



Professional Development for Teachers, JK-12

## CRITICAL FRIENDS GROUP COACHES TRAINING INSTITUTE

Athens, Greece  
June 17 - 21. 2012

TO ENROLL IN THE  
CRITICAL FRIENDS  
GROUP FACILITATOR  
TRAINING  
INSTITUTE:

CONTACT MS.  
MARIETTA GARBIS  
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EXT. 302 OR  
garbism@acs.gr

ENROLLMENT  
DEADLINE:

March 15, 2012



**Discover the power of Critical Friends Groups for your school, department, or group and become a certified trained coach/facilitator in this five-day institute -- *and enjoy the beauties of Athens.***

*Apply early: five places still available*



*The Institute for Innovation and Creativity is an initiative of the American Community Schools of Athens.*

## What are CFGs?

A Critical Friends Group is a form of a professional learning community made up of educators who share a commitment to professional growth, collaboration, and improvement of student learning. “In 1994, the Annenberg Institute for School Reform designed a different approach to professional development, one that would be focused on the practitioner and on defining what would improve student learning.”<sup>1</sup> Since 2000, Critical Friends Groups Trainings have been coordinated by the National School Reform Faculty (NSRF) at the Harmony Education Center in Bloomington, Indiana. The Director of NSRF, Michelle Mattoon, will be conducting the training on our campus.

reflective  
**Collaboration** Athens  
CFG Communities  
ACS



## Institute Course Description:

This is a five day New Coaches Training for Critical Friends Groups. This training will focus on teaching participants how to increase student achievement through collaborative professional learning communities (CFGs). By the end of the training, participants will have learned to improve student learning, create equity in the classroom, increase efficient, effective communication and enhance personal performance through the use of protocols and reflective practice. Upon conclusion of the five days of this training, participants will become official CFG coaches.

## Institute Trainer:

**Michele Mattoon is the director of the National School Reform Faculty.** She and other NSRF national facilitators work with schools across the U.S. and overseas to implement Critical Friends Groups trainings, strategic planning sessions and other work relating to collaborative learning. Michele has worked with NSRF as a national facilitator for 11 years and enjoys facilitating trainings for educators interested in becoming coaches for Critical Friends Groups. Michele also facilitates strategic planning sessions for educational and business groups.

Before becoming director for NSRF, Michele taught school at Harmony School, an independent, early childhood-12 school in Bloomington, Indiana, for 26 years. She was awarded the Hoosier Educator Award in 2000 and the Dorothy Johnson Award for Excellence in Education of Young Children in 2001. During her teaching years, Michele created and developed a conflict resolution, mediation and life skills program and still works with schools to transform their cultures into ones of peace, mutual support and collaborative learning. She has been trained in Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction and teaches adults and students how to acquire a greater peace of mind and focus.

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<sup>1</sup> See the NSRF Website for more information on the history and practice of CFGs. <http://www.nsrffharmony.org>

## Institute Intern Trainer:

David Nelson brings 22 years of international and USA teaching experience to his high school Social Studies classrooms at ACS Athens, where he has taught for the past eleven years. He has experienced a wide variety of administrative styles that empower faculty and seek to improve student learning. As a teacher and building coordinator for professional growth at ACS Athens, he is applying his research and CFG facilitator training to help establish “Collaborative Learning Communities” in his school. He has been trained as a CFG Coach and has facilitated a k-12 pilot group this year. As a building representative to NESA (Near East South Asia Council of Overseas Schools) he has also been active with the promotion of professional growth opportunities for the ACS faculty.



## Institute Schedule:

Sunday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> -	Optional guided tour of Athens: Acropolis, Plaka, the Great Walk, Lunch at a Greek Taverna and entrance to the new Acropolis Museum
Monday, June 18 <sup>th</sup> - 9:00-4:30	CFG Training Institute on the Campus of ACS Athens (Lunch break from 1:00-2:00 each day)
Tuesday, June 19 <sup>th</sup> - 9:00-4:30	CFG Training Institute on the Campus of ACS Athens
Wednesday, June 20 <sup>th</sup> 9:00-4:30	CFG Training Institute on the Campus of ACS Athens Lunch Provided by ACS Group Members
Thursday, June 21 <sup>st</sup> 9:00-4:30	CFG Training Institute on the Campus of ACS Athens
Friday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup> 9:00-2:30	CFG Training Institute on the Campus of ACS Athens

## Institute Fees:

**€550**

The CFG Training is being organized and hosted by the Institute for Innovation and Creativity at ACS Athens. The fees include the five-day training, training packet, lunch on Wednesday, snacks and coffee breaks. Upon completion of the 5-day training, members will receive certification as CFG Coaches through the National School Reform Faculty.

