

NB

Nuts and Bolts Symposiums

The **Never-Boring** Conference for Educators

**Stillwater
Oklahoma**

June 16-17, 2021

2021 Symposium Program & Agenda



DAILY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 Stillwater, Oklahoma

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. | Registration and Breakfast |
| 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Bookstore |
| 8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. | Opening Games, Dancing, Prizes and Opening Keynote – Jack Berckemeyer |
| 9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. | Break |
| 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Session 1 |
| 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | Break |
| 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Session 2 |
| 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Lunch and Celebration |
| 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Session 3 |
| 1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. | Break and snack |
| 1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Mini Session 4 |
| 2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | Break |
| 2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Closing Keynote – Jonathan Grant-Brown |

Please visit the bookstore.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 17, 2021 Stillwater, Oklahoma

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|-------------------------|--|
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. | Registration and Breakfast |
| 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Bookstore |
| 8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. | Dancing, Prizes and Keynote – Monica Genta |
| 9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. | Break |
| 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Session 5 |
| 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | Break |
| 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Session 6 |
| 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Lunch and Celebration |
| 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Session 7 |
| 1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. | Break and snack |
| 1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Mini Session 8 |
| 2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | Break |
| 2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Dancing, Prizes and Closing Keynote – Mark McLeod |

Please visit the bookstore.

WEDNESDAY AT A GLANCE - PART ONE

Keynote: Jack Berckemeyer – 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.

| Presenter | Session 1 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. | Session 2 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. | Session 3 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. | Mini Session 4 1:45 - 2:30 p.m. |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| Eric Bartkowski | Places, Everyone! 10 Theatre Games to Enhance Relationships and Learning <i>109</i> | | | Gamification Tips and Strategies to Promote Self-paced Learning <i>109</i> |
| Jack Berckemeyer | Teaching Strategies that Motivate Young Adolescents <i>Media Center</i> | | | Understanding Adolescents <i>Media Center</i> |
| Kim Campbell | Transforming the Norm <i>Orchestra Room</i> | Shake, Rattle and Roll; Motivating the Middle School Student <i>Orchestra Room</i> | If You Can't Manage Them, You Can't Teach Them <i>Orchestra Room</i> | Brain Boosters... on Steroids! <i>Orchestra Room</i> |
| Chris Culver | | | Let's Get Positive: Improving School Culture and Climate <i>131</i> | |
| Kelly Forbes | | Cultural Proficiency and ¡Éxito! <i>131</i> | | |
| Monica Genta | 180 Days of Awesome: Celebrating Every Day of Education <i>Choir Room</i> | The Rooted Classroom: Building Ridiculously Strong Relationships with Students <i>Choir Room</i> | What Time is It? Game Time! Quick and Easy Learning Games <i>Choir Room</i> | |
| Percy Hill | | Problem Solving and Team Building Strategies <i>Black Box</i> | Making the Connection: The Essential Triangle <i>Black Box</i> | Play Time with Percy! Games That Make You Go "Ah!" (K-12) <i>Black Box</i> |
| Laura Hinds | Questioning: Teaching Students to Monitor Their Understanding by Asking Higher Order Thinking Questions <i>132</i> | Socratic Seminar: A Student-Centered Approach to Addressing HOT Questions <i>132</i> | Middle School Debate <i>132</i> | 10 Things You Can Do with Gifted Students <i>132</i> |
| Tracy Hoover, Elizabeth McBee and Courtney Norman | | Work Smarter Not Harder: Strategies and Activities That Get Kids Engaged and Learning <i>109</i> | The Power of Coaching <i>109</i> | |

WEDNESDAY AT A GLANCE - PART TWO

| Presenter | Session 1 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. | Session 2 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. | Session 3 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. | Mini Session 4 1:45 - 2:30 p.m. |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| P. Sloan Joseph | The First 15--Starting Strong Every Day 111 | Get G.L.A.D. About Self-Care 111 | 5 Steps for Improving Equity Advocacy 111 | TECHquity for Emerging & Multilingual Learners 111 |
| Rachael McCoy | This Shift is Crazy: Moving Towards the Growth Mindset 110 | Vocabulary: Words Are More Than Quizzes (<i>Geared for elementary teachers</i>) 110 | Unleashing Student Strengths: Focusing on What Makes Students GREAT! 110 | |
| Mark McLeod | Developing the Ultimate Classroom Environment <i>Large Band Room</i> | | Positive Leadership <i>Large Band Room</i> | Powerful Classroom Management Strategies for All Students <i>Large Band Room</i> |
| Anthony Purcell | Student Achievements and Recognition 112 | Stop the Worksheets (<i>Middle School focus</i>) 112 | Parent Involvement in the Middle School 112 | Strategies to Encourage Thinking 112 |
| Dr. Debbie Silver | Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8: Helping Kids Develop Lifelong Skills of Self-efficacy and Resilience <i>Small Band Room</i> | Teaching Kids to Thrive: Using SEL Skills to Enhance Learning <i>Small Band Room</i> | Deliberate Optimism – Rekindling Our Joy in What We Do <i>Small Band Room</i> | Square Pegs, Round Holes: Small Adjustments That Activate Great Changes for “Different Learners” <i>Small Band Room</i> |
| Beth Skelton | Engaging Strategies for Language Learners 133 | “I Respectfully Disagree!” Strategies for Developing Strong Arguments 133 | The Language of Math 133 | Building Academic Vocabulary 133 |
| Leigh Stovall | School Counseling: Increasing Availability 135 | Mentoring: The Way to Grow and Keep New Teachers 135 | From Listening to Understanding: Improving Classroom Conversation 135 | Building Relationships Through Clubs 135 |

