



Session Titles and Presenters

Session Title

Presenter

Positive feedback: Something we should all practice in the classroom

ID

Amani Abdur-Rahman

Biography

My name is Amani Abdur-Rahman and I have been teaching special education for 17 years. I obtained my bachelors degree from Florida A&M University in Elementary education. I most recently received my Masters in ESOL from Concordia University in Illinois. I decided to become a special education teacher because I myself received special education services while in elementary, middle, high school, and college. I am a strong advocate for students with special needs as I myself have and still walk in their shoes. I am currently engaged and have no children. I just have 2 cats and a turtle. I have been in a few movies and rap videos in my younger days. I have traveled to several continents and countries around the world. I love to read and dance. I am certified in 3 different states and hold first aid, CPR, AED, First Aid Mental Health, and Water Safety certifications. I have been recognized by the Chicago Teachers Union as well as the Atlanta Public Schools School Board. I also coach volleyball, track and field, and cross country.

Including All Students in Scientific Investigation and Engineering Design

ID

Juan-Carlos Aguilar

Biography

Dr. Aguilar is the Director for Innovative Programs and Research at the Georgia Department of Education. He provides internal evaluation support for innovative projects awarded to the State Department of Education as well manages a portfolio of projects funded by the National Science Foundation, the US Department of Education, and private foundations. He worked for nine years as the state liaison for science, engineering, and STEM professional organizations. He has also participated in national STEM organizations, most currently serving as a writer for the National Academies for Science, Engineering, and Health's "America's Lab Report" committee. He has worked in several projects funded by the National Institutes of Health, NASA and NSF in different capacities; Program Evaluator, Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator that focused on science education and Citizen Science-based STEM projects.

Session Title

Presenter

Including All Students in Scientific Investigation and Engineering Design(repeat)

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(DCDT) Writing Measurable Transition Goals is like a box of Chocolates!

ID

Gwendolyn Allen

Biography

Dr. Gwendolyn Allen is a veteran teacher and trainer. She has a background in Music Therapy, Emotional/Behavior Disorders, Intellectual Disorders, Employment Specialist/Job Development and Transition. Dr. Allen has worked with students in the GNETS program, Interrelated High School classes, GA Academy for the Blind, a specialized vocational center, Community-Based Vocational Training programs and has been an adjunct professor in Teacher Education. Her focus is to provide support to teachers in classroom management and transition planning. Dr. Allen is also the President of Georgia's CEC Division of Career Development and Transition.

Thrive or Survive—What will it be? Classroom Management as easy as 1, 2, 3.

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Session Title

Presenter

Serving the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students With Exceptionalities 2.0

ID 2019222

Stacey Arnett

Biography

I am the ESOL/Newcomer Lead at Sprayberry High School with degrees in English, Spanish and TESOL. I am tri-lingual. I am currently working on my specialist in Learning, Design and Technology at the University of Georgia. If you do not find me at a local soccer game, I am reading and listening to music.

Supercharging your classroom with technology

ID 2019362

Tonya Bailey

Biography

I have a master's degree in special education. I have taught special education for 8 years in a GNETS school setting. I view my career as a great opportunity to teach and help children with challenging behaviors become successful and life long learners. My position is very rewarding in many ways. I have had the great opportunity to present at the IDEAS conference for the last 2 years. I look forward each year to learn and discover new ways of teaching. Attending and presenting at the IDEAS conference allows me to do so. During this time, I have also had the opportunity to be a.

Ready Player One

ID 2019301

LYNNE BAKER

Biography

Lynne Baker has been a teacher of special needs students for 29 years. I successfully retired from Alabama with 27 years experience and began my new journey teaching in Georgia. I have been blessed with the opportunity of teaching students with mild, moderate, and severe disabilities. I have provided inclusion services, co-teaching, consultative, and direct instruction in almost every subject across all grades and ages 4-22. I love taking the techniques that help students with learning or those with behavioral issues and bringing them into the general education setting. It helps ALL student to become better students and learners.

Session Title

Presenter

I am because WE are

ID

Jennifer Baker

Biography

Jennifer Baker is a former Special Education Teacher who decided that she could help students with disabilities in a multi-faceted arena. Upon completing her fifth year of teaching, Jennifer decided to start her own consulting business that helped instill social skills that had been an issue with students, especially with students with special needs. Ubuntu Reloaded was born which gives students insight on entrepreneurship, effective communication, life skills, and other networking opportunities. Ubuntu Reloaded is a community involvement program that encompasses and utilizes local vendors, social media, and marketing strategies to build stronger communities and stronger students.

When do English Learners with Disabilities attain English proficiency?

ID

Margaret Baker

Biography

Margaret (Meg) E. D. Baker, holds an Ed.D. in Leadership for Learning, Inclusive Education from Kennesaw State University. Drawing on her varied school, district, and state teacher and leader experiences in K-12 education for English Learners, Dr. Baker currently serves at the Department of Education as program manager of the state ESOL and federal Title III, Part A Language Programs in Georgia. Formerly from the Dominican Republic, where she worked in K-12 administration and teacher preparation, Meg considers herself an advocate for diverse learners and their families in the U.S. Her research interests are in English Learner education and assessment, including teacher and leader preparation.

Tools for Avoiding a Day in Court

ID

Karen Barineau

Biography

Karen Hamilton Barineau is an Autism and Behavior Support Specialist for DeKalb County School District. She received a Bachelors (B.S.) degree in Mental Retardation from The University of Georgia, a Masters (M. Ed.) in Education from The University of West Georgia in Adaptive Curriculum, and a Specialist (Ed. S.) degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Lincoln Memorial University. She has been active in the area of autism and working with students with disabilities for over 30 years. Her current position involves working collaboratively with educators, outside professionals, and family members designing individualized programs to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities within the public school system. Ms. Barineau also consults privately with families and school districts. She provides trainings for parents and professionals at the local, state, and national level on Accessing Grade Level Standards for Individuals with Disabilities, Autism Understanding, Challenging Behaviors, De-escalation, and Nonviolent Crisis Intervention. She has strong skills in developing visual supports, implementing augmentative communication, designing curriculum for individuals with intellectual disabilities, solving behavior problems, and creating social skills support programs.

Session Title

Presenter

Action Research in the Classroom for Data-based Instruction

ID 2019308

Jennifer Beal

Biography

Dr. Jennifer S. Beal is an Associate Professor of Deaf Education at Valdosta State University. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses related to reading, language, social development, sign language, Individual Education Programs etc. She researches children's acquisition and development of American Sign Language (ASL), assessment of ASL, and action research in the classroom. She has co-authored books and chapters related to literacy instruction, language development, action research, and case studies in deaf education.

Can SLDS help me with my Case Load? ABSOLUTELY!

ID 2019309

Hubert Bennett

Biography

Hubert Bennett, PhD is the Training & Implementation Manager for Georgia's SLDS (Statewide Longitudinal Data System). Bennett joined the Georgia Department of Education in 2010 to develop and implement Georgia's SLDS. The SLDS application provides many, many tools and applications for educators, parents, students, and even agencies across Georgia. Prior to joining Ga DOE, Bennett was the Information Manager for two different LEAs in Georgia. As a "data guy", Bennett has a broad understanding of the information/data that is transmitted between SEA & LEAs. Bennett is the father of two children and the grandfather of one incredible granddaughter. Originally from North Carolina, he has lived in Georgia since 1976.

Finding Digital Resources to use in my class (TRL)

ID 2019310

Hubert Bennett

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Finding Digital Resources to use in my class (TRL) (repeat)

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Strategies to Develop Listening & Spoken Language for Children who are DHH

ID

Jessica Bergeron

Biography

Jessica is the Program Manager for the Mobile Audiology Program at the Department of Education. She is passionate about outcomes for children who are DHH and seeks to support teacher development for those working with children who use hearing technology.

Strategies to Develop Listening & Spoken Language for Children who are DHH (Continued)

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Jessica Bergeron

Biography

Jessica is the Program Manager for the Mobile Audiology Program at the Department of Education. She is passionate about outcomes for children who are DHH and seeks to support teacher development for those working with children who use hearing technology.

Strategies to Develop Listening & Spoken Language for Children who are DHH (Continued)

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Strategies to Develop Listening & Spoken Language for Children who are DHH (Continued)

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Fingerspelling Our Way to Reading-Strategies (Repeat Continued)

ID

Nancy Bridenbaugh

Biography

Nancy Bridenbaugh is currently a Research Associate with the Center on Literacy and Deafness focusing on a program that develops fingerspelling phonologic awareness for deaf and hard of hearing children in K-2nd grades. She earned her Master's in Deaf Education and has many years of experience as a teacher of deaf children as well as a mentor for teachers. She has presented at national and international conferences. Ms. Bridenbaugh previously served as the Director of the Gallaudet University Regional Center in Hawaii and the Director of Rocky Mountain Deaf School, a bilingual charter school.

Fingerspelling Our Way to Reading-Strategies (Repeat)

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Yes, I Can! How to Build Student Confidence and Trust

ID

Tiffany Brown

Biography

Tiffany Brown's ultimate goal is to positively enhance any and all interactions. Brown began her journey of positively educating others while employed as the Prevention Educator for the North Georgia Mountain Crisis Network, Inc., during which time she was awarded the Michael E. Axelrod Power of Prevention Award and the Fannin County Volunteer of the Year Award. She then transitioned to being an Elementary Lead Teacher for NorthStar, a member of Georgia Network of Educational and Therapeutic Support, and is currently a special education teacher for the Fannin County School System. For over a decade, Brown has been constructing and cultivating classrooms built on trust, healthy relationships, and a positive forward thinking attitude. She believes that everyone has strengths that can be fostered to encourage academic and social growth.....growth that needs to continue throughout one's life. Brown has designed engaging lessons that incorporate Social Emotional Learning into core academic courses, in addition to effectively utilizing positive communication strategies to develop staff and students' skills. Brown has a specialist degree in Brain Based Learning, along with training and experience with deescalating intense behavioral situations and nurturing a love for education and one's self.

Lauren's Love 'Em & Leave 'Em

ID

Lauren Bruce

Biography

Lauren Bruce is a 2014 graduate of Franklin County High School. She has successfully opened and operates Lauren's Love 'Em & Leave 'Em, a pet sitting business. She offers all types of sitting services from long-term stays to doggie day care to doggie baths. She, also, visits pets at their house. She keeps pups from Chattanooga, TN to Greenville, SC and all areas in between. If you love 'em, you'll leave 'em with Lauren!!

Environment & Person-based Stressors in Special Education and Coping Mechanisms for Career Longevity

ID 2019289

Trissa Carlton

Biography

My name is Dr. Trissa Carlton. After a career in corporate communications, I became a Special Education teacher. I've been in the classroom for over a decade. I completed my M.Ed. in Educational Leadership, Supervision and Administration from Middle Tennessee State University. My Ed.S and PhD were both completed with Northcentral University. I am an adjunct professor for Ottawa University where I instruct undergraduate and graduate education students online. If selected, by the time I present, I will have begun my consulting business, Arbors and Vines, Special Education Consulting Services. Going forward, my goal within the field of special education is to 1) help develop the next generation of dynamic, transformative special education teachers and 2) journey through the special education experience with families who may need assistance understanding and managing the unique aspects of the IEP process. Full disclosure: I am currently contracted with Troup County Schools, and I must state that I do not counsel families residing within Troup County. Nor would I be presenting as a representative of Troup County.

The FBA is Done, Now What? Addressing Escape Maintained Behavior

ID 2019305

Deva Carrion-McGee

Biography

Dr. Deva Carrion-McGee, PhD, BCBA completed her graduate training in School Psychology at The University of Iowa in 2018. She has 9 years of experience working with children with developmental disabilities in the home, school, and community across several states including Georgia, Iowa, and Nebraska. Deva joined Marcus Autism Center in July of 2018 as a Behavioral Clinical Practitioner in the School Consultation Program. She works extensively with various school districts as a behavioral consultant. She is responsible for providing direct behavioral consultation to school districts across the state of Georgia, training teachers and paraprofessionals in principles of ABA, behavior management, developing IEP goals, and general classroom management strategies. Additionally, she assesses students using criterion-referenced behavioral assessments, conducts functional behavioral assessments including functional analyses, and develops behavior intervention plans.

Educational Implications of Extreme Prematurity

ID 2019194

Sheena Carter

Biography

Dr. Carter is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics with Emory University School of Medicine. Developmental Progress Clinic. She is a licensed psychologist specializing in applied developmental psychology. She has more than 25 years of experience with multidisciplinary follow-up of medically risk infants from hospital discharge through school age. She is the lead psychologist with the Emory Regional Perinatal Center and provides consultation to parents and medical professionals regarding optimal support for behavioral, educational, and emotional development for these children as they develop. She has led workshops on supporting the optimal development of children after NICU discharge and helps to organize an annual training conference for early intervention providers. She participates in the education of Pediatric Residents and Neonatology Fellows and regularly lectures on developmental follow-up of medically high risk infants. She is also certified by the NICHD Neonatal Research Network as a Gold Standard developmental examiner and in this role participates in clinical trials and observational studies of neonatal outcomes as part of a large multi-center collaborative studies.

Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students (MTSS): An Overview

ID 2019277

Andrea Catalano

Biography

Presenters from our team have not yet been identified. At least two members from our team will present this session and we will provide a biography closer to the date. For now, please contact Andrea Catalano with any questions or additional information. Thanks!

Addressing Executive Function Through Brain Fitness

ID 2019212

Candi Chandler

Biography

Candi Chandler is a 32 year veteran elementary school educator with 11 of those years serving as an Instructional Technology Specialist. She holds an undergraduate degree from The University of Georgia in Early Childhood Education, a Reading Endorsement from Columbus State University, a masters degree from Georgia College and State University in Instructional Technology, and a specialists degree from The University of Georgia in Instructional Technology and Instructional Design. She is married and has 2 adult sons.

Session Title

Presenter

Utilizing Web-Based Games in the Classroom

ID

Kristopher Chesterman

Biography

Mr. Chesterman received both his BA in History and MAT in Secondary Education from Piedmont College (Demorest, GA) in 2007 & 2009, respectively. After working for two years as house parent for a group home organization in Arizona, Mr. Chesterman was given his first educational contract at a specialized alternative school for high-risk boys in LaGrange, GA. For six years at this facility he taught all social studies courses in grades 6-12, along with an elective or two. Recently, Mr. Chesterman transitioned to the role of an ELA interventionist at Atlanta Heights Charter School in order to provide more for his family and broaden his professional horizons. He currently lives in LaGrange, GA with his wife of 10 years, 3 year old twin daughters, and his 10 month old baby girl.

Blended Learning Model - An Innovative Way to Serve Itinerant Students

ID

Amanda Chilvers

Biography

I have been a special educator for twenty years. I have served in the capacities of teacher, school psychologist, literacy coach, and administrator. I have also had the opportunity to provide services in a wide variety of settings around the country including Deaf schools, site-based programs, cooperative services, and itinerant programs. I graduated in 1999 from Jacksonville State University with a bachelor's degree in deaf education. I earned a master's and specialist degree in developmental (2001) and school psychology (2003), respectively, from Gallaudet University. I received my doctorate degree in 2013 from Mercer University in Curriculum and Instruction. I embrace a response to intervention approach in my teaching philosophy and appreciate enhancing assessment practices for deaf/hard of hearing students.

