl.com/updbate)

Snacks, beverages and lunch will be provided at all workshops. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first serve basis and space is limited. Please register online by following the registration links above.

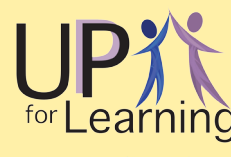
### Cost for each training

Vermont Schools: \$75 per adult, \$50 per student.

Full Member YATST Schools: Free for a team of eight (\$25 for each additional participant)

Alumni YATST Schools: \$25 per participant.

Communicating School Redesign class participants: Free for team of four (\$25 for each additional participant)



## Questions?

For more info, contact Mary Whalen at 802-595-2561 or [mary@upforlearning.com](mailto:mary@upforlearning.com).