Closing Keynote: Jonathan Grant-Brown – 2:45 - 3:30 p.m.

THURSDAY AT A GLANCE - PART ONE

Keynote: Monica Genta – 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.

| Presenter | Session 5 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. | Session 6 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. | Session 7 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. | Mini Session 8 1:45 - 2:30 p.m. |
|-------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Eric Bartkowski | Realigning the STARS: Making Time for Social/ Emotional Learning <i>109</i> | | | |
| Jack Berckemeyer | Taming of the Team <i>Media Center</i> | | Managing the Madness <i>Media Center</i> | The Power of Pre-Recording Lessons <i>Media Center</i> |
| Kim Campbell | The Trauma Informed Classroom <i>Orchestra Room</i> | Restorative Practices: What Is It and How Does It Work? Part 1 (we highly encourage attendees to take both sessions) <i>Orchestra Room</i> | 10 Teaching Tips for New Teachers <i>Orchestra Room</i> | Restorative Practices: What Is It and How Does It Work? Part 2 <i>Orchestra Room</i> |
| Monica Genta | Transforming Education from Average to Awesome with The Dollar Tree <i>Choir Room</i> | Game Changers: Ideas to Engage and Motivate All Kids <i>Choir Room</i> | SEL: Moving from Free Time to Family Time <i>Choir Room</i> | Fishbowl Fun! The Most Dynamic Q&A of Your Life! <i>Choir Room</i> |
| Percy Hill | Rock Your Advisory and Morning Meetings! <i>Black Box</i> | Play Time with Percy! Games That Make You Go "Ah!" (K-12) <i>Black Box</i> | Who's Teaching the Soft Skills to the Kids? (K-12) <i>Black Box</i> | Play Time with Percy! Games That Make You Go "Ah!" (K-12) <i>Black Box</i> |
| Laura Hinds | Centergize Your Classroom Part 1 (we highly encourage attendees to take both sessions 2) <i>132</i> | Centergize Your Classroom Part 2 <i>132</i> | | The Power of Play: Using Games to Support Social/ Emotional Learning in Young Adolescents <i>132</i> |
| P. Sloan Joseph | Colorful & Creative: Google Drawings for All <i>111</i> | Splendid, Blended Learning <i>111</i> | Stop, Collaborate, and Listen: Tech Tools for Administrators <i>111</i> | TECHquity for Social/ Emotional Learning (SEL) <i>111</i> |

THURSDAY AT A GLANCE - PART TWO

| Presenter | Session 5 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. | Session 6 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. | Session 7 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. | Mini Session 8 1:45 - 2:30 p.m. |
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| Crista McCann | Art Therapy: Stress Relief for All Ages! 131 | 25 Ways to Make Connections with Students 131 | Art Therapy: Stress Relief for All Ages 131 | Art Therapy: Stress Relief for All Ages 131 |
| Rachael McCoy | Ditch the Desks! A Guide to Setting Up FLEX Seating in Your Classroom 110 | A Guide to Guided Reading (Geared for elementary teachers) 110 | ACE'd it!: How Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Can Help You Win In the Classroom 110 | 10 Things Great Elementary Teachers Do 110 |
| Mark McLeod | Motivate the Unmotivated <i>Large Band Room</i> | | Questioning Techniques that Maximize Student Engagement <i>Large Band Room</i> | Powerful Teaching Strategies for Mathematics <i>Large Band Room</i> |
| Dr. Debbie Silver | Using Growth Mindset in Working with Gifted Learners <i>Small Band Room</i> | Making the Middle Matter: Creating a Classroom Culture That Supports Pre-Adolescent Learners <i>Small Band Room</i> | Roundtable on Leadership <i>Small Band Room</i> | |
| Beth Skelton | Developing Writing for Language Learners 133 | Making Social Studies Comprehensible for Language Learners 133 | Making Science Comprehensible for Language Learners 133 | Accommodating Assignments and Assessments for Language Learners 133 |
| Leigh Stovall | Differentiation, Enrichment and Remediation 135 | PICTURE THIS: Students Finding Evidence to Defend a Claim 135 | Literacy Strategies for the Social Studies Classroom 135 | Tech Swap: Apps for online work 135 |
| Carl and Shandi Treat | | Modifying Modifications: A Practical Approach to Enhancing Current Modification Practices 112 | | |

Closing Keynote: Mark McLeod – 2:45 - 3:30 p.m.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Eric Bartkowski

Places, Everyone! 10 Theatre Games to Enhance Relationships and Learning.

