



**TASS**  
**Teaching All Secondary Students**  
**Program Summary**

Teaching All Secondary Schools (TASS) is a VT-HEC Program focused on supporting middle and high school transformation whose goal is the improvement of outcomes for all students. TASS delivers a comprehensive, coordinated and coherent array of supports and learning opportunities designed to apply the principles of Education Neuroscience in a standards-based learning context for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**School Supports**

TASS provides a long-term, integrated system of embedded professional development, coaching and leadership support within a system of collaborative implementation that is tailored to the long-term goals and short-term needs of each school.

**Professional Learning Opportunities**

- ***Using Neuroscience to Make Standards Work for ALL Students*** - Annual series of workshops for teachers on practical issues applying standards-based learning in schools
- ***TASS Certificate of Learning Design - Learning, Connecting & Leading in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*** - Teacher Leader Certificate - 18 credit sequence in partnership with Castleton College to earn a VT-HEC Certificate for mastery and application of brain-based learning principles, collaboration, leadership and professional learning in standards-based learning, 21<sup>st</sup> Century context. Can lead to Master degree at Castleton.
- ***First Six Weeks Workshop & Course*** - jump-starting the new year by planning to implement principle of neuroscience in classrooms in a standards-based context; course provides support for implementing plan through the beginning of the year
- ***The Brain, Mind & Learning & Struggling Learners***- Various Workshops - reviewing latest findings of Neuroscience to support learning and struggling learners.
- ***Tailored Graduate Courses & Workshops*** - specially designed for the TASS schools

**Leadership Supports**

- Leadership support sessions gathering TASS building administrators and Curriculum Coordinators for learning, sharing, problem solving, coordination, etc.
- Partnership with VT Principals Association on leadership support effort including a strand at VPA Leadership Academy, follow-up sessions during the year & supported summer planning opportunities for school leadership teams

**TASS Staff**

TASS has gathered a team of expert consultants and instructors who can address a variety of school needs, provide professional learning, coaching, mentoring, supported planning, etc. TASS staff have included:

- Former Administrators - Val Gardner, Otho Thompson, Dot Blake, Dennis Kane
- Former & Current Teachers -Heather Baron, Wendy Cohen, Julie Conrad, Susie Girardin, Bill Rich, Tara Sharkey