Co-Teaching: The Professional Behind the M.A.S.K.

ID

Regina Christian

Biography

Since adulthood, Regina has worked in multiple facets with youth and the educational system. Programs that she has helped to create and implement have aided in positive school experiences, successful student transitions after high school and opportunities to effectively change the outcomes of foster children in her care. Her enlightened perspective of the educational system and her experiences have placed her in a position to help others. As a catalyst, co-teachers have been able to build productive relationships and effectively serve students, families and the community. Her educational philosophy has evolved over the years. Her mission is to not only serve students but to serve teachers who are charged with working together to enhance communication and facilitate the learning of our youth. Let's Teach others, Invest time, in order to Build leaders together!
EDUCATION-Master of Science, Special Education – October 2016
Walden University - Baltimore, Maryland 21202-Metro Resa GaTAPP Program – Alternative Teacher Certification – April 2016
Smyrna, Georgia-Bachelor of Science, Counseling & Human Services - August 2013
Point University - East Point, Georgia 30344

Numeracy Interventions to Support Learners Using the Georgia Numeracy Project

ID 2019325

Michelle Clay

Biography

Through my educational background with my bachelor's degree in Early Childhood education, my Master's in Reading and Math, my Specialist degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and my past 22 years of teaching experience, I have journeyed through the world of mathematics. My growth as an educator and presenter is evident in the projects I have been involved in over the past 10 years. Shorter University has been my home as an adjunct professor. I have taught both Reading and Math courses. I was asked to create and now teach a Diagnostic Math course for them. This course is taught in the Fall to Early Childhood Seniors. It uses the Numeracy project to help locate and fill gaps for struggling learners.

At Floyd County Schools, I am currently a special education teacher at Model Middle School. In that role, I have created and led many different professional development opportunities for special education teachers on the topics of evidence-based practices in reading and math, Intervention strategies and programs to support the struggling learner in both reading and math, and the inclusion model. For the past 5 years, I have been the K-5 Math Endorsement Instructor and have had the honor to help over 60 teachers grow in their abilities as a math teacher. I also lead a Diagnostic Math team in the creation of a Diagnostic Math Intervention Program which uses leveraged practice to help fill gaps in mathematical concepts. Because of that experience, I have led on-going professional development to two different districts in Georgia on the use of that Diagnostic Math Program to assess, remediate through especially designed instruction, and track growth in struggling learners. Over the past five years, I have worked with the Georgia State Department of Education. I had the privilege to create professional development videos on third grade standards. These videos explained the meaning behind third grade math standards and showed strategies to teach students through conceptual understanding. At this moment, I am a member of the Numeracy Project Taskforce which is putting the finishing touches on the GADOE Numeracy Project. This work is what I am submitting as my proposal to present at the IDEAS conference.

Ed Camp - 4 Concurrent Sessions

ID 394895101

Carson Cochran

Biography

Carson Cochran has 20 years of experience working as an assistive technology specialist in the school systems. He came into education as a speech language pathologist with database management experience from the National Institutes of Health. Carson currently works for the GaDOE Georgia Instructional Materials Center where he consults with local districts on the improvement of delivery for accessible text for all students.

Strategies for Success Following TBI

ID 2019270

Thomas Connelly

Biography

After living a carefree life in the early years of my existence, I was thrown out of a car as it sped down the highway. Despite being in a coma for more than 40 days and sustaining significant cognitive and physical deficits, I was able to develop strategies to help me maintain a Deans list average in college and graduate school, and be accepted into two doctorate programs. In addition, I've been able to have a fulfilling career and social life, two significant problem areas for persons with brain injuries.

High Leverage Practices and Hallmarks of Effective Student Engagement

ID 2019264

Kathryn Corley

Biography

Kathryn Corley has been involved in education for 40 years as a teacher, AP, Principal, Graduate FIRST Coach, Student Success Coach, and Regional collaboration coach. She has held office in GAESP, Southeastern Elementary Principals Association, GaASCD, and served on the Board of Directors for GAEL, and PAGE. She has been twice named a Georgia Distinguished Principal. She believes teachers are the defining element in any classroom and that collaboration with authentic problem-solving is key to systemic and sustainable school and district improvement.

Effective Work-based Learning Experiences in an Audiocentric World

ID 2019303

Rebecca Cowan- Story

Biography

Rebecca Cowan-Story resides in the tiny metropolis of Adairsville, Georgia. Since 2011, Rebecca has worked as the State Coordinator of DeafBlind Services for the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. Her professional journey began as an American Sign Language Interpreter for the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia. She went on to become a high school vocational instructor with the Jobs for Georgia Graduates program at the Georgia School for the Deaf, later serving as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf before obtaining her current position. She still does not know what she wants to be when she grows up, but every job she has had in her life has been working with people that have hearing loss, and she has not lived a day on Earth without people who are Deaf in her life. Rebecca is currently serving as the secretary of the Georgia Association of the DeafBlind. She is active with Georgia Blind Sports and Northwest Georgia Council for the Blind, and various other organizations, but gains most of her wisdom and insight for serving others at Pleasant Valley North Baptist Church as a follower of Christ. Rebecca graduated from the University of Kentucky with her Master's in Rehabilitation and earned an additional graduate certificate in DeafBlind Rehabilitation from Northern Illinois University. She is the proud mom of Luke (13), Mark (8) and Maggie (8), and proud human of two felines, Habankah and Hershe. Throughout her career, the lack of service equity for people that are DeafBlind has fueled her insistence on raising the bar within the state of Georgia. Being selected to serve on the core team of the Deaf Blind Interpreting national training grant and working to ensure that national services are taken to the next level gives her heart joy.

Session Title

Presenter

Co-Teaching: Team Teaching Success Through the Use of High-Leverage Teaching Practices

ID

Ronda Craig

Biography

Educator of 20 years. Certified in Special Education as well as Early Childhood Education. I have spent my career teaching across all grade levels, from kindergarten through high-school. Most of my teaching has been in the area of Special Education but I have also taught General Ed. ELA. I have spent a total of four years in academic administration and find that my time in the classroom has proved invaluable to me in my current role. I currently serve as the PEC Coordinator for Mitchell Co. Schools. My educational background, I possess a BA in Psychology, I later added education certification after receiving my BA, I went on to acquire a Master's in Leadership(2009)and just recently added an endorsement in Academic Coaching and Teacher Support. I am a mom of three children that I love and adore. I also love teaching teachers. That is my hearts passion when it comes to my career and I hope that this is readily apparent to you when we meet.

Google Technology Q & A for Teachers

ID

Deanna Cross

Biography

I graduated from Mitchell-Baker High School (2001). I then continued my education at Georgia Southwestern State University in Americus, GA with a major concentration in special education. In 2003, I transferred to Valdosta State University, and there I earned my Bachelor's of Science in Early Childhood Special Education (2005) and my Master's of Education in Early Childhood Special Education (2006). In 2007, I enrolled in Florida State University, where I earned my Master's of Science in Library and Information Studies (2010). In 2016, I earned by Specialist in Instructional Technology with Media certificate. During the 2017-2018 school year, I became a Google Certified Educator (Level 1 & Level 2). This year will be my 13th year in education.

Co-Teaching for Student Success

ID

Ann Cross

Biography

Over 32 years in the field of education as a teacher and administrator. I currently serve as the program manager for Georgia Learning Resources System and Student Success Systemic Improvement Unit at the Georgia Department of Education.

Use and Application of Pedagogical Fingerspelling-Theory (Repeat)

ID 394895073

Peter Crume

Biography

Dr. Crume grew up in the Washington, DC area and is a Coda. He holds RID CI/CT certification and has been interpreting professionally for more than 25 years in a variety of settings. He received his BA and MA from East Carolina University, and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois with a focus on the language and literacy development of deaf children. Dr. Crume served as an assistant professor and coordinator of the Interpreter Training Program at California State University, Fresno in central California for five years, before joining the GSU interpreter training program this past fall.

Use and Application of Pedagogical Fingerspelling-Theory (Continued)

ID 394895072

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Dr. Crume grew up in the Washington, DC area and is a Coda. He holds RID CI/CT certification and has been interpreting professionally for more than 25 years in a variety of settings. He received his BA and MA from East Carolina University, and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois with a focus on the language and literacy development of deaf children. Dr. Crume served as an assistant professor and coordinator of the Interpreter Training Program at California State University, Fresno in central California for five years, before joining the GSU interpreter training program this past fall.

Use and Application of Pedagogical Fingerspelling-Theory

ID 2019390

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REACH Program – a four-year, fully-inclusive postsecondary program.

ID

Edie Cusack

Biography

In March 2010, Edie Cusack joined the College of Charleston to create and develop the REACH Program – a four-year, fully-inclusive postsecondary program for adults with mild intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. As Director, Edie is responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of the program including, curriculum development, person centered planning, student recruitment, training (student, staff, and faculty), and supervision of the REACH Program staff. Before joining the College of Charleston, Edie, a Nationally Board Certified Teacher, spent over 20 years teaching special education in public schools in both South Carolina and New Jersey. She has also worked with many advocacy groups across the state South Carolina to improve student access to education, independence and equal opportunity. Edie has a B.S. in Special Education which she earned here at the College of Charleston

Cooking with standards in ID classroom

ID

LaWanda Dalton

Biography

For twenty three years, I have taught students in middle and high school with significant cognitive disabilities. I still love the adventure that awaits when I arrive at school each day. My interests include adapting teaching materials, assistive technology and teaching academics through life skills. Away from school, I most enjoy spending time with my teen and tween as well as reading.

Session Title

Presenter

So I'm told to keep data...now what???

ID 2019360

Shanna Darrow

Biography

My name is Shanna Darrow and I have fourteen years of substantial experience providing behavioral and academic instruction to promote skills and academic success. My entire career has been spent in a GNETS program. I have participated in the IDEAS conference as a presenter and as an attendee. I have also presented at the Positive Behavior and Supports conference in Atlanta this past December.

Teaching with a Heart... Utilizing Wraparound Services to Support Student Achievement

ID 2019337

Cassandra Davis

Biography

Cassandra Davis is a career educator with years of experience in Special Education, School Counselor, and School Leadership. Mrs. Davis is a committed to ensuring that students grow, learn, and achieve to their highest potential. Mrs. Davis has an extensive amount of experience in the area of school turnaround ensuring that all students have access to a quality education. Mrs. Davis believes that, "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove... but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

GVRA, WIOA Section 511 and 14c Subminimum Wage

ID 2019366

Lee Davis

Biography

Lee Davis has worked with Vocational Rehabilitation for over 18 years. He has served as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, a Unit Manager, State Wide Behavioral Health Coordinator and currently as the Assistant Director of Support Services. Prior to his employment with Vocational Rehabilitation he worked in the Community Service Board system with Adult Day Treatment, Residential Substance Abuse, Intensive Out Patient, Crisis Stabilization and Partial Hospitalization. Mr. Davis holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications with an emphasis in interpersonal and small group communications as well as a Master of Education degree in Community Counseling. Mr. Davis is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) and has been a member in good standing with the National Rehabilitation Association since 2000. Mr. Davis has served at the State and Chapter level of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association. Mr. Davis lives in Reidsville Georgia and enjoys spending time with his wife of 18 years and his ten year old triplets.

Session Title

Presenter

Special Education Processes Q & A (repeat)

ID

Emily Dishman

Biography

I am a program specialist with GO-IEP for the Special Education Services and Supports division at the GaDOE. I was a special education director for 6 1/2 years prior to coming to this position. I have held positions as assistant principal, classroom teacher and adult educator. I have dedicated 30 years of my life to the education of and advocacy for all students. Education is not only my career, it is my passion.

Special Education Processes Q & A

ID

Emily Dishman

Biography

I am a program specialist with GO-IEP for the Special Education Services and Supports division at the GaDOE. I was a special education director for 6 1/2 years prior to coming to this position. I have held positions as assistant principal, classroom teacher and adult educator. I have dedicated 30 years of my life to the education of and advocacy for all students. Education is not only my career, it is my passion.

Riding the Pendulum

ID

Erika Douglas -
Greene

Biography

Mrs. Greene has 24 years experience in the classroom working with students with moderate/severe/profound disabilities. For the last two years, her focus has been with kindergarten-2nd grade. Ms. Greene is currently working with her district in the implementation of SMART goal system and AVID. She enjoys creating adapted texts and thematic units for students in the adapted curriculum classrooms, and has been pushing ideas out to the general education classrooms. When not busy with teaching, graduate school, or teaching ballet, Mrs. Greene can be found at Taekwondo and soccer fields with her boys.

Free Websites that every teacher can use

ID

LaSaundra Dudley

Biography

I am LaSaundra Dudley I am in my 18th year of teaching. 10 years with Haven teaching severe dual diagnosed and Autism students. I am currently in my second year of teaching MID students. And I have taught 3rd grade and middle school in Ohio. I am a track and field coach and a parent to a college student.

Session Title

Presenter

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and the Co-taught Classroom

ID 2019211

William (Bill) Duncan

Biography

I am a native Georgian and a graduate of Peach County High School. I have a B.S. and Masters Degree in Middle School Education from the University of Georgia and a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from Georgia State University. I worked for 26 years as a teacher and administrator with the DeKalb County School System. For the past 15 years I have worked with Metro East GLRS as a program specialist.

Growing Students with Assessments

ID 2019229

Annie Dyke

Biography

Annie Dyke has worked as a special education teacher for 7 years. She began teaching at Central High School in Macon, Georgia. She currently teaches at Monroe County Middle School in Forsyth, Georgia. She has taught both middle and high school students in the self-contained classroom. She earned her Master's degree from Georgia College and State University and has a bachelor's degree from Macon State College. She is the faculty advisor for the first middle school chapter of Best Buddies in Georgia. She volunteers as the local coordinator for Monroe County Special Olympics. Kerri Suiter has been a board certified behavior analyst (BCBA) since 2013. She received her master's degree from Georgia State University and received her experience and supervision from the Marcus Autism Center in Atlanta, GA. In 2015, she began working as the Behavior Analyst for Monroe County Schools in Forsyth, Georgia. She works with students ranging from pre-kindergarten to seniors in high school across the county. She assists teachers in assessments for language and behavior, as well as developing plans to increase more appropriate classroom behaviors while decreasing problematic behaviors.

(DCDT) GVRA: Providing Services that our Students will Truly Benefit From

ID 2019188

Kathryn Edger

Biography

Kathryn Edger obtained her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Mercer University in 2010 and her Master's in Rehabilitation Counseling from The University of Alabama in 2015. She began working with Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency in 2015 as a VR Counselor serving a transition caseload at the Bibb County High Schools. Since 2017, Kathryn has been under the Transitions Unit with GVRA and has been the dedicated counselor for the CPID (Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities) grant, E3: Explore, Engage, and Employ, serving the students at Georgia Academy for the Blind in Macon as well as the Out of School Youth in Bibb County. In 2016, she helped found the Navicent Health Center Project Search site in Macon— the first Project Search site in the Nation for blind and visually impaired students.

