



New England League of Middle Schools

42ND Annual Middle Level Conference & Exhibits

March 27 & 28, 2023

Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place, Springfield MA

***“Moving from Surviving to
Thriving”***

NELMS reserves the right to make changes to this program as deemed necessary.

Conference Planner – Monday, March 27, 2023

Visit Exhibits between sessions or anytime from 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Time	Function	Number/Title	Location(s)
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	General Session and Keynote: Andrew R. Dolloff, Ph.D.	<i>Creating a Trust-filled School</i>	Grand Ballroom
9:30 AM – 4:30 PM	Bookstore & Exhibit Hall		Ballroom Foyer
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors		Ballroom Foyer
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Graduate Credit Meeting		Executive Boardroom
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Concurrent Session I		2 nd & 3 rd Level Meeting Rooms
11:10 AM – 12:10 PM	Concurrent Session II		2 nd & 3 rd Level Meeting Rooms
12:10 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch for All Attendees & Visit Exhibitors		Ballroom Foyer
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Luncheon Keynote: Dave F. Brown, Ed.D.	<i>Want to See Students Grow: Show Them You Care</i>	Grand Ballroom
1:40 PM – 2:40 PM	Concurrent Session III		2 nd & 3 rd Level Meeting Rooms
2:50 PM – 3:50 PM	Concurrent Session IV		2 nd & 3 rd Level Meeting Rooms
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	State Receptions/Meet & Greet with Exhibitors		Ballroom Foyer

This page is to be used in conjunction with the Certificate of Attendance to try attendee's hours.

Monday, March 27, 2023

General Session and Keynote

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Creating a Trust-filled School

Presenter: Andrew R. Dolloff, Ph.D.

For schools to provide students with the most empowering and engaging learning environments possible, a culture of trust must be fostered in all settings – from the staff room to the classroom. School leader, graduate instructor, and author Andrew Dolloff will share practical ideas for ensuring your school is one in which trust forms the foundation of all relationships, encouraging students and staff to stretch their learning in a safe place that is fun and focused.

Luncheon Keynote Session

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Want to See Students Grow: Show Them You Care

Presenter: Dave F. Brown, Ed. D.

Teachers are responsible for many aspects of young adolescents' overall growth—from social emotional development to moral maturity to critical thinking to academic gains. All those “tricks” you’ve gleaned from experts and colleagues to improve student learning may be missing the most significant act influencing students' growth—simply demonstrating care for each student. Dave provides a host of middle level students' comments laced with personal teaching stories (mostly mistakes) and recent research findings in this talk that demonstrate that caring for students has a greater impact on learning than every other tool in your kit!

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Monday, March 27, 2023

Session I
Concurrent Workshops
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

2 - Inspire, Engage, Connect and Create Lasting Meaningful Lessons: Experiential, Brain-Based Approaches to Integrating SEL and Academics (Double Session-This session runs from 10:00 AM to 12:10 PM)

Jennifer Stanchfield, Experiential Tools, South Newfane, VT
Highland Strand: A

Join this interactive session and fill your toolbox with experiential, brain-based techniques that empower students to take ownership of learning, practice social-emotional skills, and build a positive, connected, inclusive, and supportive classroom community. Enliven academic and SEL content with student-centered methods to enhance involvement, buy-in, and retention. Integrate academic engagement with collaboration, problem-solving, and self and social awareness. Inspire meaningful reflection to create lasting lessons. Leave with practical strategies, creative inspiration, and new perspectives on your role as an educator.

3 - Quiz Time! How Much Do You Really Know About Young Adolescents?

Dave F. Brown, Vermont Association for Middle Level Education, Essex Junction, VT
Stonehaven Strand: D

Collaborate with colleagues to take this short T/F quiz on adolescents. As we check answers, we'll discuss ideas to help students move to advanced thinking, effects of social media, and why they're "so stressed." You'll leave with a better understanding of why they act "that way," and how to respond!

4 - Supporting Students and Educators Through the Power of Relationships: Implementing Systematic Social-Emotional Learning Using the BARR Model

Amie Boucher, Westbrook Middle School, Westbrook, ME and Rachel Olinger Steeves, Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, Yarmouth, ME
Worthy Strand: B

Positive relationships are an essential prerequisite for educational success. With limited time, numerous demands, and constant change in schools, the wellbeing of students and teachers must remain a priority. Learn strategies for balancing SEL and academic needs, maximizing success, and enhancing climate, leaning into relationships and capitalizing on educator strengths.

