



**Ted Swartz**

### **Background**

Theodore Swartz was the lead applicant for our school's first charter. Previous to his involvement here, he served as the Superintendent and Principal of a one-school, 400 student, K-8 district in New Jersey. Under Dr. Swartz's leadership, the district established a strong track record of academic success, including the distinction of being the school, among 21 in the county, with the highest percentage of students meeting state standards in all sections tested, on both the fourth grade and the eighth grade statewide assessments. With a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology, Special Education, from New York University, Dr. Swartz has served in a wide variety of school positions, including: an elementary and intermediate school teacher in the Bushwick and Ocean Hill-Brownsville sections in Brooklyn; a special education teacher in an elementary school on Staten Island; an adjunct assistant and associate professor of English, including remedial reading and writing, with the City University of New York; and the principal of an elementary school in Putnam County, New York. Dr. Swartz first saw Caleb Gattegno teach in the early 1970s, when Gattegno conducted a demonstration lesson at his school. He worked for Gattegno from 1972-1979, and has continued to study and teach about the subordination of teaching to learning since then.

### **At BBL**

Dr. Swartz was a first grade teacher during Bronx Better Learning's first two years of operation. He later served as the school's Executive Director, and now is Professional Development Specialist, training teachers in all aspects of the subordination of teaching to learning.