Times Square and Broadway may be over 1,000 miles away, but that's not going to stop us from shining the spotlight on theatre games! The positive benefits of theatre in the classroom are numerous: Playing theatre games increases self-confidence, empathy, tolerance, creativity, collaboration, trust, and social awareness. Come to this session to learn how you can easily play these games in your classroom with your students. This is a participatory session, so be prepared to be up, moving, and to Break a Leg (figuratively, of course!)

Gamification Tips and Strategies to Promote Self-paced Learning

Interested in gamifying your classroom, but the idea of it has you more frazzled than a hobbit who's missed second breakfast? Come to this session for some easy to implement ideas and strategies that will help you harness the power of gameplay elements (player control, a compelling narrative, fast feedback, tailor-made rewards, and goals) to increase student motivation and engagement, foster a positive classroom environment, and practice personal organization skills.

Realigning the STARS: Making Time for Social/Emotional Learning

Over time and for different reasons, advisory/intervention/"study hall" periods can shift from a student-centered oasis of connecting and building relationships to a work-centered wasteland of social isolation. When this began to occur for my teaching team, we made monumental changes to our existing advisory plans with the goal of reclaiming a student-centered advisory model. I hope that you join me as I share our story — along with resources, tips, and suggestions — to help you make time in your day for SEL!

Jack Berckemeyer

Teaching Strategies That Motivate Young Adolescents

Looking for fun and motivating ideas for your middle level classroom? This is a hands-on session that provides real, quality strategies in the areas of reading, writing, spelling, grammar, listening, and speaking skills. No philosophy here, just creative ideas to motivate the middle level learner. This is a great session for new and experienced teachers. Be ready to dance, laugh, and move!

Understanding Adolescents

Being able to figure out the inner workings of adolescents is key to being a great middle school teacher. Come discover helpful teacher tips on how to relate to young adolescents. Share and apply teaching ideas that meet the needs of middle school students. This session will also provide practical ideas to help with classroom management and behavioral issues from structuring your room to methods for getting a class to simmer down. Connect with your students and discover new ways to relate to them that will surely improve learning.

Taming of the Team

Being on a middle school team can be filled with great joys, struggles, and frustrations. This practical session focuses on the real-life issues surrounding teaming. Jack will provide informative examples to help with effective use of team time and how teams can work together to deal with kids, curriculum, and professional development. You might even laugh at Jack's descriptions of the characteristics of a team member. Based on his book *Taming of the Team*.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Jack Berckemeyer

Managing the Madness

Jack provides real-life examples and solutions that help with classroom disruptions and management issues. This funny, informative, and entertaining session is designed to explain just why students interrupt our classroom and cause havoc within the school. See how you can develop useable action plans for students and discover not-so-typical ideas to manage a classroom. Based on his book, *Managing the Madness, A Practical Guide for Middle Grades Classrooms*.

The Power of Pre-Recording Lessons

Based on his workbook, *How to do Virtual Teaching, Even if You Have a Face for Radio*, Jack will share some amazing lessons that can be pre-recorded, offer reasons why we should record some lessons, and provide strategies to get started. Funny and practical!

Kim Campbell

Transforming the Norm

What if we as educators reimagined what our classrooms could look like, sound like or be like? To help prepare our students for the 21st century we must move away from being the sage on the stage to the guide on the side we must give our students choice and voice in all that we do in our classrooms. Participants will leave with ideas and thoughts about creating a classroom where kids thrive and become better prepared for the future.

Shake, Rattle, and Roll: Motivating the Middle School student

Looking for a little “spice” to fire up your students? Want quick, easy activities to engage your class? If so, join Kim and learn hands-on activities and strategies designed to motivate the middle school student. Activities, used in a geography class, will be presented but can easily be adapted to any subject matter.

If You Can’t Manage Them, You Can’t Teach Them

Having the ability to manage and lead kids is a must in creating a classroom where all students have an opportunity to learn. Please join Kim to discuss and explore practical techniques to implement in your classroom to help create a positive learning climate.

Brain Boosters...On Steroids!

Kids can only actively listen to you for as many minutes as their age, therefore we must move our students, or they will move us in ways we wish we could forget. Join me as I demonstrate and model several brain boosters to get kids moving and having fun in your class.

The Trauma Informed Classroom

Understanding trauma will help you better understand many of your students. This is a beginner session on trauma. You will discuss what is trauma, the ACE survey, and how you can become a trauma-informed educator.