Language Strategies for Increasing Theory of Mind in Young Children

ID 2019336

Heidi Evans

Biography

Dr. Heidi Evans is the new Director of Georgia PINES, as of November 2018. PINES provides in-the-home early intervention to children with hearing and/or vision loss, and their families. Previously, Heidi served as SKI-HI Coordinator for PINES, and also invested 20 years as an educator in Cobb County School District: Twelve years as a PreK/Primary teacher for students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing, two years as a Lead Teacher for the D/HH and Vision Impaired programs of the district, and six years as Special Education Supervisor for the D/HH, VI, and OI (Orthopedically Impaired) programs in the Cobb district. She was responsible for the district-wide hearing and vision screening program, Assistive Technology department, Audiology, Educational Interpreters, and Adapted PE programs. Prior to her work in Cobb, she served DHH students in Fulton County for two years, and in Hillsborough County, Florida, for six years. Heidi has enjoyed many positive experiences in staff development, having presented to a variety of teachers and administrators in Cobb, as well as at GVEST, Georgia Education Technology Conference, Georgia Peach CI Family Retreat, and several IDEAS conferences. It's one of her favorite things – to share with others her experiences and excitement about the topics of early language development, teaching and learning for children with a diversity of needs. Her education history includes a Bachelor degree in Elementary Education and Education for D/HH students from Flagler College in St. Augustine, Florida – as well as Masters and Doctorate degrees in Education from Walden University. She also carries certification in Educational Leadership from the University of Georgia. Heidi's doctoral dissertation was titled "Technological Early Intervention Tools for Families of Children with Hearing Loss: Parental Perspectives," and working with families to improve long-term outcomes for children is the passion that fuels her work as an educator.

Providing POSITIVE FEEDBACK and Improving Our Students' EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

ID 2019227

Rose Falcone Dowie

Biography

Rose Falcone Dowie is a veteran educator of 25 years and a Georgia licensed professional counselor. Rose has written a preschool curriculum teaching emotional intelligence, currently being assessed by the international company Six Seconds. In private practice Rose treats people ranging in age from 4 to 70 and 50% of her practice consists of students from her district who she sees on a pro bono basis.

Clinical Supervision at Georgia Southern University

ID 2019220

Karin Fisher

Biography

Dr. Karin Fisher is an assistant professor of special education at Georgia Southern University. She has 8 years K-12 teaching experience at the high school level where she taught self-contained and inclusion classes. She earned her PhD in Special Education from the University of Central Florida in 2016. Dr. Fisher has 3 years of supervision experience with junior and senior special education majors.

Session Title

Presenter

LINCS - Vocabulary Strategy

ID

Donna Ann Flaherty

Biography

Donna Ann Flaherty has been involved in Special Education for 45 years as a teacher, district office staff, state department specialist, teacher educator, professional developer for Strategic Instruction Model and Love and Logic. She believes in the powerful impact teachers have on student's achievement, therefore she wants to provide effective and efficient strategies to teachers.

Conducting FBA and Developing a BIP (Part 2)

ID

Gereen Francis

Biography

Debbie Reagin approved us to send this info at a later date (between 3/18-3/22)

Becoming a Trauma-Informed Educator

ID

Brian Franklin

Biography

Brian Keith Franklin is a certified Special Education Teacher Leader with nearly 10 years of classroom experience serving the DeKalb-Rockdale GNETS Program. He teaches multiple academic subjects while working with students who have emotional and behavior disorders. In addition to his classroom duties, he trains in MindSet and Restorative Practices and holds credentials for LSCI, FBA, and BIP. Keith earned his bachelors degree from Clemson University and his M.Ed. from Concordia University - Portland. He is currently a doctoral student in special education focusing his research on childhood trauma and developmentally appropriate practices.

TEACHING GETS INTERRUPTED: So... What Can You Do About It?

ID

Patricia Franklin

Biography

Dr. Patricia Key Franklin has 30+ years in the K-12 classroom and in job related learning settings. A Language Arts professional, career and college prep consultant, reading specialist, ESOL and gifted certified educator, her passion is working with adolescent learners as they discover how to hone the gifts that will lead them toward satisfying citizenship.

Kristina Fredericksen

Biography

Kristina Fredericksen holds a Master of Rehabilitation Counseling degree from Georgia State University. She is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, a Licensed Professional Counselor, a Professional Vocational Evaluator, as well as a Certified Provider for the Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS®), and a Certified Special Education Advocate. Kristina is the Owner and Executive Director of Metro Atlanta Vocational Solutions, LLC. Metro Atlanta Vocational Solutions, LLC is a rehabilitation counseling private practice that offers Career Counseling, Comprehensive and Limited Vocational Evaluations, Psychotherapy, Psychological Evaluations, Social Skills Training, and Job Readiness Training to the community and to agencies in the Metro-Atlanta area. She has experience in working with young adults and adults in supported employment services, career counseling, and mental health. Additionally, Kristina has provided Vocational Evaluations for individuals with disabilities since 2014. From 2015-2016, Kristina created and directed a work therapy program for the largest state psychiatric hospital in Georgia. Kristina develops programs that specifically target the clients goals, skills, and strengths.

Kristina Fredericksen

Biography

Kristina Fredericksen holds a Master of Rehabilitation Counseling degree from Georgia State University. She is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, a Licensed Professional Counselor, a Professional Vocational Evaluator, as well as a Certified Provider for the Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS®), and a Certified Special Education Advocate. Kristina is the Owner and Executive Director of Metro Atlanta Vocational Solutions, LLC. Metro Atlanta Vocational Solutions, LLC is a rehabilitation counseling private practice that offers Career Counseling, Comprehensive and Limited Vocational Evaluations, Psychotherapy, Psychological Evaluations, Social Skills Training, and Job Readiness Training to the community and to agencies in the Metro-Atlanta area. She has experience in working with young adults and adults in supported employment services, career counseling, and mental health. Additionally, Kristina has provided Vocational Evaluations for individuals with disabilities since 2014. From 2015-2016, Kristina created and directed a work therapy program for the largest state psychiatric hospital in Georgia. This program provided hospitalized individuals, within the Forensic and Adult Population, an opportunity to work while going through the rehabilitation process. When evaluating the unique needs of her clients, Kristina develops programs that specifically target the clients goals, skills, and strengths.

Session Title

Presenter

Assessing and Differentiating Mathematics in K-5

ID

Loren Frick

Biography

My name is Mr. Loren Frick. I am deaf and I am a 3/4/5 grade math teacher at Georgia School for the Deaf (GSD) in Cave Spring, Georgia. This is my 11th year of teaching. I taught various grades from 2nd to 5th grade for six years then taught 6-8th grade math for 4 years. This year, I switched back to the elementary department as the math teacher. I enjoy differentiating math so students can focus on achieving the primary learning target of each lesson. Also, I serve on the GSD Leadership Team and Technology Team. Previously, I was an adjunct faculty for Tennessee Temple University, teaching American Sign Language classes online. I received my Bachelors of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from Tennessee Temple University, and my Masters of Science degree in Special Education with a concentration in Deaf Education from University of Tennessee, Knoxville, graduating magna cum laude. I was honored to receive the University of Tennessee Graduate Student Teacher Award. Also, I hold Georgia professional teaching certificates in Middle Grades 4-8 Mathematics, as well as Special Education Adapted Curriculum. In the future, I want to work on earning an education specialist degree or a doctorate, and become a math coach.

Signing Spaces with Numbers for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing

ID

Loren Frick

Biography

My name is Mr. Loren Frick. I am deaf and I am a 3/4/5 grade math teacher at Georgia School for the Deaf (GSD) in Cave Spring, Georgia. This is my 11th year of teaching. I taught various grades from 2nd to 5th grade for six years then taught 6-8th grade math for 4 years. This year, I switched back to the elementary department as the math teacher. I enjoy differentiating math so students can focus on achieving the primary learning target of each lesson. Also, I serve on the GSD Leadership Team and Technology Team. Previously, I was an adjunct faculty for Tennessee Temple University, teaching American Sign Language classes online. I received my Bachelors of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from Tennessee Temple University, and my Masters of Science degree in Special Education with a concentration in Deaf Education from University of Tennessee, Knoxville, graduating magna cum laude. I was honored to receive the University of Tennessee Graduate Student Teacher Award. Also, I hold Georgia professional teaching certificates in Middle Grades 4-8 Mathematics, as well as Special Education Adapted Curriculum. In the future, I want to work on earning an education specialist degree or a doctorate, and become a math coach.

Session Title

Presenter

Tech Savvy Bootcamp: If you can't beat them...join them!

ID

Diahann Fulwider

Biography

Teacher of 12 year in Social Studies. Educational Background Specialist in Teacher Leadership. Certification in History for 6 -12. Head Cheer and Dance Team and Advisor for Student Council and Senior Class. Awards: Teacher of the Year for Fayette County from the Daughters of American Revolution 2017 - 2018, State qualifier for National History Day 2017 - 2018 & 2018 - 2019, Served on GA EOC Social Studies New Item and Data Review Committee and Selected on Evaluations of Alignment GA Milestones committee for students with disabilities and ESOL.

Emotional Regulation for Students through Mindfulness: Finding Their Zen

ID

Stephen Fusco

Biography

Stephen brings an eclectic and interesting twist to his professional career. After graduating from Emory Law School in 2001, Stephen worked in private practice for several regional, national, and international law firms specializing in corporate/real estate work. After working in private practice, he became general counsel for a national medical lab overseeing the operations of the company, managing all legal/regulatory aspects of the company, and serving as the compliance officer. In a desire to make a difference in the world, he left the practice of law to become a special education teacher in a psychiatric hospital in Atlanta, Georgia where he taught math to students with severe emotional and behavioral issues. He eventually became an elementary school building administrator overseeing special education and now works in the Denver Public School's Office of General Counsel as Deputy Counsel overseeing student issues. He also holds a Masters Degree in Special Education from Georgia State University and is pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership. When he is not working, he enjoys his time with his new puppy Phoebe, hiking peaks and mountains (he has done six 13'ers and 14'ers since moving to Denver three months ago), and spending time with his significant other.

Healing Rooms & Other Educator Self-Care Strategies

ID

Lisa Futch

Biography

I began my education career as a teacher at a GNETS facility in 2008. I have since earned a Master's Degree in school counseling and higher education as well as an Educational Specialist Degree in school psychology and a combined leadership certificate. I have worked in the field of Educational Psychology conducting such things as private counseling, mental health evaluations, GNETS director, psychological evaluation, and special education director.

Session Title

Presenter

Healing Rooms & Other Educator Self-Care Strategies(repeat)

ID

2019375

Lisa

Futch

Biography

I began my education career as a teacher at a GNETS facility in 2008. I have since earned a Master's Degree in school counseling and higher education as well as an Educational Specialist Degree in school psychology and a combined leadership certificate. I have worked in the field of Educational Psychology conducting such things as private counseling, mental health evaluations, GNETS director, psychological evaluation, and special education director.

Personalized Learning: Fostering Student Agency through the use of Digital Pathways

ID

2019286

Francene

Garrett

Biography

Dr. Francene Garrett Earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a specialization in Vocal Performance, a Master of Science degree in Curriculum, Instruction and Technology, and an Educational Doctoral degree in Administrative Leadership for Teaching and Learning. She holds certifications (SRT-7) in the areas of Middle Grades Language Arts and Middle Grades Social Science (4-8). She has held various leadership positions during her fifteen years in education such as Fine Arts GELT, Grade Chair, Data Team Facilitator, Leadership Team, and Title I Grant Committee member, and Interim Instructional Facilitator and Title I Lead Teacher. She also holds a Level 1 Google Certification as well as Nearpod Educator Certification. She is the mother of one and enjoys reading, volunteering, and traveling in her spare time.

Bridging the Gap through the ECC for students with visual impairments and multiple disabilities.

ID

2019193

Robin	Garrett
Biography	<p>Robin Garrett graduated from Georgia State University with a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education in 1992. She began her career teaching general education in grades K-4 in 1992. Robin earned her master's degree in 1993 while teaching full time. She then completed her General Education 1 & 2 and Adaptive's program in 2013 and taught resource in grades K-3 for 5 years and Significant Developmental Delay Kindergarten for two years. She was awarded Teacher of the Year for the 2017-2018 school year. She then pursued certification teaching students with visual impairments and has been working as an itinerant TVI for the past 2 years with Gwinnett County Schools. She has taught for 26 years in general education, special education, and visual impairments. Robin is currently pursuing her Specialist's degree and is planning to enroll in the Orientation & Mobility degree program at North Carolina Central in the fall. Robin recently presented at the Georgia AER conference March 13-14 in Canton, GA. Robin has two daughters who attend the University of Georgia and Georgia Southern. Both girls will graduate from college this November and next May. Donna Liska-Johnson, aka L-J, has been a teacher for 10 years. She began her teaching career as a substitute teacher, special education parapro and finally earned her Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Georgia in 2008, shortly after turning 40. In 2016, L-J earned her Masters from Brenau University while teaching full time. She has taught every grade level from pre-k through high school in special education, the majority of it in middle school where she taught resource and co-taught language arts classes. Her journey of becoming a teacher of students with visual impairments began several years ago and she now works with both elementary and high school students as a TVI in Gwinnett County public schools. Donna recently presented at the GA AER conference March 13-14, 2019.</p>

Using GCIS with GVRA's Customers for College & Career Planning

ID

2019311

Quiana	Gordon
Biography	<p>Quiana Howard Gordon is the Manager of Research and Development at the Georgia Career Information Center at Georgia State University. She possesses more than 15 years of successful experience as a Career Development Professional for government, non-profit, and higher education institutions. Mrs. Gordon holds a Master of Education in Adult and Career Education (Workforce Education & Development). She is also a Certified Professional Résumé Writer.</p>

Session Title

Presenter

A "How To" Session for Implementing Universal Mental Health Screening

ID 2019182

Emily Graybill

Biography

Emily Graybill is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Center for Leadership in Disability at the School of Public Health at Georgia State University. Her specific interests include the delivery of training and technical assistance to schools and community agencies related to individualized positive behavior support, evaluating the implementation and sustainability of educational initiatives for underserved populations, including youth with disabilities. Dr. Graybill serves as an internal program evaluator and course director for the MCH-funded Georgia Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Program (GaLEND) at Georgia State. Dr. Graybill leads the GaLEND activities related to universal design for learning.

Check-In/Check-Out: A Positive Behavior Support Intervention

ID 2019335

Katherine Green

Biography

Dr. Katherine (Katy) Green is an assistant professor and program coordinator of Special Education at the University of West Georgia. She graduated from Georgia State University with a Ph.D. in the Education of Students with Exceptionalities with a focus on children with disabilities ages birth to five. With degrees in Speech-Language Pathology and Special Education, Katy taught young children with disabilities in public schools for eight years. Katy's passion and expertise include social-emotional, early communication, and academic supports for young children with disabilities and their families. Dr. Green is the principal investigator of a four-year partnership with YMCA Early Learning Child Development LLC, Head Start and Early Head Start in metro Atlanta providing universal screenings, family education, and professional development. She is co-PI on a grant partnering with the Marcus Autism Center providing professional development and instruction on universal design for learning for teacher candidates and current teachers in the West Georgia region. Additionally, she works closely with the university speech and language clinic identifying innovative intervention strategies for young children and their families. Dr. Green has various academic publications, is secretary of the Georgia Division of Early Childhood, and is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children and the National Association for the Education of Young Children, as well as their local chapters.