6 - Keeping First Cousins - Fear and Hate at Bay!

Jitendrapal Kundan, The Origins Program, Minneapolis, MN
Kilkenney Strand: C

Daily practice(s) of Cultural Humility and Authenticity help our students engage in healthy self and group identity formation. In addition, such daily practices help our students develop healthy empathy, listen to understand and with integrity work toward positive changes we desire in your classroom/school.

7 - The Heart of Leading Is Your Heart

Paul Semendinger, Wyckoff, NJ
King Edward East Strand: E

School leaders are critical in creating an environment where teachers can thrive to be at their best for the students they serve. In this workshop, Dr. Paul Semendinger shares his tried-and-true methods for building a school culture based on trust, support, caring, a shared vision... and love.

8 - Building a Math Differentiation Toolkit

Charuta Joshi, ByteLearn Inc, New York, NY

King Edward West

Strand: A

Creating lessons that are accessible to all students is challenging. We will look at strategies like noticing routines, self-paced activities, scaffolded worksheets, flipped classrooms, and the use of technology to build your differentiation toolkit. We will explore how the Bytelearn program can help teachers differentiate through scaffolded step-by-step help and insights on learning gaps.

9 - Inspire, Challenge, and Engage Your Students in Any Subject With Scratch

Daniel Masi, Lebanon Middle School, Lebanon, NH

King George North

Strand: A

SCRATCHING your head to find ways to engage your students as well as inspire collaboration and creativity in your classroom? Learn about SCRATCH, not as a computer science thing but as a multidimensional medium of expression of thoughts, ideas, and concepts that can be woven into any subject or class.

10 - The Art of the Hook: Engaging Your Students From the First Day of School to the Last

Daniel Zukergood, Springfield College, Holyoke, MA

King George South

Strand: A

Participants in this interactive workshop will leave with new and exciting methods of engaging their students. It is called the Art of the Hook Method. Come prepared with a lesson in mind and see how this method can help you create a more effective learning experience for your students.

11 - Building a Resilient & Inclusive School Culture

Amy Rose, Rockport High School, Rockport, MA

Longford

Strand: B

The session will focus on developing a comprehensive SEL curriculum that empowers student voice and choice to ignite change within the school environment. The interactive workshop will include forum-type discussions on the current culture in schools and lead educators through a customized experience to strategically shape and refine the existing climate in their schools.

12 - Mindfulness for Middle School

Sally Delisle, ChildLight Education Company, Winthrop, ME

Waterford

Strand: B

Using evidence-based and trauma informed practices, this experiential workshop introduces Middle Level educators to yoga & mindfulness activities which can be incorporated into the day. Using the Three Bs, together we can learn and practice tools that promote positive mental health, strengthen relationships, support SEL, and encourage overall well-being.

Monday, March 27, 2023

Session II
Concurrent Workshops
11:10 AM – 12:10 PM

13 - Be that Teacher - The One You Want Your Kid to Have!

David Riordan, Hingham Middle School, Hingham, MA

Charles Strand: E

3 Do's and Don'ts of getting our kids more connected to our schools and our classrooms! Teacher leaders have several things in common, things they do and believe. Explore some "Do's and Don'ts" of how these teacher leaders get their kids to improve wellness and become more connected to school, their classroom, and their learning!

14 - The Trust Imperative - Practical Strategies for Improving Your Leadership Skills and Boosting Your Impact NOW

Andrew Dolloff, Yarmouth School Department, Yarmouth, ME

Stonehaven Strand: E

A recognized leader of outstanding schools and author of "The Trust Imperative," Andrew shares insights he has gained from 35 years as a teacher and school leader in an engaging, anecdotal format that provides each attendee with specific strategies they can employ immediately to improve personal well-being and professional effectiveness.

15 - Classroom Accommodations for Multilingual Learners

Dana Gastich, UpRiver Education, Exeter, NH

Worthy Strand: C

What is the difference between an accommodation and a modification? Are accommodations for special education? Join us as we answer these questions and unpack instructional tools to expand equity and access for multilingual learners. Participants will take home an MLL Accommodations Checklist along with concrete strategies for reaching more students.

17 - Teams of Trusted Adults: Building Stronger Connections & Healthier Boundaries

Brooklyn Raney, One Trusted Adult, Moultonborough, NH

Kilkenney Strand: B

From tech-free advisory and student-run podcasts to note card activities and relationship- focused professional development, learn about school-wide initiatives to ensure every one of your students can name at least one trusted adult at school.