Restorative Practices: What is it and how does it work? (Note: this is a 2-part session. We highly encourage attendees to attend both sessions)

What if we truly saw everyone in our school community as valuable humans contributing to the greater good. Join Kim to discuss at how creating a restorative culture can help create an environment where teachers and students thrive. Participants will leave the session with several ideas being implemented in Kim’s school in which they are finding tremendous success using restorative justice practices.



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Kim Campbell

10 Teaching Tips for New Teachers

Being a new teacher can be challenging...but we need you, your communities need you, your country needs you, most importantly, your kids need you! Join Kim and discuss ten ways to hang in there, balance the chaos, and stay in the greatest profession in the world.

Chris Culver

Let's Get Positive: Improving school culture and climate

Why do the same when we can be better? Join Chris as he shares a plethora of resources and experiences to address culture and climate within your school and/or classroom to make it a positive environment for all! You will leave with resources, ideas, and more that can be implemented immediately! Who is ready!?

Kelly Forbes

Cultural Proficiency and ¡Éxito!

In this session for *everyone* and *anyone* we will explore our own hearts and minds as we dabble into our own levels of cultural proficiency while critically comparing our core values with our teaching and leadership practices. In this heartfelt session we will explore what it means to be a servant leader/teacher and how our mindsets can allow our scholars to flourish with enthusiasm! It is through our diversity (LGBTQ+, race, ethnicity, language, SES, etc.) in which the celebration begins!

Monica Genta

180 Days of Awesome: Celebrating Every Day of Education

You are AWESOME and awesome is all around us. Every day you walk into your school something amazing is bound to happen. Some days that awesome is easy to see, it comes in the form of laughter, academic progress, achieving goals, and building relationships with kids. Some days that awesome is nearly impossible to see among all the meetings, curriculum changes, displeased parents, and behavior concerns. Here is the cool part, focusing on the awesome has the power to turn each day of education into an exciting adventure in learning. Come along with Monica on this 180-day quest and learn to focus on those little amazing moments that have the power to change everything. Because sometimes it's the small things that make the biggest difference.

The Rooted Classroom: Building Ridiculously Strong Relationships with Students

Strong relationships with students are the backbone to all learning! But in this current learning environment, it can feel incredibly difficult to connect with kids. Come explore how creating an atmosphere that is open, exciting, and fun for students can bring relationships to another level. This session is filled with activities and lessons that help build deeply rooted relationships within any school setting. Great ready for ideas that will grab the attention of your heart and head.

What Time is It? Game Time! Quick and Easy Learning Games

Get your game face on for this ridiculously engaging session that will get you feeling like a kid again. We know students love the following: competition, candy, and crazy fun! Why not combine all 3 for this intensely entertaining hour where you can learn some new games that are bound to get your kids learning and loving your subject? Say goodbye to your Jeopardy power-point and come get some fresh ideas that will lead you to educational victory!

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Monica Genta

Transforming Education from Average to Awesome with The Dollar Tree

All teachers love the Dollar Tree! And what is not to love about inexpensive, awesome, instructional tools! The Dollar Tree is filled with hidden gems that can transform classrooms from average to awesome. Come check out how toys can be taken to a new level and turned into learning tools. Find out how canned fish can be turned into a fun, fresh way to motivate and engage students. This session will be full of exciting remixes that are bound to bring your classroom to a new level!

Game Changers: Ideas to Engage and Motivate All Kids

Every student who walks into your classroom deserves to LOVE that experience. In order to do that we have to reflect on the everyday practices we have in place and transform them from average to awesome. Collecting homework is average, but Olympic sprinting to gather them is awesome! Small tweaks to the great things we are already doing make a big difference. This session will target ideas that will bring so much awesome to August, when our kids will need it more than ever!

SEL: Moving from Free Time to Family Time

Most schools have something called study hall, homeroom, and tutorial, morning meeting or advisory. But if we are being honest, this time period can truly lack purpose or real opportunities for our kids to learn and grow. In reality, this time is underutilized when it could be the most meaningful minutes of the entire day. In this session, you will learn how to create an atmosphere that is open, exciting, and fun for students and teachers alike. Come explore advisory strategies that will help build trust and rapport with students and learn how to turn a 1st hour “morning class” into a “1st hour family.”

Fishbowl Fun! The Most Dynamic Q&A of Your Life!

Do you have questions about: Classroom management, student engagement, school climate and culture, social-emotional learning, and relationship building? Come, sit, chat and discuss!

Percy Hill

Problem Solving and Team Building Strategies

This session will present each participant with situations and scenarios that promote critical thinking skills and cooperative learning through collaboration with others. Each participant will engage in a large variety of activities to promote and encourage building communities where everybody belongs.

Making the Connection: The Essential Triangle

This session is all about making the connection between family, child [student] and the school. The impact of engaging the “ESSENTIAL TRIANGLE” to maximize the successes of each child in school will be the main topic of discussion. The overall program will provide opportunities for discussion on what parents can and should do to be connected with their child’s school community.