**Institute for Innovation and Creativity**  
Innovation Creativity Culture Critical Thought



### **Pre-Institute Program (June 17<sup>th</sup> Athens Tour)- €30**

Visiting educators are invited to participate in an optional tour of Athens on the Sunday prior to the institute. The pre-institute program will include a guided tour of the Acropolis, the Plaka, the Great Walk, Lunch at a Greek Taverna and entrance to the new Acropolis Museum. As well, participants will have time to enjoy shopping at the Sunday bazar in the Athens neighborhood of Monastiraki.

\*Opportunities to receive University Credit for the Institute may be available at an additional cost through one of the Universities that we work with. Please indicate your interest on the application email.

\*\*Lunches, Hotel and transportation are not included in the fee. The school is located directly on the Metro Line for easy access to centrally located hotels throughout Athens. --Recommendations for Hotels available upon request.

## Payment:

Registration is final once the payment has been received.

Training Institute- €550

Pre-Institute Optional Program- €30

## Bank Deposit information and Wire Transfers

\*\*Indicate on transfer your name and "IIC- CFG Training Institute"

### Deposits

#### **National Bank of Greece,**

(Account No. 178/480060-56) Euro €

#### **Alpha Bank**

(Account No. 209 00 2320 001026) Euro €

(Account No. 209 01 5001 000037) USD \$

#### **Piraeus Bank**

(Account No. 5009-049908-372) Euro €

### Wire Transfers

#### **National Bank of Greece**

(Account No. 178/480060-56) Euro €

Sxoles Amerikanikis Paroikias Athinon – ACS

Platia Eleutheroton, Xalandri, Athens, Greece

Halandri Branch

Swift Number: ETHNGRAA

IBAN Number: GR59 0110 1780 0000 1784 8006 056

#### **Alpha Bank**

(Account No. 209 00 2320 001026) Euro €

(Account No. 209 01 5001 000037) US Dollars \$

Sxoles Amerikanikis Paroikias Athinon – ACS

493 Messoghion Ave., Aghia Paraskevi GR-15343,

Branch 209

Swift Number/ BIC: CRBAGRAA

IBAN Number (€): GR12 0140 2090 2090 0232 0001 026

IBAN Number (\$): GR79 0140 2090 2090 1500 1000 037

#### **Piraeus Bank**

(Account No. 5009-049908-372) Euro €

Sxoles Amerikanikis Paroikias Athinon – ACS

429 Messoghion Ave., Aghia Paraskevi GR-15343

Aghia Paraskevi Branch

Swift Number: PIRBGRAA

IBAN Number: GR62 0172 0090 0050 0904 9908 372

It is necessary for the deposit or wire transfer slip to be faxed to ACS at: 210 6390051 (Attention: Cashier) or e-mailed to: kordolaimil@acs.gr. If fax is not available, please call the cashier with the deposit/wire transfer slip information at: 210 6393 200 ext. 208. The transaction's legal receipt will be mailed to participant immediately upon verification of the transaction with the bank. \*\*Indicate on transfer your name and "IIC- CFG Training Institute"

## **VISA / MASTER Card Payments:**

Payments can be made with VISA or MASTER CARD, (electronic only), through the secure internet site of the Piraeus Bank, [www.easypay.gr](http://www.easypay.gr). This site is written in both English and Greek. You do not have to be the Bank's customer or registered to use it. To make a payment the site menu is: /quick access-education / colleges / ACS Athens and follow the simple payment instructions. Please note that VISA/MASTER card companies charge a commission which reduces the amount the school receives. Since the school will need to recoup this commission, please, add 1.5% to the transaction amount you wish to pay to the school. For example, if you wish to pay to the school 1,000 Euro with your VISA / Master card, you should send 1,015 Euro.

