# **Nuts and Bolts Symposiums**

The Never-Boring Conference for Educators

# Cullman County Alabama

**June 8-9, 2021** 

2021
Symposium
Program & Agenda





# **DAILY SCHEDULE**

# Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Cullman County Schools - Cullman County, Alabama

8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Registration – Gym

8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. Bookstore – Gym Balcony

8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Opening Games, Dancing, Give-a-ways & Keynote – **Jack Berckemeyer** 

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Break

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Session 1

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 2

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Session 3

2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Break

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Keynote – **Dr. Debbie Silver** 

Please visit the bookstore.

# **DAILY SCHEDULE**



8:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

8:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Bookstore - Gym Balcony

Games, Dancing, Give-a-ways & Keynote- Jonathan Grant-Brown

Break

Session 4

Break

Session 5

Lunch on your own

Session 6

Break

Keynote - Kim Campbell

Please visit the bookstore.

# **TUESDAY AT A GLANCE**

Keynote: Jack Berckemeyer - 8:15 - 9:30 am

Presenter	Session 1 9:45 - 10:45 am	Session 2 11:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.	Session 3 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Jack Berckemeyer	No Session	Teaching Strategies That Motivate Young Adolescents MS Library	No Session
Kim Campbell	The Trauma Informed Classroom  HS Lunchroom	Transforming the Norm HS Lunchroom	Restorative Justice: What is it and how does it work?  HS Lunchroom
Monica Genta	180 Days of Awesome: Celebrating every day of Education!  Classroom 16	Game Changers: Ideas to engage and motivate ALL kids  Classroom 16	The Rooted Classroom: Building ridiculously strong relationships with students  Classroom 16
Percy Hill	No Session	Problem Solving and Team Building Strategies Classroom 17	Teaching the Importance of "Soft Skills' Through Activity-Based Learning Classroom 17
Laura Hinds	Questioning: Teaching Students to Monitor Their Understanding by Asking Higher Order Thinking Questions Classroom 9	Socratic Seminar: A student-centered approach to addressing HOT questions Classroom 9	10 Things You Can Do with Gifted Students  Classroom 9
Amy Jordan	Interview and Investing: Finding and keeping excellent teachers  Classroom 20	Practical Ideas for Administrators  Classroom 20	Coach 'Em Up or Coach 'Em Out: How to help an ineffective teacher Classroom 20
Rachael McCoy	Unleashing Student Strengths: Focusing on what makes students GREAT!  Classroom 11	ACE'd It!: How understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) can help you win in the classroom Classroom 11	Vocabulary: Words are more than quizzes (Geared for elementary teachers)  Classroom 11
Mark McLeod	Powerful Classroom Management Strategies for ALL Students Home Economics Room	Positive Leadership  Home Economics Room	Motivate the Unmotivated  Home Economics Room
Anthony Purcell	Student Achievement and Recognition  Classroom 13	Stop the Worksheets! (geared for middle school)  Classroom 13	Parent Involvement in Middle School Classroom 13
Dr. Debbie Silver	Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8: Helping kids develop lifelong skills of self-efficacy and resilience  Classroom 3	Teaching Kids to Thrive – Using SEL skills to enhance learning  Classroom 3	Using the Growth Mindset with Gifted Learners  Classroom 3
Leigh Stovall	Literacy Strategies for the Social Studies Classroom Classroom 10	PICTURE THIS: Students finding evidence to defend a claim Classroom 10	Building Relationship Through Clubs  Classroom 10