Play Time with Percy! Games That Make You Go “Ah!” (K-12)

Engage in a variety of fantastic cooperative games and super team building activities that will surely make you go “AH.” The games and activities presented will fit all age groups from Kindergarten through high school [Percy even uses these with his college students, and they love them!].

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Percy Hill

Rock Your Advisory and Morning Meetings!

Bring your advisory and morning meetings to a whole new level with activities that are awesome and out of this world. This session will be full of energizers and teaming activities that will send your students over the moon and back! They'll be knocking at your door every day for more!

Who's Teaching the Soft Skills to the Kids? (K-12)

As educators, we often wonder how our students will be successful in life after school. Teaching soft skills in our classroom provide opportunities for our students to practice and capture those skills that facilitate positive interactions with others and overcome challenges.

This session will explore many avenues to integrate and weave soft skills within our curriculum. Let's take the time to teach kindness, empathy, and respect. Let's look seriously at social and emotional learning as a real tool for a child's success!

Laura Hinds

Questioning: Teaching Students to Monitor Their Understanding by Asking Higher Order Thinking Questions

Questioning is one of the best strategies we can use to help our students become better readers and thinkers. It is especially helpful when our students, not the teachers, are the ones who are asking the questions. This allows students to engage in monitoring their own understanding and challenging their own assumptions. Participants in this session will practice strategies that encourage kids to ask their own higher-order questions as they read and think. This session also lays the groundwork for Laura's Socratic Seminar workshop, though it is not a prerequisite.

Socratic Seminar: A Student-Centered Approach to Addressing HOT Questions

Socratic Seminars enable students to seek a deeper understanding of text by exploring higher order thinking (HOT) questions through thoughtful dialogue. In this introductory workshop, participants will learn strategies that will help students create HOT questions and conduct Socratic Seminars. We will also discuss resources that will help students prepare for seminar discussions and tips that will help you manage those seminars.

Middle School Debate

We all know middle school students love to talk and love to argue even more. We also know that sometimes students struggle with how to present their arguments in a thoughtful, respectful way that leads to a deeper understanding of the views of others as well as their own. In this session, you will learn about strategies that provide a structure for argument and debate that will support students with learning how to communicate and learn from one another.

10 Things You Can Do with Gifted Students

Gifted students often have unique social/emotional and academic needs. It can often be difficult to meet those needs in large classrooms with learners who have a variety of needs. In this session, you will learn 10 strategies that can help address those needs in the classroom setting. Some of these strategies address the particular needs of gifted students while others will support the needs of all learners.

Centerize Your Classroom: Learning Centers in the Middle School Classroom

(Note: this is a 2-part session. We highly encourage attendees to attend both sessions.)

Have you been thinking about implementing stations in your classroom but aren't sure where to begin? This hands-on session will provide teachers in all content areas with some practical ideas for creating meaningful center activities, teaching students how to work in them, and manage them throughout the year.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Laura Hinds

The Power of Play: Using Games to Support Social/Emotional Learning in Young Adolescents

It would not be an understatement to say that this past year has challenged our students' social and emotional well-being more than ever before. This has been the case both for distance and brick and mortar learners. In this session, you will learn about games, strategies, and resources that will help build communication skills, encourage teamwork, and help students develop coping skills as they return to the classroom setting.

Tracy Hoover/Elizabeth McBee/Courtney Norman

Work Smarter not Harder: Strategies and activities that get kids engaged and learning

Are you struggling with ideas to engage your students? Come join Tracy and her team for some coaching! In this session you will learn about strategies and activities that you can take back to your classroom to increase student engagement and learning. Great, fun ideas for any classroom!

The Power of Coaching

Are you an Instructional Coach? Are you a mentor teacher working with other teachers in your building to help them grow? Come join Tracy and her team and learn about ways to work with teachers that can facilitate growth and success.

P. Sloan Joseph

The First 15--Starting Strong Every Day

The first 15 days of school, the first 15 minutes of the school day greatly impact the academic and social-emotional success of our students. This session will review engagement strategies that will minimize distractions while improving students' confidence and competence.

Get G.L.A.D. About Self-Care

Life as an educator is busier than ever before. And even when we try to relax, our thoughts are still racing. This session will review a simple self-care strategy that is quick, impactful, to encourage positive reflection.

5 Steps for Improving Equity Advocacy

Are you an educator who wants to be an equity advocate, but you don't know where to begin? Are you already an equity advocate, but feel stagnant? In this session, we will review five steps for improving equity advocacy. Resources will be provided for each step to help participants with their personal and professional growth.

TECHquity for Emerging and Multilingual Learners

Effective use of technology makes a huge impact on students who are emerging language learners. This session will review strategies that will help students achieve in all subjects.