18 - 30+ Instructional Strategies to Engage Learners

Susanna Sharpe, Biddeford Middle School, Biddeford, ME

King Edward East Strand: A

This session is designed to add to your toolbox. Over 30 instructional strategies will be shared designed to engage or in some cases re-engage learners. These strategies promote discussion, encourage critical thinking, and reinforce content.

19 - Break the Forgetting Cycle with Get More Math

Josh Britton, Get More Math, Quarryville, PA

King Edward West

Strand: A

By the end of the year, students have already forgotten many of their hard-won math concepts. How can we break the "forgetting cycle" and make it stick? Josh Britton will share his 20-year journey, proven model, and Get More Math system for driving long-term math retention.

21 - Introduction to WeVideo For All Subjects

Elizabeth Chatis and Laura Hipp, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School, Coventry, CT

King George South

Strand: A

Ever wanted to change up the way your students demonstrate their learning? Looking for a student centered approach? Look no further! WeVideo is here! A chromebook accessible tool that allows students to create, edit, and present videos for any subject and skill-level. Please bring a device for this working session.

22 - Cultivating Climate: Kindness, Empathy, and Gratitude in Education

Joelle Hood, Thriving YOUiversity, Yorba Linda, CA

Longford

Strand: B

In session, participants will learn the science behind the positive physical, mental, and educational benefits of kindness, empathy, and gratitude practices. Participants will leave with ready-to-use, real-world strategies that fuse kindness, empathy, gratitude, and academics to help students and educators thrive.

23 - SEL With Furry Friends - Therapy Dogs in Schools

Melissa Saari, ColdSprings Healing Paws, New Ipswich, NH, and Amy Treat, Walpole Elementary School, New Ipswich, NH

Waterford

Strand: B

This presentation covers the how and why of having certified Therapy Dogs in Schools. We will cover how to start a program, the benefits of having dogs in schools, the ethics of working with Animal Assisted Interventions as well as best practices of Social Emotional Learning with certified dogs in the classrooms/buildings.

24 - Promises and Pitfalls of Project Based Learning (This is 20 minute session running from 11:40 AM to 12:00 PM)

Lisa Hubbard Worcester Academy, Worcester, MA

King George North

Strand: A

Holding students interest in math is crucial in middle school. As concepts become increasingly abstract, math can become a series of random rules that need to be followed in order to solve a meaningless question. Employing Project Based Learning (PBL) can help keep students motivated and interested.

Monday, March 27, 2023

Session III
Concurrent Workshops
1:40 PM – 2:40 PM

25 - Aspiring to be a Middle Level Administrator?

Robert Griffin, Haverhill Cooperative Middle School, North Haverhill, NH and Jeff Rodman, New England League of Middle Schools, Georgetown, MA

Charles Strand: E

"The Successful Middle School" states Effective leadership is critical to a school's success. The question that needs to be addressed is, so what is effective leadership? Join veteran administrators Bob Griffin and Jeff Rodman for an in depth discussion on middle level leadership. Effective Leadership is a critical need at this critical time.

26 - Special Movie Sneak Peek: Changing By The Minute

Camilla Calamandrei, Rolling River Films, New York, NY

Highland Strand: D

A documentary filmmaker spent one year embedded in a "startlingly upbeat" public middle school in NYC gathering an unprecedented collection of observational footage about the daily lives of students and teachers. See a preview from this "extraordinary window into early adolescence" and join in Q&A about this critical period of social-emotional growth and identity development. Trailer: ChangingByTheMinute.com

27 - Google Classroom for the Administrator

Laura Hipp, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School, East Hampton, CT
Stonehaven Strand: E

Many schools ask teachers to incorporate Google Classroom into their day-to-day interactions with students & parents. Come learn how to leverage this tool as an administrator & model good practices for your teachers at the same time. You will learn quick & easy tips to get started right away. Bring a device-working time will be incorporated.

28 - How to Manage Conflict through Mindfulness and Co-Regulation: A Way Towards a Peaceable Classroom

Venera Gattonini, Newmarket Junior/Senior High School, Newmarket, NH

Worthy Strand: B

Have you ever wondered how to incorporate mindfulness and movement into your classroom? This session will provide ideas and resources which can be immediately implemented. You will learn some simple movement and mindfulness practices which incorporate breathing, walking, visualization, and drawing. In this session we will workshop these tools together.