Keynote: Dr. Debbie Silver - 2:15 - 3:15 pm

# **WEDNESDAY AT A GLANCE**

Keynote: Jonathan Grant-Brown - 8:15 - 9:30 am

Presenter	Session 4 9:45 - 10:45 am	Session 5 11:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.	Session 6 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Jack Berckemeyer	No Session	Managing the Madness MS Library	No session
Kim Campbell	If You Can't Manage Them, You Can't Teach Them  HS Lunchroom	Shake, Rattle and Roll: Motivating the Middle School student HS Lunchroom	Leadership Roundtable  HS Lunchroom
Monica Genta	What Time Is It? Game Time! Quick and easy learning games  Classroom 16	Crushing it For Kids Classroom 16	Fishbowl Fun! The most dynamic Q & A of your life!  Classroom 16
Percy Hill	Play Time with Percy! Games That Make You Go "Ah!" (K-12) Classroom 17	Rock Your Advisory and Morning Meetings! Classroom 17	Making the Connection: The Essential Triangle Classroom 17
Laura Hinds	Middle School Debate Classroom 9	Centergize Your Classroom: Learning Centers in the Middle School classroom Classroom 9	The Power of Play: Using Games to Support Social/Emotional Learning in Young Adolescents Classroom 9
Amy Jordan	Admin Roundtable Classroom 20	No Session Classroom 20	No Session Classroom 20
Rachael McCoy	This Shift is Crazy: Moving towards the Growth Mindset  Classroom 11	Ditch the Desks! A guide to setting up FLEX seating in your classroom Classroom 11	A Guide to Guided Reading (Geared for elementary teachers)  Classroom 11
Mark McLeod	Questioning Techniques that Maximize Student Engagement Home Economics Room	Powerful Teaching Strategies for Mathematics Home Economics Room	Developing the Ultimate Classroom Environment Home Economics Room
Anthony Purcell	Strategies to Encourage Thinking Classroom 13	Standards-Based Grading in a Traditional Setting Classroom 13	Round table for Math Teachers Classroom 13
Leigh Stovall	School Counseling: Increasing availability  Classroom 10	Mentoring: The way to grow and keep new teachers  Classroom 10	Fact or Fake? Media literacy lessons Classroom 10

Keynote: Kim Campbell – 2:15 – 3:15 pm



# **Jack Berckemeyer**

MS Library

### **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!

# **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*.

# Kim Campbell

MS Library

### **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.

#### **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.

# Restorative Justice: What is it and how does it work?

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.

### If You Can't Manage Them, You Can't Teach Them

Having the ability to manage and led 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.

# 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.

#### **Leadership Roundtable**

Join Kim 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.



# **Monica Genta**

Classroom 16

# 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.

# 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!

#### 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!

#### Crushing it for the Kids

"Crushing It" is SO much more than just a modern day saying... Every single person who walks into a school deserves to love that experience. Whether you are a student, teacher, parent, or education leader, walking into school each morning should be an exciting adventure. Because a school is just a building until we transform it from average to awesome. In this session you will **C**elebrate education, build **R**elationships, **U**tilize what you've got, **S**hare with each other, and **H**old this learning process in the palm of your hands so you can teach right to your students' hearts. You will walk away with strategies that are insanely engaging and stories that connect with you on another level, leaving you ready to Crush It for Kids!

#### 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!

session will explore culturally responsive pedagogy supported by a motivational framework that creates a learning environment where all learners are encouraged and empowered to participate in the "Behaviors of Motivated Students."



# **Percy Hill**

Classroom 17

# **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.

### Teaching the Importance of "Soft Skills" Through Activity-based Learning (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!

# 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!].

### **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!

#### 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.

#### **Laura Hinds**

Classroom 9

#### 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.



#### **Laura Hinds**

Classroom 9

### 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.

#### 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.

# Centergize Your Classroom: Learning Centers in the Middle School Classroom

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.

### 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.

#### **Amy Jordan**

Classroom 20

#### Interviewing and Investing: Finding and keeping excellent teachers

Report after report tells us that fewer new teachers stay in the profession long-term. As a building leader, what can we do to stem that tide? In this interactive session, attendees will learn things they can use TODAY to help improve recruitment and retention of excellent teachers.

### **Practical Ideas for Administrators**

Come and see how to manage your time as an administrator and get real and practical ideas on how to balance work and life.

# Coach 'Em Up or Coach 'Em Out: how to help an ineffective teacher

You've heard the phrase "we're only as strong as our weakest link," and it's so true for middle school faculties! So, what can we do about it? This session is for current or aspiring administrators who have struggling teachers on their campus. We will focus on how to help these staff members become their best selves – whether in the classroom or out of it.

#### **Admin Roundtable**

Join Amy to discuss and share ideas for administrators and leadership in. This is an open forum to bring ideas and share concerns. Come, sit, chat and discuss!



# **Rachael McCoy**

Classroom 9

# 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!

# 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!

# 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.

#### 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!

# 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.



# **Mark McLeod**

Home Fconomics Room

# **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!

### **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.

#### 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.

#### **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.



# **Anthony Purcell**

Classroom 13

#### **Student Achievements and Recognition**

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

# Stop the Worksheets! (geared for middle school)

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!

# Standards-Based Grading in a Traditional Setting

This session covers how to use a traditional gradebook to share exactly what students and how to help parents adjust to reading their student's grades.

#### **Round table for Math Teachers**

Come and join Anthony to discuss and share the joys of teaching math to youngsters.

# Dr. Debbie Silver

Classrom 3

#### 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.

### **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.



# **Leigh Stovall**

Classroom 10

# **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.

# 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.

# **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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.