Colorful & Creative: Google Drawings for All

Google Drawings is a "hidden gem" that fosters differentiation, creativity, academic connections, and high levels of engagement. This user-friendly app allows students to create non-verbal expressions of the content they are learning. During this session, participants will learn the features of Google Drawings and create resources (infographics, timelines, pamphlets) to be used with all subjects/grade levels. A laptop is required for this session.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

P. Sloan Joseph

Splendid, Blended Learning

Are you looking for “blended learning” strategies that promote active engagement and varying depths of knowledge? This session will explore activities that allow students to collaborate, communicate, create, and think critically. Attendees will participate in several activities. A cell phone, tablet, or laptop is required.

Stop, Collaborate, and Listen: Tech Tools for Administrators

Administrators are not only informational leaders, but they are also instructional technology leaders too! This session will explore four online tools that every administrator should use to communicate, collaborate, and receive feedback from students, parents, and staff.

TECHquity for Social/Emotional Learning (SEL)

Technology is often used to provide educational equity and increase student engagement. It can also be used to build social-emotional skills which are essential for success in school and in life. This session will review tech tools that encourage students and staff to “feel the wheel” of the CASEL Core Competencies (Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible-Decision Making).

Crista McCann

Art Therapy: Stress Relief for All Ages

Come learn how to do Neurographic Art and about its ability to calm and relieve stress and anxiety. ZERO art skills necessary! This is the perfect activity to practice for yourself, or to teach to your students.

25 Ways to Make Connections with Students

The past year has shown us how crucial, and at times how difficult, it is to connect with students. This fast paced, example rich, visually loaded presentation is full of 25 realistic ways to help build solid relationships with students. Come ready to consider some new strategies to add to your teacher tool belt.

Rachael McCoy

This Shift is Crazy: Moving Towards the Growth Mindset

I can’t do this! The famous four words from students, right? What if all the frustration from kids, parents, and teachers could be eliminated with one simple word, “Yet”! I can’t do this... yet! Come explore how changing the way we think about thinking can change everything and walk away with ideas of how to implement the growth mindset in your classroom to instill some grit in your students... and you!

Vocabulary: Words Are More Than Quizzes *(Geared for elementary teachers)*

Toss those dictionaries and prepare for some fun and interactive strategies for teaching vocabulary. Acquisition of new vocabulary is crucial to comprehension and understanding in all subject areas yet is often taught through mundane tasks. It’s time to liven up those lessons, come and find out how.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Rachael McCoy

Unleashing Student Strengths: Focusing on What Makes Students GREAT!

Investing time and energy into student strengths can and will pay off in dividends. In fact, character development can lead to huge academic gains in the classroom. Learn the differences between interests, skills, and strengths and how teaching using a strengths-based mindset revolutionized my classroom. Find out how to highlight students' strengths and shine a light on not what students are great at, but what makes students great!

Ditch the desks! A Guide to Setting Up FLEX Seating in Your Classroom

Have you ever considered changing up the landscape of your classroom? Ever considered flex seating? Now is the time! Giving students choice and movement in their learning revolutionized Rachael's classroom. Creating an environment *with* her students and *for* her students proved to be nothing short of incredible. Today's learners need more: more movement, more choice, more engagement. Come see how a few options can provide so much MORE.

A Guide to Guided Reading (*Geared for elementary teachers*)

Guided reading is the best way to propel students to the next level by focusing intently on their individual needs. It uses differentiated learning and teaching principles to "meet students where they are". It is crucial to the success and acceleration of reading proficiency. Come and find out how to incorporate a guided reading model into your daily lessons and watch students develop stronger fluency, comprehension, and most importantly confidence in their reading ability.

ACE'd it!: How Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Can Help You Win in the Classroom

Come and discover what ACEs are all about. We will discuss the toxic stress that kids are facing today and how it is adversely affecting behavior and academic progress. More importantly, come and discover how to do something about it by creating a healthy, supportive classroom environment where ALL kids can thrive!

10 Things Great Elementary Teachers Do

Sometimes you do something, and you know right away it's a winner. And sometimes you do something great and don't even realize how great it is! Rachael is here to boost your spirits, share some ideas, and reward your achievements.

Mark McLeod

Developing the Ultimate Classroom Environment

This session will focus on how to help teachers develop a classroom environment that will enable them to maximize learning time in their class. Participants will be given opportunities to share and learn the most effective rules and procedures for classrooms. Successful teaching strategies of rules and procedures will also be modeled to help promote student mastery of classroom expectations.

Positive Leadership

This session will explore strategies and techniques used by leaders. Some topics to be discussed include instructional supervision, teacher and student motivation, professional development, school procedures, school climate, test prep ideas, and proactive solutions to promote good citizenship. Participants will leave this session with many strategies, resources, and materials to use in their schools.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Mark McLeod

Powerful Classroom Management Strategies for All Students

Learn proven techniques that keep students working and behaving. All educators will benefit from the sharing of proactive strategies that create a safe, orderly, and on-task classroom environment. Mark will also share ways to create “win-win” situations when intervening with students who are misbehaving. Expect to leave this memorable presentation energized and enthused to become a more POSITIVE CLASSROOM MANAGER!