Session Title

Presenter

Transition Planning for Students with Significant Developmental Disabilities

ID 2019199

Caitlen Green

Biography

Mrs. Caitlen Ann Green has spent her professional career educating students with special needs from Kindergarten-Post High School Transition. She currently works at Oakland Meadow School in Gwinnett County, GA. Her current role is to prepare students who are transitioning from their last few years of high school into post-school professional life. Her past experiences include teaching students with moderate intellectual disabilities, as well as students severe and profound intellectual disabilities. Her focus and passion is that ALL students can learn, and ALL students can be successful even after they age out of the school system. This drives her to create and develop opportunities for students by preparing their professional skill sets, and connecting them with businesses and organizations. In her personal life, Mrs. Green enjoys spending time crafting, being on the lake or beach, and going on adventures with her husband Jaryd and their dog Wesson.

Assistive Technology: Connections between school and beyond *Closed Session

ID 394895107

Paula Gumpman

Biography

Paula Gumpman is a Program Specialist with the Division for Special Education Services and Supports, Georgia Department of Education. Her work is to support districts and administrators in realizing how using good instructional design can support all students including students with disabilities. This support emphasizes that all students in all classrooms can be successful when the classroom curriculum is built with Universal Design for Learning principles. Paula's focus is assistive technology and she trains district leaders and administrators on how to consider technology for students with disabilities as well as sharing new and innovative approaches to support students with disabilities in their classrooms. She received her Ed.S. from Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee and her Masters of Science degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

A Walk in our Shoes

ID 2019276

Jo Ellen Hancock

Biography

Jo Ellen Hancock is the Parent of three adult children with disabilities. She has been the Parent in Cherokee County School District for 13 years. She currently serves as the Chairperson for Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Region 1 Advisory Council and Vice Chair for the Statewide Leadership Council.

Session Title

Presenter

Ropes Course: High and Low (Prior Registration Required)

ID

Cole Hanson

Biography

I started the business Adventure Ministries LLC a couple of years ago in March of 2017 and to ensure that I had the proper training I spent 3 days on Auburn's Challenge Course getting trained through a company called Project Adventure. We spent our time learning how to check ropes for frays or imperfections, how to tie the necessary knots, how to operate the necessary equipment, how to know when equipment needs replacement, how to facilitate specific High Ropes Elements, safety and rescue techniques, along with many other things in the 3 day span. Then I came back to St Simons Island and I was trained through a company called Challenge Design Innovations. I spent over 25 hours of training with them to ensure that I knew how to operate our specific equipment that was required for everyone of our High Ropes Elements on the dynamic side of the course along with the Arial Teams Course and zip line system included with more rescue techniques. Finally, I spent 20 hours shadowing the previous company Peak Pursuits on how they operated with the business side of things. I was able to see the appropriate way to interact with participants while on the course pertaining to high ropes as well as low ropes. I have over 1,000 hours logged in as facilitating here on the ropes course with groups. I am happy to say that my time in between the beginning and the current day has helped me become the best owner/manager and facilitator for every participant that I am blessed to meet out on our Ropes Course here at Epworth By The Sea.

Georgia on the Leading Edge: The New PBIS Endorsement

ID

Kymerly Harris

Biography

Dr. Harris is an associate professor in Special Education at Georgia Southern University. She is a long time member of CEC, and a founding member of the Ga CCBD division. She also holds membership in TED, CCBD, G-CASE, GAEL, and DISES.

Mapping Classroom Instruction for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

ID

Lori Harvin

Biography

Lori Harvin, Ed. S., received her Bachelor's and Master's of Special Education from Georgia Southern University and Specialist degree in Special Education from the University of West Georgia. Lori works collaboratively with classroom teachers to increase access to standards-based instruction for students with cognitive disabilities. Prior to her current position as Instructional Coach and GAA Coordinator for Bibb County, she taught mild, moderate and EBD students on the high school level, as well as general education elementary and gifted instruction. Lori strives to empower classroom teachers to improve the educational outcomes of students with disabilities.

Session Title

Presenter

Double-Duty Instruction: Planning for AAC Users' Academic Generalization

ID

2019349

Kathryn Haughney

Biography

Kathryn L. Haughney is an Assistant Professor of Special Education in the Department of Elementary and Special Education at Georgia Southern University. Dr. Haughney has over 15 years of experience, either teaching, conducting research, or advocating for students with complex communication needs and their families. Having recently earned her doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, her areas of expertise include augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), assistive technology (AT), general curriculum access, applied behavior analysis, meeting the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse learners and learners with the most severe disabilities.

Teaching, Engaging & Achievement

ID

2019233

Candice Haynes

Biography

My name is Candice Brooks-Haynes. I am a Science educator at Baldwin High School in Milledgeville, GA. I have been an educator for over 15 years. I have taught on the collegiate and public school levels. I am currently the Science Department Chair and I teach AP Biology, Biology, Human Anatomy and Physiology and Forensics (varying semesters). I have a B.S. degree in Biology/Pre-Medicine from Paine College in Augusta, GA. A B.S. degree in Respiratory Therapist from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. I obtained my Masters in Public Health degree from Mercer University School of Medicine specializing in community health and epidemiology. I have an Educational Specialist degree from Nova Southeastern University in Curriculum Instruction Management and Administration. I am currently working to finish my doctoral degree in Instructional Technology and Distance Education this summer 2019, also from Nova Southeastern University. I am a single mother with one teenage son (Christopher) who keeps me busy with football and basketball year round.

Rage and Regret: De-Escalation Strategies for Problem Behavior in the Classroom

ID 2019295

Samantha Hebenstreit

Biography

Samantha Hebenstreit (HAY-bin-strite) is an Autism Specialist at Tapestry Public Charter School, in Dekalb County. She began her work with students with autism in 2000, while attending The University of St. Thomas. After graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology and Family Studies, Samantha spent several years working with preschool aged children, as a Behavior Therapist before moving to Atlanta. As she pursued a Graduate Degree in Education from the University of Georgia, Samantha began teaching in a self-contained classroom for students with autism in Cobb County. In 2011, she transitioned to fulfilling the role of Special Education Liaison in Dekalb County, where she supported teachers in serving students with autism, ranging in age from 4 to 21, focusing on classroom set-up, data collection, and positive behavior supports. Currently in her 2nd year at Tapestry Public Charter, Samantha strives to develop and implement dynamic professional development for staff, as well as enhancing teachers’ toolboxes to support students in the inclusive classroom. To further enhance teachers’ understandings of autism, positive behavior supports and academic accommodations, she spends time modeling, coaching and working alongside Tapestry faculty and staff to implement Inclusion best practices.

Addressing Sensory Needs Transparently and Appropriately within any Environment

ID 2019297

Raymond Heipp

Biography

Dr. Raymond T. Heipp, is a 30+ year veteran of administration and classrooms for special needs students. He has designed many support programs for various schools and facilities. And, his expertise in assistive technology has enabled him to create updated approaches when working with students and educators.

He first worked with students with differing abilities as a Teacher’s Aide in 1979 for a non-verbal student with an autism diagnosis. Beginning his career as a Latin teacher, he moved into Reading as a Reading Diagnostician and teacher. He focused on understanding the differences within students in how they approached and handled Reading. After completion of his Doctorate in Educational Administration, he began as a Special Needs program director. He designed one of the early special needs programs within private schools (a rarity at that time) in the mid-1990s. He moved into Secondary Administration at the end of the 1990s. When he left the schools in the mid-2000s, he began working as a consultant in the proper integration of educational technology. He had the opportunity to work with a group who designed the TAPit (the first ADA compliant interactive workstation for individuals) and became the initial global spokesman for that device. Over the last decade, he has focused his efforts on the inclusion of as many individuals as possible within the classroom and the ability for those outside of school age to live their lives as independently as possible. Dr. Heipp firmly believes that everyone, no matter what their ability, has a voice (or spirit) and deserves a chance to succeed. He suggests that we never doubt their abilities!

Creating Online Foldables

ID 2019287

Rachelle Hoehn

Biography

Rachelle is currently a special education teacher at Georgia Cyber Academy. This is her third year with GCA and her 8th year of teaching. She is teaching in the separate math class setting. Rachelle currently holds a Bachelor's Degree in Math Education from the University of Georgia and a Master's Degree in General Curriculum and Instruction from Augusta State University. She has her certificate in math and special education. She also has her gifted endorsement. Teaching virtually has challenged her to be more creative and discover different tools for students to be successful. Rachelle is a Mom of 3 animals and 1 small human.

You've Got a Friend in Me: You need Best Buddies

ID 2019324

Elizabeth Holloway

Biography

Elizabeth Holloway earned a Bachelors degree in Special Education: Mental Retardation from the University of West Georgia ('04), a Masters in Multiple and Severe Disabilities from Georgia State University ('07), and a Education Specialist degree in Special Education from Georgia College & State University ('13). She has taught elementary and high school students with intellectual and developmental disabilities for 13 years and had a 2 year stint as a 4th grade teacher in general education. She started the first high school chapter of Best Buddies in the state of Georgia in 2013. She has been recognized as Teacher of the Year for Skyview Elementary School ('07), Mary Persons High School ('15), and Monroe County ('16). She is married to Josh and they have two children, Libby (11) and Rylan (8).

Tools for Successful Transition: Tools for Life and CIDI Services

ID 2019245

Danny Housley

Biography

Danny Housley is the Assistive Technology Acquisition Manager with Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program overseeing Credit-Able, Georgia's Alternative Financing Program. He finds funding solutions and resources for people with disabilities to increase or maintain their independence. Danny is an executive board member of the National Federation of the Blind of Georgia's Atlanta chapter, is a board member of the Disability CDFI Coalition, he serves on the board of disABILITY LINK, the Center for Independent Living that serves the Metro Atlanta area and serves on the Community Advisory Council for the Center for Leadership in Disability at Georgia State University. Previously, Danny has worked at disABILITY LINK, to support people with disabilities to live in the community of choice. Danny is a graduate of Georgia State University, where he received his MA in Applied Linguistics.

Session Title

Presenter

AT for Hearing Access

ID

Danny Housley

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AT For Vision Access in Education and Beyond

ID

Danny Housley

Biography

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Session Title

Presenter

Let's Talk About Self-Advocacy: Nothing About Us Without Us with Danny and Liz

ID

Danny Housley

Biography

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Accessible Presentation Styles

ID

Danny Housley

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Session Title

Presenter

Hey You! Digital Assistants as Assistive Technology

ID

Danny Housley

Biography

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Creating a standards-based classroom does not have to be hard

ID

Christy Howard

Biography

Christy Howard is a Special Education Teacher of a MID classroom (grades K-5) in Houston County. She has been teaching for 10 years. She completed her B.A. in English at Wesleyan College, her M.A.T. in Special Education from Georgia College and State University, and is now pursuing her Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies, with a focus on disability, from Georgia Southern University.

USING PACING TO DRIVE ENGAGEMENT

ID

Keith Jackson

Biography

Keith Jackson is a fourth grade teacher who works with Metropolitan Atlanta students at Centennial Academy Public Charter School. Mr. Jackson believes that pacing has a direct correlation to engagement and student success. Keith has won the Georgia Charter School Association Teacher of the Year Award in 2017 and is well-known as a master educator. Mr. Jackson is an energetic trainer who has trained teachers across the state of Georgia. He has presented at the 2018 Georgia Charter School Association Summer Symposium as well as the 2019 Georgia Charter School Association State Conference this past February in Savannah. Keith Jackson holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from Howard University, Master of Science Degree in Education Administration from Purdue University along with an Educational Specialist Degree from Northcentral University.

Teachers, what do you think is needed to improve employment outcomes among students with disabilities? Your input is needed!

ID

Hamida Jinnah

Biography

Dr. Hamida Jinnah is the Director of the Research and Evaluation Unit (REU) at the Institute on Human Development and Disability, located at the University of Georgia in Athens, where she holds a research faculty position within the University. She has expertise and experience evaluating a wide variety of programs. She uses a multi-method approach to evaluation and has experience in both randomized control evaluations using large data sets and qualitative focus groups and interviews. She has expertise in developing logic models, conducting strategic planning, needs assessment, formative (process) and summative (outcome) evaluations for organizations.

Creating and Sustaining an Autism Support Program

ID

Stephanie Justen

Biography

Miss Justen is an autism support teacher at Houston County High School in middle Georgia. She and another teacher run a program of 60 students on the autism spectrum. Together they assist students as they navigate through high school, dealing with social, emotional, and academic issues as they arise.

Miss Justen has been teaching for 18 years in MID, Interrelated, and Autism. She also works part time at a group home for disabled adults. Miss Justen is active in her church and enjoys spending time with her dog Molly. Her favorite place to be is Disney World or on a cruise.

IEP Self-Direction and Seamless Transition Through a Web-Based Platform for Self-Determination

ID

Tom Keating

Biography

Tom Keating, Ph.D. is founder of Cognitopia, home of the Cognitopia Platform for Self-Determination, emphasizing IEP Self-Direction, goal management, and task analysis. Keating has been focused for the past 20 years on research and development of self-management and community living applications for individuals with cognitive disabilities and has been principal investigator on over 20 federally-funded technology development projects. He is also a Courtesy Senior Research Associate in the Computer and Information Sciences Department of the University of Oregon. Keating's perspective in all of his work has been strongly influenced by his experience of 31 years as a caregiver for a brother who experienced autism.

Session Title

Presenter

Use of Mobile Apps in Strengthening Parent Communication

ID 2019352

Rashmi Khazanchi

Biography

Ms. Rashmi Khazanchi, presently holds a position of science teacher at Mitchell County School System in Camilla, Georgia. She holds dual certification in broad field science and special education and an Educational Specialists Degree in Curriculum and Instructions. She has completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Health Psychology and Behavior Modification and Masters is in Organic Chemistry. She has 17+ years of teaching experience in K-12 classrooms. Her area of specialization includes differentiated instructions, implementing evidence-based practices, and integrating technology in teaching students from diverse backgrounds. She has presented several papers related to teaching science and using technology in K-12 classrooms in various national and international conferences. She is a member of Golden Key International Honour Society and The Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE). She was a co-author in a book chapter, "Handmade Teaching Materials for Students with Disabilities".

What is IEP Team Meeting Facilitation?

ID 2019394

Anne Ladd

Biography

The presenters represent the staff of the Family Engagement and Dispute Resolution unit at the GaDOE, Division for Special Education

Where do we go from here? Reflections and Planning after Summative Assessment 2019

ID 2019204

Nancy Lamb

Biography

Ms. Lamb has been a teacher and administrator for 18 years. She has served students with all types of abilities ranging from K-12 but her favorites are the middle school students. Currently she is learning from her students at Adairsville Middle in Bartow County.

How to Teach Research Skills to All Students

ID 2019279

Amanda Lee

Biography

Amanda Lee is the library media specialist at the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf. She works with students who are deaf and hard of hearing from ages 3 all the way to 21. Previously, she was an elementary teacher at the same school where she worked with students who were deaf and had additional disabilities. She has also worked with typical students in Clayton County and with students with Autism and other learning disabilities at a private school, Hirsch Academy. Amanda has just completed her fifth school year in the library and loves the challenges that being a librarian brings.

Session Title

Presenter

The What and Why of Thinking Maps for Students with Disabilities

ID

Amanda Lee

Biography

Amanda Lee is the library media specialist at the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf. She works with students who are deaf and hard of hearing from ages 3 all the way to 21. Previously, she was an elementary teacher at the same school where she worked with students who were deaf and had additional disabilities. She has also worked with typical students in Clayton County and with students with Autism and other learning disabilities at a private school, Hirsch Academy. Amanda has just completed her fifth school year in the library and loves the challenges that being a librarian brings.