30 - LGBTQIA+ Young Adolescents' Advice for Middle Level Educators

Dave F. Brown, Vermont Association for Middle Level Education, Essex Junction, VT

Kilkenney Strand: C

In my interviews with several LGBTQIA+ middle schoolers, they reveal what they expect and need from teachers to feel accepted, cared for, and protected while at school. Attend this session to learn of personal actions that you can adopt to protect and affirm the identities of your LGBTQIA+ students.

31 - 100% Participation

Courtney Heyman, Worcester Academy, Worcester, MA
King Edward East Strand: A

Wouldn't it be great if all students spoke in class? Join me and learn how to easily implement Pear Deck into your lessons to ensure 100% engagement. Pear Deck allows all students to interact with your Google Slides while keeping their answer anonymous to their peers.

32 - Authentic Engagement Accelerates Achievement: Implementing Career-Focused Courses In Your School

William Wilson, Virtual Enterprises, New York, NY
King Edward West Strand: A

Authentic student engagement requires authentic learning environments; career-focused programming transforms the classroom into the real world. In this session, participants will discuss instructional/programming strategies to help middle schools enhance engagement and interaction through meaningful career development experiences that prepare their students for success.

33 - Change My Mind: Teaching Students to Argue Using the CER Method

Melissa Tobey and Sarah Wong, Cooperative Middle School, Stratham, NH
King George North Strand: A

This session supports teachers as they work to integrate literacy instruction in their classrooms. Attendees will experience a classroom-tested approach for teaching the CER writing method through collaborative work that can be immediately implemented. This process can be adapted for any classroom or discipline, and methods for this adaptation will be demonstrated.

34 - Making the Most of Flexible Instructional Grouping

Susan Russell, Jockey Hollow Middle School STEM Academy, Monroe, CT
King George South Strand: A

Flexible instructional grouping allows educators to target students with instructional needs. Learn how to access data to identify student needs, create groups based on those needs, design instruction and manage group progression. Bring data from your own classes to practice analyzing data to create groups.

35 - Physics and Chemistry are -321 Degrees COOL!

Mark McCabe and Rita McCabe, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, Pelham, NH
Longford Strand: A

A STEM enrichment program we can bring to your classroom! Includes an in-depth look at the States of Matter, the relationship between volume, pressure, and temperature, explain what a "Dewar" is, discuss wavelength, and even the Leidenfrost Effect using interactive visual experiments using liquid nitrogen! SO COOL! End the workshop with a delicious treat!

36 - Leveraging Esports to Connect our Disconnected Students

Michaela Durand and Bryan Rickert, Hillcrest Middle School, Trumbull, CT
Waterford Strand: B

Esports, or competitive video gaming, is a rapidly growing billion dollar industry. Learn to create an esports team. We will share how we started our program from concept, to fundraising, obtaining the hardware, and competing in AMLE competition. Learn how esports can help connect with a different population of students.

Monday, March 27, 2023

Session IV
Concurrent Workshops
2:50 PM – 3:50 PM

37 - A Whole School Approach to Evidence-based Writing

Noah Ventola Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School, Old Lyme, CT
Charles Strand: E

In this session, participants will learn about a whole-school approach to evidence-based writing. Specifically, participants will see how a Connecticut middle school uses evidence-based writing benchmark assessments to inform interventions and as data for teachers' Student Learning Objectives, which are goals set by teachers that measure student growth.

38 - Special Movie Sneak Peek: Changing By The Minute

Camilla Calamandrei, Rolling River Films, New York, NY
Highland Strand: D

A documentary filmmaker spent one year embedded in a “startlingly upbeat” public middle school in NYC gathering an unprecedented collection of observational footage about the daily lives of students and teachers. See a preview from this “extraordinary window into early adolescence” and join in Q&A about this critical period of social-emotional growth and identity development. Trailer: ChangingByTheMinute.com

39 - Embedding Service Learning in your Middle School (This is a 20 minute session running from 2:50 PM to 3:10 PM)

Jacqueline Arce, Worcester Academy, Worcester, MA
Stonehaven Strand: E

Community service is not the same thing as service learning. It's time for schools to revamp their service programs to developing students' empathy, leadership, and collaboration skills as well as to ensure that the service that students do is meaningful and not just a "one off" experience. Come learn how!