Motivate the Unmotivated

Learn proven ways to motivate even the “hardest-to-motivate.” Have you ever wondered why some strategies work on certain students and not others? Join Mark as he shares how to choose your motivational techniques to match the needs of each student. Expect to leave this session with strategies that you will use for the rest of your educational career to help motivate every student to reach his or her fullest potential.

Questioning Techniques that Maximize Student Engagement

Do you have students who “blurt out” answers in class? Do you have students who never participate in class? Join Mark as he shows you how to get all students participating in class without disrupting others. Learn proven strategies of formative assessment in this session.

Powerful Teaching Strategies for Mathematics

How do you make learning math fun and meaningful at the same time? This session will focus on many powerful, yet practical teaching strategies for Mathematics that will enable students to retain the concepts needed to be successful. If your goal is to increase student test scores in Mathematics, you MUST attend this session.

Anthony Purcell

Student Achievements and Recognition

This session is about how to recognize all students and celebrate their successes in the classroom.

Strategies to Encourage Thinking

This session covers ways to get students thinking and having fun without using worksheets and also without students even realizing that they are learning!

Stop the Worksheets! *(middle school focus)*

Worksheets are boring! There are ways to get students actively engaged in the classroom and still show what they are learning. Come find ways to have students have fun and not always know that they're learning.

Parent Involvement in Middle School

There is a disconnect between teachers and parents at the middle school level. Many times, that disconnect happens because of a lack of communication and involvement. This session will give ideas of how to open the lines of communication and get parents more involved at the middle school level.

Strategies to Encourage Thinking

This session covers ways to get students thinking and having fun without using worksheets and also without students even realizing that they are learning!

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Dr. Debbie Silver

Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8: Helping kids develop lifelong skills of self-efficacy and resilience

Based on her best-selling book, *Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8: Teaching Kids to Succeed*, Dr. Silver explains motivational theory and provides down-to-earth examples of concrete, applicable guidelines for helping students overcome setbacks and failure to foster lifelong success. Come learn more about self-efficacy, zone of proximal development, deliberate practice, growth mindset and more.

Teaching Kids to Thrive: Using SEL Skills to Enhance Learning

Middle school students are being slammed with more data, more social pressure, and more academic demands than ever before. In this lively presentation, Debbie leads participants through activities that promote mindfulness, self-regulation, empathy, gratitude and other intrapersonal and interpersonal skills students need to find success both now and in the future. Based on her book *Teaching Kids to THRIVE: Building the Other Essential Skills for Success* (co-written with Dedra Stafford), Dr. Debbie Silver examines SEL skills needed for students to become self-motivated, satisfied life-long learners. Debbie conveys meaningful points with significant data, poignant stories, and her trademark humor.

Deliberate Optimism: Rekindling Our Joy in What We Do

Are you teaching harder and enjoying it less? Whether you are a beginning teacher, a seasoned veteran, or anyone in-between this session will offer you inspiration for teaching as well as positive, pragmatic steps you can take to build or maintain a sense of sanity in today's educational world. Join Debbie Silver for an eye-opening session that will provide food for thought along with plenty of humor to make the journey fun.

Square Pegs, Round Holes: Small Adjustments That Activate Great Changes for "Different Learners"

Award-winning educator and best-selling author, Dr. Debbie Silver believes that all kids have gifts and the adults in their lives have the keys to open them. She demonstrates how to capitalize on children's strengths to elicit greater achievement gains and higher motivation. Dr. Silver provides insights into why kids respond the way they do and presents ideas about how to provide every learner with a reasonable chance at success. Threaded with research and delivered with humor and candor, Dr. Silver's presentations are often described as "where learning collides with laughter."

Using Growth Mindset in Working with Gifted Learners

Students can be gifted in a myriad of ways. They often display particular needs in their learning journey. In this session Dr. Debbie Silver explores the unique nature of children identified as gifted and talented and how teachers can utilize growth mindset practices to keep G/T students moving forward. Debbie examines skills these distinctive students need to succeed in school and throughout life.

Making the Middle Matter: Creating a Classroom Culture That Supports Pre-Adolescent Learners

Are your classroom rules starting to seem out of step with the students you have today? Are you questioning your teaching style? Come explore how to create a classroom environment that supports middle level learners in their frenzied, high-speed, hyper-connected world. Through heart and humor, Debbie helps explore what it takes to connect with pre-adolescents as well as how to create the best possible learning environment.