SDLMI in the Classroom

ID

Lindsay Lee

Biography

Mrs. Lindsay Lee is a Special Education Research Consultant for Coastal GLRS. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Special Education from Georgia Southern University with a concentration in reading. While a student, she was an intern for CAGLRS, awarded the Special Education Eagle Teacher Award, and graduated Magna Cum Laude. Lindsay has worked with Coastal GLRS for the last two years researching and supporting state and local Special Education priorities. She has developed teacher micro-credentials on evidence-based practices, supported district ASPIRE projects, worked on district Co-Teaching projects, and she is a state certified Check & Connect trainer.

Lisa Leiter

Biography

Lisa Leiter is a Transition Resource Specialist for the Cobb County School District. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education with a concentration in Intellectual Disabilities from the University of Georgia. Lisa is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Education Degree with an emphasis in Secondary Special Education and Transition from the University of Kansas, and will graduate in May of 2019. She currently serves as the Vice Chair of the State Rehabilitation Council and the Secretary of the Division of Career Development and Transition. Lisa is a member of the Professional Association of Georgia Educators, the Metro Atlanta Transition Consortia, Georgia Inter-agency Transition Council, Georgia Rehabilitation Association, National Rehabilitation Association, and the Council for Exceptional Children. In November 2018, she was awarded the "Teacher of the Year" award from the Marriott Foundation's Bridges from School to Work Program. Kristin Pewitt is currently in her second year as the Transition Coordinator for Cobb County School District and her 21st year in Special Education. Kristin will finish an Ed.S in Special Education through the University of West Georgia in May. Kristin is also a member of the Metro Atlanta Transition Consortia, the Georgia Inter-agency Transition Council, and is Vice President of the Division on Career Development and Transition for Georgia. Carolyn Kay is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor employed with the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). Carolyn obtained her Bachelor's degree in Psychology with a focus in Health Promotion, Education and Behavior from the University of South Carolina. Directly after completion of her undergraduate coursework Carolyn went on to obtain her Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling degree from Georgia State University. Carolyn began her post-graduate career as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor in GVRA's College Park office serving transition and general-population clients in Clayton County. It was during her time here that her passion for working with the transition population became evident leading her to focus on building the skills necessary to be successful in working with students, their families and with their school systems. Carolyn's current position is in the agency's Marietta unit as the Team Lead over transition services in Cobb County. Outside of her career with GVRA Carolyn has enjoyed serving as a mentor for elementary-age students with disabilities, acting as the alumnae risk management advisor for the Theta Upsilon chapter of Alpha Chi Omega, and advocating for individuals and families impacted by domestic violence.

Heather Lewis

Biography

I graduated from the University of Georgia in 2009 with a degree in Adapted Curriculum. Since then I have had the privilege to work with students with Severe and Profound Intellectual Disabilities in the Gwinnett County Public School System. I also received my Master Degree from Walden University in Special Education and my Specialist Degree in Curriculum Design from Piedmont College. I am also a Special Education Mentor for Gwinnett County for new teachers.

Session Title

Presenter

Creating a Positive Classroom Environment

ID 2019249

Jessie Leyden

Biography

An Atlanta native, Jessie Leyden has worked extensively with special needs children and adolescents, in and out of the classroom, and has used skills and techniques for connecting with students from all learning backgrounds. Jessie is a product of both public and private school in Atlanta. She then earned her B.A. from Oglethorpe University in 2008, her M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education from Georgia State University in 2013, and her Ed.S. in Collaborative Special Education K-6 from the University of West Alabama in 2017. Jessie lived in Santiago, Chile for six months as part of a study abroad program at Oglethorpe and she has spent time in several other Latin American countries. She works as an unofficial Spanish interpreter at her school, when needed. Jessie has been involved in the special needs community in some capacity since 2003, which began with pioneering an afterschool social group for children with distinctive educational needs while she was a full-time high school student. Jessie is finishing her eleventh year of teaching and has worked in both the private and public sector as an educator. She also participates in both morning and afternoon tutoring, whenever possible. Jessie was named Teacher of the Month twice and presented with administrative awards on five separate occasions. She was voted Teacher of the Year at her elementary school in Cobb County for the 2018-2019 school year. Jessie stays up-to-date on current educational trends and is constantly looking for ways to improve her teaching through professional development opportunities. In fact, she recently finished Orton-Gillingham training and will complete her Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) Expert program this month. Jessie is the Lighthouse facilitator at her school, running The Leader In Me program, which is the schoolwide improvement model for supporting student voice and promoting positive behavior. Jessie believes in teaching the whole child and works to empower neurodiverse students to succeed. She is passionate about equipping students with the tools and strategies they need to have success both academically and socially. Jessie currently resides in Kennesaw, Georgia, with her husband and two sons, four years old and ten months old. She is an avid runner and enjoys being outdoors.

Science- Explore the Possibilities (prior registration required)

ID 2019379

Melanie Leyva-Abad

Biography

Melanie Leyva-Abad M.Ed.B.S.E a graduate of Valdosta State University in Special Education M.E and the University of Louisville in Assistive Technology. She has been a special education teacher for 24 years. A current member of CEC and GACEC (past president) Melanie is a pioneer in the education of students with intellectual disabilities.

Justin Lindsey

Biography

Justin Lindsey is an innovative special education teacher who emphasizes community engagement and relevant lessons that build connections outside of the classroom. Mr. Lindsey believes in servant leadership and building authentic relationships with students, parents, and the community. He strives to model expectations for students, which is why he has devoted his life to leading year-round in the classroom, athletics, community education, and professional pursuits. While pursuing his Doctorate in School Improvement from the University of West Georgia, Mr. Lindsey was named a 2018 Dennis Washington Leadership Scholar by the Horatio Alger Association and 2017 North Georgia Autism Teacher of the Year by the North Georgia Healthcare Partnership. He founded the Calhoun Autism Network, which is a non-profit organization providing resources and support to families of students with autism in Gordon County. In the fall of 2018, he was named the Calhoun Middle School and Calhoun City Schools Teacher of the Year for 2019-2020. After school, he is the head coach for the cross country teams at Calhoun High School. In the summer, he connects K-5 children to nontraditional learning experiences through community education programs. With almost six years of experience in special education at the high school and middle school level, he has learned that students from all backgrounds can overcome achievement gaps when teachers redefine success and break barriers in learning through relationships. Mr. Lindsey truly believes that public education is our best tool for breaking down the barriers to future success for all students. He constantly works with his students and community to break down these barriers through engaging lessons, socio-emotional learning opportunities, and innovative practices.

Dana Lloyd

Biography

Dana Lloyd has been engaged in advocacy with people experiencing injustice on both a personal and professional level for over two decades. Dana currently serves as an advocate at the Georgia Advocacy Office and prior to that she worked with families' combating poverty and homelessness. Her professional career began at Hope House Foundation in Norfolk, VA. During her time there, Dana provided leadership to the agency and direct support professionals as they supported people with I/DD to live in their own apartments and have access to the good things in life through valued social roles and contributing to their community. Dana is an engaging presenter who enjoys guiding her audience to explore concepts that challenge their assumptions and raise their consciousness

Sara Luke

Biography

Dr. Sara Luke is an assistant professor of Special Education at the Tift College of Education at Mercer University. Prior to joining the Tift faculty, Dr. Luke taught young children with disabilities in a public elementary school for 14 years. Currently, she teaches special education courses for undergraduates and her research areas are family-centered practices, positive behavior support and qualitative research methods.

Cortney Maholtz

Biography

Cortney Maholtz, M.A., CCC-SLP is a Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) and Assistive Technology Consultant who works with families, SLPs, teachers, and others to learn about using and implementing Saltillo devices. Cortney believes that augmentative/alternative communication (AAC) devices can be life changing for people with disabilities. AAC devices can allow an individual the opportunity to communicate and participate in their life in ways they may not have been able to previously. Cortney supports and trains the families and other team members (e.g. teachers, SLPs, PTs, OTs, etc.) to use, implement, and teach AAC to children and adults who an AAC device, so that these individuals may communicate and engage with their world. Cortney has worked in a variety of settings from acute/sub-acute rehabilitation and skilled nursing facilities to private clinics and in the schools. In these settings, Cortney has worked with both adults and pediatric clients with a variety of disorders, such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Downs Syndrome, cerebral palsy, dementia, stroke, and traumatic brain injury. Her journey into AAC began approximately 7 years ago while working with a pediatric client in a private clinic. Since that time, Cortney took several classes to learn about various AAC options and help other children acquire personal AAC devices. Cortney is a licensed SLP in Georgia, maintains certification as an SLP (CCC-SLP) from the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) and is a member of ASHA Special Interest Group 12 for AAC. Cortney holds a Master's of Arts degree in Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Maryland, College Park and a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Hearing and Speech Sciences also from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Session Title

Presenter

(DCDT) CTAE Overview - What to know, Who to Contact

ID

Helen Malone

Biography

My teaching career began at a private school in South Carolina in 1993 and then continued in Georgia teaching students with multiple and severe disabilities. I have worked in Deaf Education since 1999 when I joined the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf. I have served in many capacities at AASD and currently serve as the Department Head over Career, Technical Agriculture Education, Transition, and elective classes. I am an active member of the National Association for Career Technical Education and the GA Association for Career Technical Education. My passion is transition and the positive role CTAE plays in students having successful post-secondary outcomes. I attended Erskine College graduating with a major in Special Education. I continued my education at GA State University where I earned my Master's Degree in Special Education with an emphasis on students with multiple disabilities. I obtained my Ed.S degree in Educational Leadership from Central Michigan University. I currently live in Decatur with many pets.

"Rapport, Relationships, & Resiliency: Foundations for Achievement"

ID

Timothy Mantooth

Biography

Dr. Mantooth is a behavior specialist with Bryan County Schools. He is an engaging speaker with a personal touch as can be viewed on his TedxSavannah Talk. He holds a PhD with a dissertation focus on educating students with emotional and behavioral disorders. Mantooth has previously taught high school literature, is an avid Indian motorcyclist, and is an inspiring writer in the mystery/thriller genre.

Setting the Stage for Arts Integration in the Classroom

ID

Donna Maye

Biography

Dr. Maye has taught for over 35 years and is certified in dance, reading, and gifted education. She has a B.A. in Elementary Education and an M.Ed. in Reading from Rollins College. She has also earned an Ed.S. in Teacher Leadership and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Mercer University. Dr. Maye has served on curriculum writing teams for dance, at both the state and local levels in Georgia, and is dedicated to empowering teachers to employ arts integration in the classroom. She is the published author of I Can Do My Ballet (by Olivia D'Josef), a children's book that encourages reading with a focus on dance.

Serving the Student with Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment

ID 2019214

Ellen Mazel

Biography

Ellen Cadigan Mazel, M.Ed. CTVI, Deafblind Specialist Cortical Visual Impairment Endorsed Professional Ellen works as CVI Project Manager for Perkins School for the Blind. She has worked in residential programs, educational collaboratives, early intervention programs and in public school classrooms as a teacher of students with visual impairments, deafblindness and cortical visual impairment. She teaches Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment: Assessment and Education, a mandatory class for training TVIs, O&M specialists and Vision Rehabilitation Specialists in the Vision Studies graduate programs at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She is a CVI Endorsed Professional through Perkins School for the Blind. In 2008, Ellen was named National Teacher of the Year for Children with Multiple Disabilities by the Council of Schools for the Blind (COSB). Ellen has expertise in the area of visual impairment, deafblindness, early intervention, multiple disabilities, cortical vision impairment, and transition. After studying cortical visual impairment with Christine Roman-Lantzy for 14 years and learning about other cortical/cerebral CVI theorists, she became interested in the most recent brain science information and how it relates to serving students with visual impairments. This information supported understanding of how children with visual impairments build compensatory skills and how children's experiences relate to children's growth and development.

Serving the Student with Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment (Continued)

ID 394895081

Ellen Mazel

Biography

Ellen Cadigan Mazel, M.Ed. CTVI, Deafblind Specialist Cortical Visual Impairment Endorsed Professional Ellen works as CVI Project Manager for Perkins School for the Blind. She has worked in residential programs, educational collaboratives, early intervention programs and in public school classrooms as a teacher of students with visual impairments, deafblindness and cortical visual impairment. She teaches Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment: Assessment and Education, a mandatory class for training TVIs, O&M specialists and Vision Rehabilitation Specialists in the Vision Studies graduate programs at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She is a CVI Endorsed Professional through Perkins School for the Blind. In 2008, Ellen was named National Teacher of the Year for Children with Multiple Disabilities by the Council of Schools for the Blind (COSB). Ellen has expertise in the area of visual impairment, deafblindness, early intervention, multiple disabilities, cortical vision impairment, and transition. After studying cortical visual impairment with Christine Roman-Lantzy for 14 years and learning about other cortical/cerebral CVI theorists, she became interested in the most recent brain science information and how it relates to serving students with visual impairments. This information supported understanding of how children with visual impairments build compensatory skills and how children's experiences relate to children's growth and development.

Serving the Student with Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment (Continued)

ID 394895082

Ellen Mazel

Biography

Ellen Cadigan Mazel, M.Ed. CTVI, Deafblind Specialist Cortical Visual Impairment Endorsed Professional Ellen works as CVI Project Manager for Perkins School for the Blind. She has worked in residential programs, educational collaboratives, early intervention programs and in public school classrooms as a teacher of students with visual impairments, deafblindness and cortical visual impairment. She teaches Cortical/Cerebral Visual Impairment: Assessment and Education, a mandatory class for training TVIs, O&M specialists and Vision Rehabilitation Specialists in the Vision Studies graduate programs at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She is a CVI Endorsed Professional through Perkins School for the Blind. In 2008, Ellen was named National Teacher of the Year for Children with Multiple Disabilities by the Council of Schools for the Blind (COSB). Ellen has expertise in the area of visual impairment, deafblindness, early intervention, multiple disabilities, cortical vision impairment, and transition. After studying cortical visual impairment with Christine Roman-Lantzy for 14 years and learning about other cortical/cerebral CVI theorists, she became interested in the most recent brain science information and how it relates to serving students with visual impairments. This information supported understanding of how children with visual impairments build compensatory skills and how children’s experiences relate to children’s growth and development.

GVRA Assitive Work Technology 411

ID 2019367

Kristen McNally

Biography

Kristen McNally has been a Rehabilitation Technologist within the Assistive Work Technology department of GVRA for 2 years and recently completed the RCDHHA from WOU. Kristen earned her BS in Rehabilitation Services from Wright State University in Dayton, OH, where she developed her passion for Assistive Technology applications in literacy and cognition. She has been providing Assistive Technology trainings, evaluations, and education to individuals with disabilities and their support teams since 2006, working in all levels of education as well as in both corporate and private settings.

Taking the Reins on Technology Training

ID 2019368

Kristen McNally

Biography

Kristen McNally has been a Rehabilitation Technologist within the Assistive Work Technology department of GVRA for 2 years and recently completed the RCDHHA from WOU. Kristen earned her BS in Rehabilitation Services from Wright State University in Dayton, OH, where she developed her passion for Assistive Technology applications in literacy and cognition. She has been providing Assistive Technology trainings, evaluations, and education to individuals with disabilities and their support teams since 2006, working in all levels of education as well as in both corporate and private settings.