40 - Educators as "First Responders:" Mental Health in the Classroom

Deborah Offner, Beacon Academy, Newton, MA
Worthy Strand: B

Middle school teachers and administrators are "on the ground" daily, responding to student mental health issues. This workshop provides an overview of adolescent mental health, along with tips and strategies for how you can respond to a student in distress; collaborate with colleagues to support students; and talk to parents in a way they can hear.

42 - A Strengths-based Approach to Climate, Culture, & Healthy Relationships

Elizabeth MacWilliams, The Positivity Project, Fuquay Varina, NC
Kilkenney Strand: B

Understand the compelling why behind the need to empower school communities to build positive relationships and strengthen student belonging, deepen knowledge of positive psychology and a strengths-based instructional model, and build capacity in district and school-based instructional leaders to effectively transform climate and culture amid The Great Reconsideration.

43 - 100+ Books for Middle School Students and Ways to Use Them

Susanna Sharpe, Biddeford Middle School, Biddeford, ME

King Edward East

Strand: A

Books and More Books! Come join us for a fast paced session where over 100 old and new books will be highlighted. Ideas and strategies for whole class, small group, and independent reading will be shared as well as tons of discussion questions and writing prompts that fit any book.

44 - Beat Boredom with Blooket

Jennefer Amato and Taylor Wesley, Jockey Hollow School, Monroe, CT

King Edward West

Strand: A

BLOOKET--more than just a game! Learn to use an interactive, web-based platform that combines quiz-style questions and answers with fun skill games. You will walk away with a tool to activate prior knowledge, review content, prepare for assessments, check student progress and build relationships while having a BLAST!

45 - Community Outreach for Middle Schoolers

Mark Vital, The Advanced Math & Science Academy, Marlborough, MA

King George North

Strand: A

Participants will gain a greater understanding of how community outreach and service learning can enhance the school's curriculum and contribute to building stronger school culture. In addition, these strategies will help to build self-esteem and develop leadership and project management skills for middle school students.

46 - Sparking Innovation and Engagement through Genius Hour Inquiry

Frank Daniello and Brook Eisenbach, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA

King George South

Strand: A

Looking to spark innovation and promote student inquiry? This interactive session will provide participants insight into how Genius Hour engages and motivates middle level learners in inquiry-based, student-guided learning. Lesley University teacher candidates will also share Genius Hour Projects, which review important education topics, such as anti-racist teaching and bilingualism.

48 - Integrating SEAL to Boost the ABCs: Achievement, Behavior, and Culture with Social, Emotional, and Academic Learning

Joelle Hood, Thriving YOUiversity, Yorba Linda, CA

Waterford

Strand: B

Research is clear that social and emotional skills are foundational for success in school and life. In this session, participants will explore the research supporting social, emotional, and academic learning (SEAL) and take part in self-reflection, discussions and activities that they can immediately replicate with their students and colleagues.

Conference Planner – Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Visit Exhibits between sessions or anytime from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Time	Function	Number/Title	Location(s)
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	General Session and Keynote: Jack Berckemeyer	<i>Middle Level Educators Maintaining Optimism while Thriving in a Crazy World!</i>	Grand Ballroom
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Bookstore & Exhibit Hall		Ballroom Foyer
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors		Ballroom Foyer
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Concurrent Session V		2 nd & 3 rd Level Meeting Rooms
11:10 AM – 12:10 PM	Concurrent Session VI		2 nd & 3 rd Level Meeting Rooms
12:10 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch for All Attendees & Visit Exhibitors		Ballroom Foyer
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Luncheon Keynote: Scarlett Lewis	<i>Choose Love: A Mother's Story from Tragedy to Triumph</i>	Grand Ballroom
1:40 PM – 2:40 PM	Closing Session: Jack Berckemeyer	<i>Teaching Strategies that Motivate Students</i>	Grand Ballroom

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Tuesday, March 28, 2023

General Session and Keynote

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Middle Level Educators Maintaining Optimism while Thriving in a Crazy World!

Presenter: Jack Berckemeyer

The education struggle is real. Educators are overwhelmed and educator tired is real. The question becomes how do we maintain that joy and optimism in this crazy world. Jack will offer his insight, humor, and laughter to help your school create an atmosphere of joy and optimism.