Round Table on Leadership

Join Debbie in a lively discussion regarding leadership and all that revolves around it. This is an open forum to bring ideas and share concerns. Come, sit, chat and discuss.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Beth Skelton

Engaging Strategies for Language Learners

In this interactive session, you will gain ideas for helping students joyfully develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through content. You will leave the workshop with many 'zero prep' strategies and a plan for how to use them in your lessons.

"I Respectfully Disagree!" Strategies for developing strong arguments

Every content area requires students to justify, explain, or present an argument to support their answers and thinking. This session will model several strategies you can implement to support students with this critical thinking skill and the language necessary to express their arguments and support their opinions.

The Language of Math

Isn't math a universal language? This workshop addresses the linguistic challenges math presents English and Dual Language Learners. Participants will apply three basic principles to support ELLs in math and engage in cooperative learning strategies designed to develop mathematical language, as well as concepts.

Building Academic Vocabulary

So many words, so little time! In this interactive session, you will experience and practice at least ten practical, research-based strategies for building your students' academic vocabulary. You will leave with the rationale and tools necessary for choosing which words to teach and concrete strategies for how to teach them.

Developing Writing for Language Learners

In this hour-long session, you will learn how to analyze your students' writing with an asset-based lens, build on their strengths, and implement strategies that develop improved complexity in academic writing across the curriculum.

Accommodating Assignments and Assessments for Language Learners

How can you ensure that students are able to demonstrate their understanding of the content even if they are still developing English skills? This practical session will provide practical tools and tips for accommodating assignments and assessments for your language learners while maintaining high standards.

Making Science Comprehensible for Language Learners

If you have English or dual language learners in your science class, this session will provide you with practical strategies for making science concepts and vocabulary more comprehensible. You'll experience learning content in a new language and transfer strategies to your lessons.

Making Social Studies Comprehensible for Language Learners

If you have English or dual language learners in your social studies class, this session will provide you with practical strategies for building background, making social studies concepts more comprehensible, and helping students access complex grade level text. You'll experience learning content in a new language and transfer strategies to your lessons.

Leigh Stovall

School Counseling: Increasing Availability

Now more than ever, school counseling resources need to be front and center. Does your school counseling department have a centralized web page/website? Does that website meet ASCA standards? Do you have SEL and emergency resources posted? This session is an opportunity for counselors to work together to share and add resources, and if needed, learn how to create a new site.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS (BY PRESENTER)

Leigh Stovall

Mentoring: The Way to Grow and Keep New Teachers

Are you expecting to have new teachers in the building this coming school year? Research shows that teacher retention is higher when new teachers receive support. Participants will examine materials that can be used for mentor programs and exchange ideas about how to develop a program that fits the needs of their school.

From Listening to Understanding: Improving Classroom Conversation

Using Socratic Seminars and Public Deliberation is a great way to evaluate student understanding or have tough conversations. Come learn a framework for civil discourse: preparation, structure, norms, participation, and grading.

Building Relationships Through Clubs

Clubs are an excellent way to build relationships among students, and between teachers and students. In this session you will learn about the variety of clubs offered by schools which have successfully put this program into place, and you'll have the opportunity to ask questions about logistics, interact with other participants, and create a plan for implementation.

Differentiation, Enrichment and Remediation

When you have a wide range of ability in your class, how can you differentiate for all students? Come and learn ways to provide both enrichment and remediation.

PICTURE THIS: Students Finding Evidence to Defend a Claim

Writing is a tough thing for many students. Research assignments can be even more painful. This introductory lesson uses pictures books to help students learn how to 1) make a claim, 2) find evidence to support a claim, and 3) defend a claim using the evidence they found. This is a hands-on, practical session where participants will go through the process and come away with sentence starters and graphic organizers for classrooms of all ages.

Literacy Strategies for the Social Studies Classroom

Social Studies offers teachers an opportunity to teach literacy through using their content. We all need help finding effective and relevant strategies for our classroom. You will leave this practical session with ideas and resources for incorporating literacy standards in your classroom.

Tech Swap: Apps for Online Work

Edpuzzle, Kami, Quizlet, Pear Deck, Nearpod, Jamboard (Google), Padlet, Mural, and Screencastify. Are you really good at one of these? Come on and share your expertise. Do you need to add one of these to your toolbox? Come on and learn some ways to use it. Let's share, learn, and experiment with apps that are useful for online classwork.

Fact or Fake? Media Literacy Lessons

Teaching students about reliable sources in this digital age can be a challenge. We will examine available online resources to use in the classroom and participate in a sample lesson.

Carl and Shandi Treat

Modifying Modifications: A Practical Approach to Enhancing Current Modification Practices

Similar to the healthy eating book *Eat This, Not That*, this session will address modifications/accommodations in a "do this instead of/on top of that" format, focusing on easy, practical, and quick ideas to enhance teachers' current modification/accommodation practices. This session will also address equity vs. equality and common "myths" about students with special needs. Discussion will be based on anecdotal evidence observed through the varying lenses of students, parents, teachers, and administrators.