



MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION



*A two-part MSAA Professional Development Workshop for: All Pre-K to 12 Educators, including Teachers, Counselors, District and Building Administrators*

## Closing Achievement Gaps (for Special Education, Minority, and Poverty Students, and Students of Color), and Raising Achievement for All Students



Featuring *Ribas Associates* Presenter:  
Dr. Paul Ash

Wednesday, January 30, 2019  
and Friday, March 8, 2019  
at the MSAA Office, Franklin

**Sign-In:** 8:00am–8:30am  
**Workshop:** 8:30am–3:00pm

**PD Hours:** 15  
**Content Area:** *Curriculum and Instruction*

**Fees:** Member \$390 / Non-Member \$520

**MSAA Contact:** [pd@msaa.net](mailto:pd@msaa.net)

In this workshop for all K-12 educators, you will learn how to close the achievement gaps for special education, students of color, and low income students, and raise achievement for ALL students. School systems are encouraged to bring more than one educator to work as a team, if possible. Single participants are also welcome.

By the end of the second day of the two-part workshop, participants will learn how to specifically apply 15 proven and practical strategies from national and international schools that have closed achievement gaps. Dr. Ash, the workshop leader and former superintendent of schools in Lexington MA, will share also how his school system closed achievement gaps by grade 10 (100% proficient in ELA, and 96% proficient in mathematics) and was ranked the highest performing school system in the United States (New York Times, <https://nyti.ms/2kHY7YI>). In addition, you will learn the latest research on effective teams, leadership, and whole school system change.

Between the two sessions, three hours of additional work will be required (for reflection time and gap closing discussions with school colleagues). Participants will be asked to discuss and identify four to six gap closing strategies for their school. During the second workshop, participants will learn about key gap closing strategies at a deeper level and will develop a much more focused action plan.

In Lexington,

- Grade 10 ELA Special Education MCAS scores increased from 97% proficient and advanced in 2010 to 100% in 2014
- Grade 10 Special Education mathematic 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% 2014
- Grade 10 African American mathematic scores increased from 68% proficient and advanced in 2007 to 96% in 2014
- SAT scores for African American students increased by a total of 294 points on writing,

reading, and mathematics tests combined over a seven-year period.

**Dr. Paul Ash** retired as the Superintendent of Schools in Lexington, Massachusetts after 10 years. During his 42 year career, Dr. Ash has held a wide range of school leadership roles: Superintendent of Schools, Westwood, MA; Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Finance, and Administration, Wellesley, MA Chair of the Legislation Committee, MA Association of School Superintendents. Dr. Ash's contributions to the field have been recognized at the state and national level in student achievement, human resources/labor relations, leadership and professional learning. He is the co-author of highly acclaimed book, *School Systems That Learn: Improving Professional Practice, Overcoming Obstacles, and Diffusing Innovation.*

[Register online at www.msaa.net](http://www.msaa.net)

## LEADERSHIP MATTERS



MSAA | 33 Forge Pkwy | Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997