Luncheon Keynote Session

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Choose Love: A Mother's Story from Tragedy to Triumph

Presenter: Scarlett Lewis

Social and Emotional Learning is an essential part of the educational experience. Hear a touching story of how SEL could have prevented one of the worst mass murders in US history and how a victim's mother decided to become part of the solution to the issues we're facing in schools and society today. Based on a message her young son left on their kitchen chalkboard, "Nurturing Healing Love", Scarlett began a worldwide movement to teach children how to choose love in every situation or circumstance. You will learn the empowering formula that can lead educators and students to choose love in every situation.

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Session V
Concurrent Workshops
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

49 - Building a Thriving Advisory

Chris Pollet, Tyngsborough Middle School, Tyngsborough MA and Jason Webster, Hawthorne Brook Middle School, Townsend, MA

Charles Strand: B

Students need to feel connected with their school and to be part of a supportive community. Advisory programs offer the structure to meet students' developmental needs and a person who gets to know the "whole child." Come and see model advisory programs and discuss the key components of a program you can bring back to your school.

50 - Attendance Matters: A Multi-tiered Approach to Reducing Chronic Absenteeism

Jessica Anderson, Count ME In, Suite 303, ME

Highland Strand: C

Our data-driven approach supports schools across Maine in addressing chronic absenteeism. Schools who implement the Count ME In model with fidelity experience nearly a 25% decrease in chronic absenteeism. Join our interactive workshop to learn more about our steps to success and leave with next steps that you can incorporate into your school and community.

51 - Clean Up That Digital Clutter for You & Your Students

Laura Hipp, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School, East Hampton, CT

Stonehaven Strand: F

Keeping ourselves digitally organized takes time and strategies in order to keep from feeling overwhelmed. You have enough to worry about & trying to find that one file or email takes away from the other important things that need to get done. In this session learn tips for managing your files, emails, bookmarks and more!

52 - Beyond Engagement: Empowering Students in Learning

Nancy Doda, Teacher-to-Teacher, Brookfield, VT

Worthy Strand: A

It has long been advised that students need to do the heavy cognitive lifting to learn well, but empowering students can be messy work. Join me to examine a few approaches, from simple to more complex, that can help us get off the stage and empower students in their learning.

54 - How Digital Books Help Schools Reimagine Reading Equity

Christa Taylor, Sora, by OverDrive Education, Cleveland, OH

Kilkenney Strand: C

Digital books aren't just a useful tool for the remote classroom. They're also a critical tool in the fight to increase reading equity. This session is for anyone looking to build a digital library from the ground up or exploring new ways to leverage their existing ebook and audiobook catalog.

55 - Brain Breaks Using Multiple Intelligences

Tina Keegan, The Gilbert School, Winsted, CT

King Edward East

Strand: A

Understand the science behind brain breaks and using multiple intelligences. Come away with a collection of hundreds of brain breaks that help students to stay engaged in block-scheduled lessons.

56 - Creating Choice Boards to Engage Your Students

Catherine Herrick, Ross A. Lurgio Middle School, Bedford, NH

King Edward West

Strand: A

Student engagement is both the most important and most difficult part of creating a new activity. Choice boards are a collection of activities, which allow students to obtain the same content knowledge, while utilizing different skills. You will walk away with various templates to modify for your classroom needs.

57 - Students Drive the Learning: Curriculum Reimagined

Rebecca Krouner and Gus Mattammal, Advantage Testing, Brookline, MA

King George North

Strand: A

Learn about an innovative curriculum that harnesses students interests through customized, interdisciplinary project-based courses. Students are engaged in every step, including generating ideas for courses, giving input on curriculum, and sharing final work. You'll leave with ideas for how to incorporate this work in your school community.

58 - Yoga and Mindfulness for Health and PE Teachers

Kristen Santos, Childlight Education Company, Franklin, MA

King George South

Strand: A

Will give PE and Health Teachers fun and creative ways to implement Yoga into the curriculum. Games, breathwork, and assessments will be included.

59 - Engaging Families and Communities: How Can Teachers and Other School Personnel Connect with Students to Support, Academic, Social, and Emotional Success?

Kathleen O'Farrell, St. John's University / NYC DOE, Massapequa Park, NY

Longford

Strand: B

Current research and hands-on activities will empower educators (especially those new to the teaching profession) to build positive connections with families and communities as well as professional self-efficacy to positively impact students' social, emotional, and academic growth.

60 - More Good Days: Brain-Based Strategies for Trauma-Responsive Schools

Joelle Hood, Thriving YOUiversity, Yorba Linda, CA

Waterford

Strand: B

This session explores the neuroscience around trauma and provides simple yet powerful research-based strategies to build relationships and cultivate environments that empower all students to thrive. Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of the impact of trauma on learning and behavior and research-based strategies that they can implement immediately.