Session Title

Presenter

Benefits Planning for Transition Aged Youth

ID 2019370

Zimma Mercer-Drake

Biography

Ms. Zimma Mercer-Drake has worked in the Social Services arena since the late 80's. During her career she has assisted families and individuals in the areas of Emergency Assistance shelter benefits, Transitional Assistance, benefit eligibility and low-income housing. Zimma served on a Statewide Advocacy Board of Directors as a Homeless Advocate and Vice President. Since 2016 she has worked as a certified Community Work Incentives Coordinator (CWIC) assisting individuals receiving Social Security disability benefits understand how working will impact their governmental benefits. Zimma assists individuals with disabilities, their payees, and other members of their employment team understand the various work incentives available to encourage and support beneficiaries as they enter or re-enter the workforce.

Active, Dependable, Differentiated (A.D.D) Instruction for All Learners

ID 2019290

Jane Moore

Biography

I have been facilitating professional development for teachers for 14 years. I have presented this session at the NCSS Conference in 2016, the GCSS in 2017 and at the ESOL Conference at KSU in 2018. One participant at the NCSS Conference wrote "One of the best session of the weekend." I have taught all grades and all levels, for a total of 24 years, including special education students at the high school level and at the elementary levels. I have certifications in teaching gifted and special education students, and social studies. I have an Educational Specialist Degree from Emory University.

Make'n Take: No Worries Writing for Students with Significant Cognitive Needs (prior registration required)

ID 2019329

Jessie Moreau

Biography

Jessie has been a special educator for more than 30 years - teaching students with significant cognitive, sensory, and physical impairments across all grade levels. With 16 years in self-contained classrooms, 3 years as Assistive Technology Specialist, 3 years on loan to the GDOE and 10 years as an Instructional Coach, Jessie has a wide variety of experience she delights in sharing with other special educators, especially as having recently retired from full-time teaching.

Session Title

Presenter

Make'n Take: No Worries Writing for Students with Significant Cognitive Needs (prior registration required) (Repeat)

ID 394895084

Jessie Moreau

Biography

Jessie has been a special educator for more than 30 years - teaching students with significant cognitive, sensory, and physical impairments across all grade levels. With 16 years in self-contained classrooms, 3 years as Assistive Technology Specialist, 3 years on loan to the GDOE and 10 years as an Instructional Coach, Jessie has a wide variety of experience she delights in sharing with other special educators, especially as having recently retired from full-time teaching.

Integrating Boardmaker and High Tech AAC

ID 2019365

Denae Morris

Biography

Denae Morris is a speech-language pathologist who has a passion for helping people find a voice through technology. She received her master's degree in communication disorders from Arizona State University. Denae has practiced in a variety of settings with diverse populations and diagnoses across the life span. AAC has become a strong passion for Denae as she has worked with families who are in tremendous need of support.

Student Success: Strategies That Work for School Completion

ID 2019331

Annette Murphy

Biography

I am a former teacher and school/district administrator. I currently serve as a SSIP Program Specialist at the Georgia Department of Education.

Jorge Navarro

Biography

In my current role, I work with students with special needs from a variety of backgrounds and cultures. In a vocational transition capacity, I support organizational goals which provide services that fill gaps in student learning and provide practical work experiences that can be used to seek and maintain employment. My professional path has given me the opportunity to design curriculum for a variety of courses ranging from career development to wilderness survival. Working with interdisciplinary teams, I have supported strategic planning initiatives, often being assigned the responsibility to lead both faculty and staff toward strategic goals. I have had the opportunity to make tough judgment calls to ensure student success, and give knowledgeable input to influence programmatic changes to improve services to students. The greater majority of my work experience has been working with at-risk youth and individuals with disabilities in an experiential learning environment teaching both academic and life skills. Though very satisfied with my current employment status, within the Roosevelt Warm Springs organization I continue to seek new ways to improve the student experience and to help achieve strategic goals. Most recently, I completed the Educational Doctorate in School Improvement program at the University of West Georgia with an area of concentration in special education.

Dorothy Neal

Biography

Dorothy Neal, born in Athens GA. The eldest of six children born to her parents. Graduate of Cedar Shoals High School, Athens, GA. After graduating from high school, Dr. Neal attend Paine College in Augusta, GA. she had no trouble committing to a major in Early Childhood Education. Dr. Neal was also a member of R.O.T.C and commissioned as an Army Reserve Officer.Paine College with her B.S. Degree. Indianapolis, Indiana for Officer's School. Indianapolis Public Schools teacher for for over thirteen years motivating and increasing student achievement in Reading and Math. In 1996, Dr Neal decided to move back to her hometown of Athens, GA. She worked as a middle school Language Arts Teacher for three years where she made a positive impact on the Reading success of middle school students. She has spent the last sixteen years teaching in the state of Georgia. Proven experience in effective strategies for increasing student achievement in reading and math. Dr. Neal continued her education earning a Master's Degree in Education, and a Doctorate Degree in Education Leadership. She is a knowledgeable trained Georgia educator with a proven record of increasing student achievement in Reading and Math while serving as a classroom teacher.Dr. Neal is dedicated to the philosophy of meeting each student where they are and moving them forward to reaching their fullest potential.Currently, employed as a Teacher in Walton County School District

Session Title

Presenter

Gathering Your Feedback About the Spring Administration of the GAA 2.0

ID

Mary Nesbit-McBride

Biography

Conducting FBA and Developing a BIP (Part 1)

ID

Allison O'Hara

Biography

Instructional Strategies for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder

ID

Kate pabilona

Biography

Are You Ready to Transform your Classroom? Differentiation and Active Engagement for ALL learners

ID 2019217

Alison Patton

Biography

Dr. Alison Patton is in her 10th year as an Exceptional Student Service teacher. She earned her Bachelor's of Science in Deaf Education in 2008 from Kent State University in Ohio. She then moved to Savannah, Georgia where she began her teaching career at Sound Start, a School for the Deaf. Dr. Patton then completed her Master's of Education in Middle Grades Math and Science in 2011, the same year she began working as an Exceptional Students Service Teacher at Dr. George Washington Carver Elementary School in Richmond Hill, Georgia. Dr. Patton earned her Doctorate of Education in Special Education-Emotional Behavioral Disabilities in January 2018. She currently continues her work at Carver Elementary School as a 5th grade Exceptional Student Service Teacher supporting students in Math and Reading.

Tailored to fit- personalised learning to accelerate progress for Students with SEND

ID 2019235

Adewunmi Payne
Akinhanmi

Biography

Adewunmi Payne-Akinhanmi is an award-winning Special Needs Coordinator currently serving as the SENCO Whole School at the Grange School, founded in 1958. Her credentials include a Masters degree (in view) from the Institute of Education, University College London, United Kingdom, a Postgraduate diploma (PGDE) in Education from the University of Lagos, Nigeria, a Bachelor's of Science degree from the Premier University, University of Ibadan, various Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Programmes (in 5 continents of the world) and thirteen years of instructional experience. Adewunmi works with pupils with (Specific Learning Difficulties) SpLD, ADHD, Autism, and SEBD (Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties) between the ages of 4 to 16. She's a seasoned teacher trainer, using her daily experience in the classroom in her sessions. Adewunmi is the director of KingsCourt Learn Resource, an intervention centre for students and training (through Seminars, Conferences and Submits) outfit for educators. She is a bronze member of National Association of Special Educational Needs (Nasen) UK. In well over a decade of being a Special Needs Educator, Adewunmi has trained extensively and has contributed to various international conferences and delivered training courses for SENCOs, teachers, parents and learning support assistants in different countries of the world including Nigeria, Egypt, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Our Students will Keep Up, Catch Up or Get Ahead?

ID 2019313

Brian Pete

Biography

Brian is President and co-founder of Robin Fogarty & Associates, an international, educational consulting firm. Graduate of DePaul University of Chicago, he comes from a family of educators-college professors, school superintendents, teachers and teachers of teachers. Brian has a rich background in professional development and is entering his fifteenth year as an author/presenter, working exclusively, with the adult learner. Brian visits schools throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, including, the US Virgin Islands, Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore, as well as with International Schools in the Kingdom of Bahrain and in Saudi Arabia. He has an eye for the “teachable moment” and the words to describe what he sees as skillful teaching

Tool Box Workshop for Managing Tough Kids

ID 2019350

Maranda Porter

Biography

I am an enthusiastic and professional Behavior Analyst, who enjoys being part of, as well as leading, a successful and productive team of behavior therapists, educators and parents. I began working in the field of applied behavior analysis in 2005 as a Behavior Therapist under the direct supervision of a BCABA (Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst). I worked in various environments implementing ABA based treatment programs for children with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorders) and various other developmental disabilities. The children I worked with included boys and girls ages 3-18. Typically, the programs were implemented in-home; however, I also worked with several students in inclusive classroom settings, including an after school care program and a Montessori Preschool. In the past, I also took on a partnership with Dr. Devorah Giffen, PsyD (licensed psychologist). With her supervision, I provide psychological services to various individuals with different diagnoses. These services include: observe, record, and evaluate the behavior of clients during examinations and other situations, effectively communicate the results in written and oral form with treatment recommendations as appropriate, perform directive, non-directive and supportive therapy, selects, administers, scores, and interprets a variety of diagnostic instruments, such as psychological, achievement, neuropsychological, intelligence, interest, personality, vocational, and projective tests, write behavioral treatment plans for clients, as a member of the treatment team, collaborate with other professional staff in diagnosing problems, formulate treatment plans and evaluate progress. For four years, I also contracted with Infinite Possibilities Counseling Service out of Buford, Georgia. Through this agency, I completed Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, Parent Fitness, and Anger Management Assessments for the Department of Family and Children Services. I have also conducted play therapy and counseling for families that have children with behavioral challenges. Currently, I am the owner and founder of FRIENDS of Coastal GA. FRIENDS provides community and social skill based programs that consist of structured community outings, respite care, therapeutic after school programs, and consulting services. Since 2010, F.R.I.E.N.D.S. has provided an eight-week social skills summer camp to children and adults ages 5 - 21 with Autism and other developmental disabilities. Our program offers activities which focus on social skills, reciprocal conversations, pragmatics of language, self-regulation, expression of feelings, and cooperative play. This unique camp experience also provides an educational and academic model that translates into successful experiences for children at school, in their home, and within their community.

Session Title

Presenter

It's Executive!

ID 2019296

Jennifer Porter

Biography

Twenty years in Special Education and LeadershipCurrently in fourth year with a GNETS site serving Kindergarten through 12th grades as a Consultant TeacherCertified in: Educational Leadership, Special Education Adapted Curriculum, Special Education General Curriculum, Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities

A Visual Support is Worth a Thousand Words

ID 2019183

Elizabeth Potter

Biography

Elizabeth Potter is a certified teacher who is trained in and specializes in meeting the needs of challenged learners. She has experience with a wide variety of learning differences including ADHD, Autism/Asperger's, Specific Learning Disabilities, and Mild to Moderate Intellectual Disabilities. She also specializes in social skill instruction, sensory issues, executive functioning deficits and behavior needs often found in students with a diagnosis of ASD and/or ADHD.Elizabeth has been a special educator for nearly 15 years and is currently teaching in an elementary level program-placement classroom for students with ASD in Bartow County. She has also taught pull-out resource, collaborative, and co-taught classes at the elementary level, as well as in a middle school EBD/behavior modification classroom.When she's not teaching or tutoring, Elizabeth loves to spend time with family and friends, chill with her sweet pup, and watch her beloved MSU Spartans and the Atlanta Braves.

Supporting Transition Through CTI in CTAE Pathways

ID 2019389

Paula Poulicek

Biography

Paula Poulicek is currently serving as the Program Specialist for Special Populations in the CTAE Department of the Georgia Department of Education.She has 21 years experience working with students with disabilities in CTAE classrooms. Paula assisted students with disabilities in developing entry level skills in career pathway classes, in learning self-advocacy/self-determination skills, and in acquiring transition skills that lead to success in both college and career.

Session Title

Presenter

Trends in Assistive Technology

ID 2019312

Natalie Preston

Biography

Natalie Preston is a 17 year veteran in education. She currently serves as the Assistive Technology teacher for Houston County schools. She was previously the Autism teacher and before that, taught general and special education in the elementary and middle school settings. She received her bachelors in Marketing and masters in Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction. In 2009, Mrs. Preston received her specialist degree in education. She currently lives in Perry, Georgia with her husband, two children, dog and cat.

Adapting Math for Older Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

ID 2019307

Juanita Pritchard

Biography

Juanita is a retired special education teacher who is still actively involved in education. Her passion is giving access to the curriculum for the most significantly involved students by supporting teachers and creating materials. She has been involved with special needs programs in Georgia for over 30 years and continues to support teachers as a private educational consultant.

Preparing Students Using AAC for Life After Graduation

ID 2019223

Tracy Rackensperger

Biography

Tracy Rackensperger, Ph.D. holds a public service faculty position within the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, Institute on Human Development and Disability at the University of Georgia. Dr. Rackensperger has conducted a number of research studies, including published scholarly works regarding transition and people with disabilities. Dr. Rackensperger has personally used AAC for over 35 years.

Dual Enrollment: Implications for Special Education

ID 2019397

Molly Ream

Biography

Molly Ream has her dream job as the Program Specialist for the Dual Enrollment and JROTC programs for the Georgia Department of Education. Molly spent fourteen years as a school counselor in Cobb county's high schools advocating for students and the dual enrollment program. Having moved nine times by high school graduation and then heading to University of Texas – because they were the only ones who would allow her to study computer science and psychology together - Molly has always been drawn to new adventures where seemingly different people and things begin to interconnect. After earning a M.Ed. in Community counseling at Georgia State, she spent the next twenty years, working with teens and families in residential, hospital and private practice settings and maintains her license as a Professional Counselor. When middle age descended upon her, Molly took her experiences into a new role as a school counselor and began working with the dual enrollment program in 2009 when this opportunity opened a new graduation route for her headstrong youngest son. As a mother of three grown children who are a nurse, an attorney and a soldier, she and her husband get their greatest joy from their five wonderful grandchildren and having toes in the sand at every possible moment.

Co-Teaching and Google: Just like Peanut Butter and Jelly

ID 2019355

Jessica Reed

Biography

Jessica Reed is a special education teacher who loves all things Google. She has been teaching for 11 years, currently at Dade Middle School in inclusion and resource. Jessica is working on her EDS in Instructional Technology from Kennesaw State University and will graduate in August 2019. She is married to Robby (husband) and has a 2 year old daughter (Elizabeth).

The Early Childhood Special Education Behavior Intervention Toolkit

ID 2019184

Sandy Robbins

Biography

Dr. Sandra (Sandy) Hess Robbins is a professor and scholar in the field of early childhood special education. Dr. Robbins teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses in autism and special education at the University of West Georgia. She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Wisconsin and her graduate degrees in Special Education/Early Childhood Intervention from Kent State University. Dr. Robbins is an active member of the Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood (DEC) and Teacher Education Division, and is the Vice President of Georgia DEC. Before beginning her career in higher education, she gained several years' experience working in a range of early childhood settings, engaging in home-based behavioral consulting, conducting research and training in a center for children with autism, and serving as an early learning consultant and professional development provider for the Ohio Department of Early Learning and School Readiness. Dr. Robbins' research has focused on the evaluation of innovative practices for personnel preparation, such as distance education, immersive simulation or mixed-reality environments, and other various educational technologies. Moreover, Dr. Robbins has dedicated her career to developing and advancing blended practices that promote inclusion and success for young children with and at risk for disabilities. Some of her research in this area has included tiered and differentiated instruction, universal design for learning, and systems of positive behavior supports.

