Today’s workforce demands different skills and knowledge than were needed in the past. By bringing youth and adults together to elevate youth voice and youth-adult partnership in learning and decision-making, we can deliver on the deep, powerful learning required to meet 21st-century challenges.

WHY YATST?
For youth, working closely with adults toward shared goals seeds the skills and confidence for lifelong learning and civic engagement. For adults, working closely with youth creates the opportunity to learn from the insights and unique perspectives of youth, often renewing their professional sense of purpose and shifting teaching toward more student-centered practices.

HOW DOES YATST WORK?
YATST teams utilize the 4 Rs — Rigor, Relevance, Relationship, and Shared Responsibility — as a research-based framework to understand what youth and adults experience in school. They facilitate dialogue to identify desired changes and build community consensus for action. Youth and adults work together to co-create an education that is challenging, relevant, based on strong student-teacher relationships, and where the responsibility for learning is shared by all. The Participatory Action Research Cycle guides this process.
This group, YATST, can make a big change. And if you stay with it, it can make a change in you!

—Student reflection

YATST COMPONENTS

- UP for Learning faculty expertise and coaching
- Curriculum resources and materials
- Program orientation, advanced trainings and collaborative work days

COST

- Full Member Schools (first three years of partnership) $6,500
- Alumni Schools (ongoing partnership starting year four) $2,500
- Adults can enroll in the YATST graduate seminar for 3 credits through UP and Southern New Hampshire University ($1,992), or up to 45 professional development hours toward recertification ($1,656).

YATST is an initiative of

UP for Learning

A nonprofit organization amplifying the role of youth as partners & agents of change in education

UP for Learning works to:

- Ensure students own their learning and participate actively in school change,
- Create engaging learning environments where all students thrive,
- Elevate youth personal power and purpose, and
- Develop leadership skills and promote lifelong civic engagement.

“Students who believe they have a voice in school are seven times more likely to be academically motivated than students who do not believe they have a voice in school.”

—Russell Quaglia, Quaglia Institute of Student Aspirations, 2014

To achieve these outcomes, UP for Learning crafts innovative, student-centered education initiatives and supports schools with customized training, coaching, graduate courses, professional development, and online resources. In addition, we are an active contributor to national and international efforts to integrate student-centered practices in education.

“When people ask me for an example of high quality work on student voice and youth-adult partnerships, I always send them to UP for Learning.”

—Dr. Dana Mitra, national leader in youth-adult partnership research and practices, Pennsylvania University

Since 2008, UP has trained more than 2,600 student leaders in 113 Vermont schools through 334 programs.

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For more info about YATST, contact Harry Frank: harry@upforlearning.org

UP for Learning envisions a time when all youth will take responsibility for their own learning by collaborating with adults in the educational system to reach their goals.