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Session VI
Concurrent Workshops
11:10 AM – 12:10 PM

62 - Tier 3 Behavior Interventions

Laura Maher Jockey Hollow Middle School, Monroe, CT
Highland Strand: B

How to structure these interventions for students displaying behavioral issues within the middle school environment. Providing a place to learn how to self-regulate and return to the classroom environment. Giving students the ability to continue with academics, flexibility in moving in and out of a typical classroom setting and allowing for continuity of learning for all.

63 - Co-Principal: A Model for Shared Leadership

Michele Murray and Michael Nash, Ellington Middle School, Ellington, CT
Stonehaven Strand: E

Ellington Middle School co-principals will share how their shared leadership model works to support their school improvement plan and increase collaboration between administrators, building based leadership teams, and teachers. Strategies and focus areas will include administrator collaboration practices, the use of a professional leadership team, and team/support staff intervention practices.

64 - Round Table: Supporting Our LGBTQ+ Students

Bill Ivey, Stoneleigh-Burnham School, Shelburne Falls, MA
Worthy Strand: C

This is a space to discuss what we all are doing to support our LGBTQ+ students. Besides sharing our successes, we will also have the chance to discuss problems, concerns, and issues we are facing, and collectively discuss ideas to handle these.

66 - Action + Reflection = Change

Jessica Anderson, Count ME In, Dresden, ME
Kilkenney Strand: A

Reflecting on our experiences promotes change. Reflection is a skill that is built through experience. Learn strategies to scaffold reflection and incorporate it into your classroom routines.

67 - Break the Math Forgetting Cycle with Cumulative Assessment

Josh Britton, Get More Math, Quarryville, PA
King Edward East Strand: A

Unit testing in math has trained student brains to experience math gains as disposable: learn it, test it, lose it. In this session, we explore breaking the cycle of gain and loss with cumulative testing using Get More Math software.

68 - Google Forms: From Basics to Break Out Rooms and Beyond

Michael McLaughlin, Austin Preparatory School, Reading, MA
King Edward West Strand: A

Google Forms have a variety of uses as lesson activities and a means of assessment. This workshop will provide an introductory-level overview of various settings and features. We will explore how to

maximize this tool through self-grading assessments, review activities, and gamification opportunities like Escape Rooms. This workshop does not presume prior knowledge or experience.

69 - Student Engagement Keeps the EnJOYment in Teaching!

Martha Cox-Stavros, Rockport Middle School, Rockport, MA

King George North

Strand: A

Combining classroom routines/practices with research on motivation and positive emotions, this session will demonstrate several activities/techniques that can be adapted to different content areas.

Consideration is paid to developmentally appropriate pacing and transitions, including incorporating movement in each lesson. Participants will leave with tools to use with little to no prep!

70 - In The Wild Learning: Making the Most of Your Annual Class Trip

Nick Kleiner, Nick Kleiner Consulting, Portland, ME

King George South

Strand: A

There are plenty of learning moments to be gleaned during a trip to Washington, New York, Boston, or Quebec. Learn tips, tools, and opportunities for classroom learning prior to your class trip that will bring the city to life for students and get the most out of the experience.

71 - Essential Extras! Another Field Day? Another 8th Grade Dance? What other traditions and events make school SPECIAL and FUN?!

Kevin Fisher, Kelly O'Neill, Brittany Thompson, and Aram Zakian, Cooperative Middle School, Stratham, NH

Longford

Strand: B

Field Day, school dances, and pep rallies - what other special and integrated events support a positive culture and community for all? Come share community-building activities within your school that you are most proud of and leave with some new ideas to try!

72 - Restorative Practices In Action

Bonnie Robbins, Brunswick Junior High School, Brunswick, ME

Waterford

Strand: B

Restorative practices enables members of the school community to integrate and normalize a collaborative approach by focusing on building, maintaining and repairing relationships among all members of a school. When students feel like they have an increased connection to school, they have more educational motivation, classroom engagement and improved school attendance.

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Session VII
Closing Session
1:40 PM – 2:40 PM

Teaching Strategies that Motivate Students

Jack Berckemeyer, Berckemeyer Consulting Group, Denver, CO

Grand Ballroom

Strand: A

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 teachers and experienced teachers. Be ready to dance, laugh, and move!