Just Like You- Learning with ABA

ID 2019239

Emma Roundtree

Biography

Dr. Roundtree is a graduate of Albany State University. She continued her educational endeavors (masters and specialist) at Augusta University. She completed her doctoral degree at Mercer University. She has been a Georgia educator for 9 years where most of her career was spent working with children with significant disabilities. She is the proud mother of 2 young and intelligent young men. I have also authored a book "Just Like You" and it will be available in April of 2019.

Strategies for Keeping Students Engaged

ID 2019198

Erica Rozier

Biography

Erica Washington Rozier started her educational and career dreams in Flint, Michigan where she was born and reared. Completing a Bachelor's Degree in Education at the University of Michigan led to fulfilling her dream of giving back to the community. Moving to Georgia with a Master's Degree in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College afforded her the opportunity to transition into language arts teaching positions with Cobb County Adult Education and Cobb County Schools. Her work with Georgia's Department of Juvenile Justice warranted her value of hands on learning in order to engage students. Mrs. Rozier was selected a Macy's Jones New York in the Classroom Model Teacher in 2010. Erica is the Founder and CEO of Treasurechest Learning Systems and an active member of Kappa Delta Pi. In honor of her great-grandfather, Booker T. Washington, she has written and published "Up from Slavery: The Children's Edition."

See the Sound: Visual Phonics

ID 2019393

Cheryl Sale

Biography

Cheryl Sale, M.Ed., CCC/A is a certified Audiologist and Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing. She works at Allied Instructional Services as Senior Services Coordinator for the D/HH division. Cheryl works in public school systems as a teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing and educational audiologist. She has been an ICLI Licensed See the Sound: Visual Phonics © Trainer since 2013. Wendy Wolf, M.Ed., CCC-SLP, is a certified speech-language pathologist who has worked with Deaf/Hard of Hearing children in public schools since 2001. She currently works at the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf. Wendy has been using Visual Phonics with students since 2008 and has been an ICLI Licensed See the Sound: Visual Phonics © Trainer since 2012.

See the Sound: Visual Phonics (Continued)

ID 394895066

Cheryl Sale

Biography

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Session Title

Presenter

See the Sound: Visual Phonics (Continued)

ID

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See the Sound: Visual Phonics (Continued)

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Biography

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MindMapping for Beginners and Struggling Learners

ID

Frank Sapp

Biography

A retired Federal Statistician, who has worked in the AT field since 2004. He is a MOS and certified Read & Write Gold trainer among other certifications. He has an MBA from Georgia State University with additional graduate courses from Rollins School of Public Health. He has trained and presented on computers and assistive technology at conferences, group training and webinars. He taught Introduction to Computers for over 10 years at a Technical College in Georgia. He also has several published books in the Amazon store.

AAC Devices in the Classroom - 50 Ideas in 50 minutes

ID 2019372

Pat Satterfeild

Biography

Cindy Richardson in her role as Business Development Manager with AbleNet, Cindy works with districts to identify technology tools, curriculum, and instructional strategies that support the academic and functional success of students with significant disabilities. She has worked with individuals with disabilities for over 30 years, and holds a M.Ed. degree from George Mason University in Assistive/Special Education Technology. Prior to coming to work with AbleNet, she specialized as an assistive technology specialist in the areas of student assessment, professional development, and curriculum access and success through technology in the K-12 setting. Pat Satterfeild is the president of the Center for AT Excellence where she serves as an AT Consultant and trainer. Pat and her husband Ben have worked in the field of Assistive Technology since 1984 and love to see how technology impacts the lives of students and adults with developmental disabilities. Their son Blake, 28, was born with Down Syndrome and currently attends Eagle Academy at Georgia Southern University.

AT and Transition for Students with High Incidence Disabilities

ID 2019261

Ben Satterfield

Biography

Dr. Ben Satterfield is a Research Associate at the Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation at Georgia Tech. His research is focused on measuring outcomes of AT use. Ben has a background as an instructional designer who participated in the design of several software titles for young children and children with disabilities. He is also a conference presenter and workshop instructor. Ben served as the President of the Dunamis Educational Foundation and the President/CEO of Dunamis, Inc. He taught in a public high school near Richmond, Va. for 7 years and served 5 years as a Head Soccer Coach and in sports administration at Virginia Commonwealth University. He also worked for 2 years as a software designer at ChalkBoard, Inc. Ben holds a BA in History from William & Mary, and an M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction from the University of Virginia. In 2007, Ben completed work on his doctoral program in Instructional Technology and Distance Education at NOVA Southeastern University. Today he is a research consultant with GA Tools for Life at Georgia Tech and an Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia College of Education teaching the graduate course in AAC in the Communication Science and Special Education Department.

Research on AT and Literacy in the Middle School Classroom

ID 2019238

Ben Satterfield

Biography

Dr. Ben Satterfield is a Research Associate at the Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation at Georgia Tech. His research is focused on measuring outcomes of AT use. Ben has a background as an instructional designer who participated in the design of several software titles for young children and children with disabilities. He is also a conference presenter and workshop instructor. Ben served as the President of the Dunamis Educational Foundation and the President/CEO of Dunamis, Inc. He taught in a public high school near Richmond, Va. for 7 years and served 5 years as a Head Soccer Coach and in sports administration at Virginia Commonwealth University. He also worked for 2 years as a software designer at ChalkBoard, Inc. Ben holds a BA in History from William & Mary, and an M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction from the University of Virginia. In 2007, Ben completed work on his doctoral program in Instructional Technology and Distance Education at NOVA Southeastern University. Today he coordinates research for Georgia Tools for Life at Georgia Tech and is an Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia College of Education teaching the graduate course in AAC in the Communication Science and Special Education Department.

(DCDT) Key Messages for Transition Planning for Students with Autism

ID 2019262

Matthew Segall

Biography

Matt Segall, PhD, is the Program Director for the Education and Transition Services program at the Emory Autism Center. Dr. Segall is a licensed psychologist in Georgia with a background in School Psychology. His interests focus on understanding educator and professional training in working with individuals with ASD, as well as studying how best to support students with ASD in educational settings. In addition, Dr. Segall leads a project related to Transition Planning for adolescents and young adults with ASD – this project seeks to develop a thoughtful and comprehensive transition planning process that prepares young adults with ASD to best experience an interdependent life in adulthood. The Education and Transition Services program collaborates extensively with a wide array of agencies, universities, programs, centers and stakeholders with interests in school-age and transition age services for individuals with ASD.

Can I Be The Teacher?

ID 2019196

Joyce Smith

Biography

I am presently a teacher of students with disabilities in grades 6-8 for all academic contents and the special education coordinator for my school. For the past 29 years I have enjoyed assisting students in general and special education in discovering their potential and planning for their high school experience. I also find fulfillment in mentoring preservice teachers as they begin their new careers as an educators and continue the legacy of encouraging young people to gain a education that will provide new opportunities to them.

Session Title

Presenter

Differentiation in the Math Classrooms

ID 2019340

Andrew Smith

Biography

Coach Smith earned a Bachelor's in Applied Mathematics and a Master's in Art of Teaching Secondary Mathematics. He teaches secondary mathematics (also coaches cross country and girls' soccer) at Spencer High School in Columbus, GA. He is also a member of the school's technology council, department head, math leadership team for the district, and the school's leadership team. I have presented at the IDEAS conference every year since 2012.

Technology and Student Engagement

ID 2019272

Danielle Smith

Biography

My name is Danielle Smith, and I just finished my second year of co-teaching. I graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in Special Education-General Curriculum. I just began my Masters degree at Liberty University (online) in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Special Education. I have spent a lot of time working with children and adults with varying abilities, leading outdoor education classes, guiding "experience nature" field trips, and have recently co-lead an international trip to Germany and Switzerland with 23 students. Experiential learning is my passion, and I love to discover how to increase my effectiveness as an educator. I coach softball and soccer, and sponsor our school's chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

(DCDT) Transition and Dropout Prevention

ID 2019192

Angelina Snider

Biography

Angelina Snider graduated cum laude from Auburn University with a degree in Mild Learning/Behavior Disorders. She is finishing her master's degree from the University of Kansas in Transition. She is certified in several subjects including English for 6th-12th grade; Political Science; Special Education PreK-12th grade; Career Technical Instruction (CTI); various Special Education academic subjects; and is a Teacher Support Specialist (TSS). She is employed part-time by Marietta City Schools as the Transition Specialist/District Success Coach. She is working with teachers at the high school to begin a High School/High Tech club which will engage students with IEPs or 504s in activities such as field trips to colleges, guest speakers, and workshops on topics such as "Completing FASFA." In addition, she coordinates monthly Transition Talks for the district. She coordinates services with Vocational Rehabilitation by referring students, organizing Comprehensive Vocational Evaluations, organizing Pre-ETS services for students, and other activities. She is passionate about meeting with students to discuss their plans for after high school. With SSIP, she facilitates meetings at the district level and works with Marietta High School, Marietta Middle School, and Marietta Sixth Grade Academy for their school level meetings. She sits on the Metro Transition Council as a representative for MCS. We will need to add Lynsly's and Alisha's bios if we are selected.

Session Title

Presenter

The Good the Bad and the Ugly of Core Language Implementation

ID 2019252

Barbara Sonnier

Biography

I have been an AT Specialist in Ware County for 22 years. I am primarily the Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Orientation and Mobility Specialist but have been the AT Coordinator for 18 years. I have taught in Inclusion and Resource classes and a Self-Contained class. As the AT Coordinator for Ware County, I had to find someone to come do an evaluation and train us in using symbols to talk with our students and train our students to talk using symbols. We are getting there and I hope to help others who are on this journey.

Active Learning Materials for Students With Cortical Visual Impairment

ID 2019234

Christine Spratling

Biography

Martha Veto received her M.Ed from the University of Pittsburgh and worked as a teacher for the visually impaired/orientation and mobility specialist for 25 years before joining the South Carolina Interagency Deaf-Blind Project in 2005. She has worked with GSAP since moving to Georgia in 2008. Christine Spratling received her B.S.Ed. in Special Education and Deaf & Hard of Hearing; her M.S. in Interrelated Special Education; and Ed.S. in Educational Leadership. She worked as a teacher for students who are deaf/hard of hearing or deafblind for 27 years in a variety of settings in Georgia. Christine also serves as an Early Intervention Specialis for Georgia PINES.

Vocabulary Development for All Learners

ID 2019247

Kelly Standridge

Biography

Kelly Standridge has been a special education for 21 years. She has worked in various school districts in the metro Atlanta area serving students in elementary and middle school. Kelly is an interrelated teacher with a range of experience serving students in all exceptionality areas. She is currently working on a PhD in Educating Students with Exceptionalities with a concentration on teacher recruitment and support.

MAPPING Content: Modifications, Adaptations, Peers, and Planning for Multi-Level Learners

ID 2019248

Kelly Standridge

Biography

Kelly Standridge has been a special education for 21 years. She has worked in various school districts in the metro Atlanta area serving students in elementary and middle school. Kelly is an interrelated teacher with a range of experience serving students in all exceptionality areas. She is currently working on a PhD in Educating Students with Exceptionalities with a concentration on teacher recruitment and support.

Why Should Educators and Transition Specialists Care About Summer Camp?

ID 2019186

Linda Starnes

Biography

Linda Hampton Starnes has spent her life actively involved in the disability community – as a special educator, parent, speaker, advocate, and volunteer. After working at the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education, she became the mother of two children with varying abilities and significant healthcare needs. Now both are grown, pursuing their respective college and career activities, and are self-advocates as well as advocates for others within the disability community. Linda stays current and informed on the broad scope of education, inclusion, and rights for students with disabilities, having continuously advocated for appropriate and fully inclusive general curriculum education for her children at six public PreK-12 schools in two states. Her work extends to inclusion within multiple community, recreational, and religious settings on behalf of her children and all persons with disabilities. Linda has been a board member for multiple local, state, regional, and national disability-related organizations, healthcare, educational, and higher ed institutions. Her service includes two terms on the President’s Committee for People with Intellectual Disability under Presidents Bush and Obama. She enjoys presenting at conferences across the country, as well as writing the occasional article on family life that includes complex care and educational needs. Because of her decades-long advocacy, and constant proponent for the field of education, Ms. Starnes has received a variety of awards, including being named to the “Educators Hall of Honor” at the University of Tennessee, and later receiving the inaugural “Outstanding Community Advocate” award from UT. Lift Disability Network of Orlando recognized her efforts with the “Outstanding Community Connector” award. She has been featured in several filmed presentations, and the Starnes family story has been portrayed in several books and magazine articles.

Science Is Fun

ID 2019358

Gina Suckow

Biography

I have 13 years of special education teaching experience in the self contained classroom. My undergraduate degree in Special Education was earned at the University of West Georgia. I completed my Master's degree in Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction for Walden University. I have received school wide Teacher of the Year in 2011 and 2018. I have taken my love for science and found ways to make it enjoyable and exciting for my students.

Steps that Lead to a Degree

ID 2019345

Miyah Sundermeyer

Biography

Miyah Sundermeyer has been employed at the Center for Leadership in Disability which is housed in the school of Public Health at Georgia State University. All the while, she earned her Associate's Degree in Psychology prior to transferring her credits to the GSU to pursue her bachelor's in psychology. At present, Miyah looks to pursue her concentration in community psychology which she can not only use on the work but also apply to her interest in "Autism Airport Rehearsal Tours" in which she already volunteers one Saturday a month in hopes to improve and see the program grow. Lastly, Miyah has her own blogging brand "Hello World with Miyah," which can be found on YouTube and WordPress. Most recently, Miyah has been blogging for Future Horizon's, which is the company that publishes Temple Grandin's books while receiving press pass to a special event with Aspiritech in Chicago Illinois. In 1993, at age 11, Miyah was diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Delay- None Other Specified (PDD-NOS), on the mild end of the autism spectrum while being diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome in late 2003. Yet, she lives a normal life by owning a condo in the greater Atlanta area with her roommate who is a cat named Apple Jack. Among other things, Miyah enjoys traveling, movies, astronomy, writing, math, reading, animation, public speak, networking and Temple Grandin. Finally, Miyah appreciates creating presentation projects with practical applications that autistics and others can use. One such example entails traveling to Chattanooga to talk about autistics having potential for independence and the steps one can take to get there.

ASPIRE Self Determination in your High School Students

ID 2019315

Ashley Sutton

Biography

My name is Ashley Sutton and I am a Teacher and Community Based Instructor at Carrollton High School. Go Trojans! I obtained my Bachelor's degree in 2015, my certification to become a Teacher for Students with Visual Impairments in 2017 and my Master's degree in 2018. I have been a classroom teacher for 4 years. I reside in Carrollton, GA with my husband and my dogs Bailey and Charley.

Differentiation: Like "Cooking with Apples"

ID 2019319

Millicent Sweeting

Biography

Dr. Millicent W. Sweeting has over 18 years of experience in education. She began her educational career as a paraprofessional and soon realized that she wanted a career in teaching. Her first position was a middle school Special Education teacher in Nassau County, Florida, where she was the Teacher of the Year and District Finalist. Dr. Sweeting became a general education middle school teacher in Language Arts in Camden County, Georgia, but soon learned that the field of Special Education was her passion. She is currently the Special Education Department Coordinator and Special Education teacher at Lindley Sixth Grade Academy in Cobb County, Georgia, where she teaches math, language arts, science, social studies and life skills to Mildly Intellectual Disabled (MID) students. She also facilitates trainings and collaborates with general and special education teachers on a regular basis. She holds a doctorate and specialist degree in Educational Leadership, K-12 from Argosy University, Sarasota, Florida, and a master's degree in Public Administration from Valdosta State University. She has received thousands of dollars through various grants to benefit students with learning disabilities. Students at Lindley Sixth Grade Academy received instructional and life skill materials to create an outdoor classroom surrounded by seasonal flowers in the school courtyard. Dr. Sweeting has presented at numerous conferences in her career.

Data Collection: The Learner is ALWAYS Right!

ID 2019271

J. Brock Tarno

Biography

J. "Brock" Tarno began his career in Clayton County Public Schools in 2007. He received his M.A.T. and Ed.S. in special education from Valdosta State University. Mr. Tarno spent six years working in self-contained adapted curriculum classrooms at the elementary and middle school levels. He transitioned from the classroom to the district level in 2014 as the Autism/Intellectual Disability Specialist in Clayton County. As AU/ID Specialist, he was a Georgia Alternate Assessment district testing assistant, Extended School Year Program Manager and Supervisor for the Adapted Physical Education, Special Olympics, and Music Therapy departments. In the summer of 2016, he transitioned to Behavior Coordinator for Henry County Schools. As the Behavior Coordinator, he managed 6 Behavior Intervention Coaches as well as all district Emotional Behavior Disorder (EBD) self-contained program classes (K-12) and 3 disciplinary hearing facilitators. Presently, he is still working in Henry County Schools as the Coordinator for Autism classroom programming and supports.

Krystye

Tatum

Biography

I am a native of Atlanta, Georgia. I attended Fulton County and Atlanta Public Schools for my formative education. I attended Georgia Southern University where I received a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish with a Minor in Latin American Studies. I am an avid educator and believe in continuing education. After graduation, I attended Mercer University where I received a Masters of Arts in Teaching with a concentration in Middle Grades Language Arts and Social Studies. I currently have Tier I Certification in Educational Leadership. I am in my last semester at Kennesaw State University where I am pursuing an Educational Specialist Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. I am currently certified in Language Arts, Social Studies, Reading, Gifted, ESOL, Special Education, and Educational Leadership. Additionally, I will be certified in Curriculum and Instruction at the end of this semester. My philosophy is that education is vital to establishing a strong foundation on which understanding is based. I believe that education is the key to success for young students. As a teacher, I hope to motivate students in asserting their inner strengths and abilities and discovering what truly inspires them. I aim to guide students in developing the skills and knowledge necessary in becoming mature, contributing members of our community. Therefore, I will provide a stimulating learning environment that encourages students to trust their own opinions, while fostering confidence in order for students to realize their full potential. I currently serve as the Literacy Instructional Coach, but my first love is being in the classroom teaching my students. My teaching style is best described as eclectic. While I am always organized and focused, I vary my instructional methodologies to incorporate diverse activities and materials to engage and interest students. By understanding human behavior and acknowledging the many different learning styles of students, I easily establish and maintain an excellent rapport with students and co-workers alike.

Joan K Teach

Biography

Joan K. Teach, Ph.D. has been a special educator working with the ADHD/LD population for over 50 years. As the former Director of Lullwater School, a center for students with neurobiological needs, she investigated techniques that increased success and survival for her students. Currently she is the Director of the Community Resource Center that provides a place where those experiencing learning and attention difficulties can find support. The Center blends services for those with Attention Deficit Disorder, Learning Disabilities and other neurobiological differences. For the past 25 years she has facilitated monthly support groups for parents, adults and women. She readily states that these groups create a catalyst for individuals to share their unique stories and learn strategies each has used to create growth and success. She feels that her biggest gift comes from what she has learned from others. Upon retirement, she developed a client-consulting specialty with late adolescents and young adults as well as women with specific ADHD issues. Concerned about the lack of services and support for these populations, she utilizes her teaching skills to guide individuals to identify their own Islands of Competency, discover the Operational Styles that work best for them, and identify those Executive Functions that support or interfere with their unique profile. Discovering your own pattern or styles provides guidance for strategies to improve life skills. As an ADHD adult, raising a family of four, and four grandchildren, many of whom also share the diagnosis, she shares a living experience over a lifetime with the disorder. She relishes her positive creativity, abounding energy and the ability to think out of the box. She not only sees ADHD as a gift in herself, but in others. In her mid-career she found that she could design teaching strategies that appeared to match the alternative learning styles of those with ADHD. This created an outlet for her creativity, and lead to a passion for developing games and simulations for the learning difference community. Nationally she has served on the AIGE, CHADD LDA Boards, and is a member of IDA, CEC, and ACO. Locally she is involved with CHADD GA, LDA GA . Her passion is to make a change in individuals' lives so they may make choices and develop strategies to facilitate their richer and fuller life.

Patrice

Tealer

Biography

Mrs. Patrice Tealer, Ed. S., is a K-12 educator who has been in education for over 12 years. She is a fully certified English Teacher who also holds a Gifted endorsement, with a Master's in Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment and an Education Specialist degree in Curriculum and Teaching. She is a public school educator who has primarily taught in Title I schools working with low-income students and families. In addition to working with students, she provides professional development for school systems and has covered topics such as understanding Common Core, differentiated instruction, teaching on a block schedule, instructional strategies to improve reading comprehension and student achievement, effective parent conferencing and problem-based learning. Some of her roles have included working with New Teacher retention programs, serving as an Academy Lead and Coach, and also an Assistant Director for the Academy of Liberal Arts at Newton High School. In conjunction with teaching, Mrs. Tealer also provides character education for students and parents. Mrs. Tealer demonstrates and models character education through her many mentoring initiatives and programs aimed at helping both parents and young adults to help each other make choices that will enable success both inside and outside of the classroom. Through the mentoring programs, students attend workshops hosted by Mrs. Tealer that encompass topics such as responsible social media posting, body image and self-esteem, the importance of healthy relationships and goal-setting and planning. Students and parents also participate in community service initiatives to help build character, empathy, responsibility and integrity.

Jennifer Thomas

Biography

Jennifer Thomas, Ed.S., CCC-SLP – Jennifer earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree in Education in Speech Language Pathology from Valdosta State University. Prior to joining PRC in November 2016, Jennifer has served to build communicative competence for people in a variety of settings. Jennifer began her career as the only full time SLP in a rural school system. When Jennifer moved to Middle Georgia, she began working with infants and toddlers with communication and swallowing/feeding disorders through an early intervention program. She provided speech therapy in homes and daycare centers using a coaching model designed to enable parents to equip their children for success. Following that, Jennifer served as the Pediatric Director at a local private therapy practice. She treated clients with a variety of disorders while specializing in remediation of swallowing and feeding disorders in infants and children. After several years, Jennifer transitioned to serving students aged 3-21 in a local school system in Middle Georgia. Most recently, Jennifer served as the Speech Language Pathologist for the Assistive Technology Team for the same school district in Middle Georgia. In this position, she completed AAC evaluations, collaborated with school-based SLPs and teachers on low and high tech device implementation, and provided trainings for SLPs, teachers and families of students with complex communication needs. Throughout her career, Jennifer has worked to find innovative and creative low to high tech assistive technology solutions to build communication competence for all of her clients. Jennifer strives to enable individuals with communication needs and their teams to recognize their unique challenges, identify effective tools, and implement strategies that lead to communication success across environments. Jennifer holds the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), a state license in Speech-Language Pathology from the State of Georgia, and is a member of ASHA’s Special Interest Division 12 (AAC Division).

Torin Togut

Biography

TORIN D. TOGUT, JD, practiced for more than 34 years in special education, disability, and civil rights law for Georgia Legal Services Program in Atlanta, where he provided advice and assistance to other attorneys, advocates, professionals, families and individuals in the area of disability law, and directly represented clients. He currently has a private practice that is devoted to primarily to special education, civil litigation and practice, and appeals. From September 2008 until June 2012, Mr. Togut served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Georgia, School of Law and taught special education law as well supervised law students in a clinic to assist low-income families of children with disabilities. He has spoken at many national, regional, state, and local conferences and seminars on the rights of children and adults with mental, developmental, and physical disabilities. Mr. Togut has also written two law review articles on the over identification of minorities in special education and racial disparity in school discipline and on response-to-intervention and identification of children with specific learning disabilities. He is admitted to the federal district courts in Georgia and Vermont, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court.

Session Title

Presenter

Foundations for Literacy - An Early Literacy Curriculum for DHH Students (Continued)

ID 394895079

Stacey Tucci

Biography

Dr. Stacey Tucci's experiences parenting her Deaf daughter forged the path for her work in the field of Deaf Education. She began her career as an elementary school teacher where she taught students who are DHH using a diverse range of communication modalities. Dr. Tucci received her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and Special Education, her Master's in Deaf Education, and her Doctorate in the Education of Students with Exceptionalities with a research focus in Intervention Studies in Deaf Education from Georgia State University (GSU). During her time at GSU, Dr. Tucci worked as a research associate on two federally-funded grants. She is a co-author and the lead trainer for Foundations for Literacy. She has trained and coached hundreds of teachers across the United States and abroad. Dr. Tucci currently works for the State Schools Division at the Georgia Department of Education as the Language and Literacy Initiative Coordinator where she oversees the implementation of recently passed legislation (OCGA 30-1-5) that ensures all children who are DHH are on a path to grade-level reading in 3rd grade.

Foundations for Literacy - An Early Literacy Curriculum for DHH Students (Continued)

ID 394895080

Stacey Tucci

Biography

Dr. Stacey Tucci's experiences parenting her Deaf daughter forged the path for her work in the field of Deaf Education. She began her career as an elementary school teacher where she taught students who are DHH using a diverse range of communication modalities. Dr. Tucci received her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and Special Education, her Master's in Deaf Education, and her Doctorate in the Education of Students with Exceptionalities with a research focus in Intervention Studies in Deaf Education from Georgia State University (GSU). During her time at GSU, Dr. Tucci worked as a research associate on two federally-funded grants. She is a co-author and the lead trainer for Foundations for Literacy. She has trained and coached hundreds of teachers across the United States and abroad. Dr. Tucci currently works for the State Schools Division at the Georgia Department of Education as the Language and Literacy Initiative Coordinator where she oversees the implementation of recently passed legislation (OCGA 30-1-5) that ensures all children who are DHH are on a path to grade-level reading in 3rd grade.

Session Title

Presenter

Foundations for Literacy - An Early Literacy Curriculum for DHH Students (Continued)

ID 394895078

Stacey Tucci

Biography

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Foundations for Literacy - An Early Literacy Curriculum for DHH Students

ID 2019391

Stacey Tucci

Biography

Dr. Stacey Tucci's experiences parenting her Deaf daughter forged the path for her work in the field of Deaf Education. She began her career as an elementary school teacher where she taught students who are DHH using a diverse range of communication modalities. Dr. Tucci received her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and Special Education, her Master's in Deaf Education, and her Doctorate in the Education of Students with Exceptionalities with a research focus in Intervention Studies in Deaf Education from Georgia State University (GSU). During her time at GSU, Dr. Tucci worked as a research associate on two federally-funded grants. She is a co-author and the lead trainer for Foundations for Literacy. She has trained and coached hundreds of teachers across the United States and abroad. Dr. Tucci currently works for the State Schools Division at the Georgia Department of Education as the Language and Literacy Initiative Coordinator where she oversees the implementation of recently passed legislation (OCGA 30-1-5) that ensures all children who are DHH are on a path to grade-level reading in 3rd grade.

Session Title

Presenter

Theory of Mind - A Make and Take Intervention

ID 2019392

Stacey Tucci

Biography

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Exploring the PEERS® School-Based Social Skills Curriculum

ID 2019202

Molly Tucker

Biography

Molly Tucker is a Community Services Specialist. In this role, Molly provides training and technical assistance related to the use of positive behavior supports, as well as coordinates a leadership development program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She is also the coordinator of the annual Georgia Association for Positive Behavior Support conference. Molly is an alumnus of the Georgia Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities leadership program and is a PEERS® Certified School-Based Provider. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from Mercer University and a Master of Social Work from the University of Georgia.

Tech Hacks To Help Struggling Readers!

ID 2019226

Deborah Turner

Biography

My name is Debbie Turner. I currently serve as an Instructional Technology Specialist for Kennesaw State University's iTeach center just outside of Atlanta, GA. Prior to working at KSU, I was the Assistive/Instructional Technology Director at Ivy Street School in Boston, MA which is a school for students aged 13 - 22 with neurological disorders. I have a Master's Degree in Educational Technology (M.E.T.) from Boise State University as well as graduate certificates in Virtual Assessment and Technology Integration.

Session Title

Presenter

Yoga Buddies!

ID 2019228

Deborah Turner

Biography

My name is Debbie Turner. I currently serve as an Instructional Technology Specialist for Kennesaw State University's iTeach center just outside of Atlanta, GA. Prior to working at KSU, I was the Assistive/Instructional Technology Director at Ivy Street School in Boston, MA which is a school for students aged 13 - 22 with neurological disorders. I have a Master's Degree in Educational Technology (M.E.T.) from Boise State University as well as graduate certificates in Virtual Assessment and Technology Integration.

Innovations in Autism Inclusion

ID 2019371

Matthew Tyson

Biography

Matthew Tyson is an educator and school administrator living in the Atlanta area who is focused on improving inclusive practices in schools and creating a technology-driven academic program that prepares students for the jobs of the future. He has spent the past ten years in the Dekalb County School District and has served as a special education teacher, tutorial director, instructional support specialist, and vice principal. He is currently serving as the vice principal of Tapestry Public Charter School located in Doraville, Georgia. He is also working on completing his doctorate in Educational Leadership at Georgia State University while researching current and future applications for the usage of artificial intelligence in education. I have presented at the Annual AMLE Conferences in 2017 and 2018. I have also presented at the AdvancEd Conference, the Georgia STEM/STEAM Annual Conference, the West Georgia RESA STEM Conference, the Georgia Charter Schools Association Conference, and the CEISMC STEAM Leadership Conference.

Uniquely Designed With Our Future In Mind

ID 2019215

Monique Tyson

Biography

A vibrant, innovative teacher with a servant's heart. I have been teaching approximately 13 years. In addition to helping students, I have three wonderful children, two who are on the Autism Spectrum. All of the years I have taught, I have had an inclusion classroom. I am certified in a variety of areas. I have been the Teacher of the Year, as well as, Who's Who Among Middle School Teachers. Whenever, I have had a Co-teacher, it has been a model classroom for other teachers within my school to observe. There are many roles that I have had during my teaching career. In this profession my roles have directly impacted students, as well as, colleagues. I love helping all students achieve there academic, career, and life goals. In addition to helping students, professional development has become an important focus for me. This focus is due to the shortage of teachers, 21st century learners, and students that will be entering the workforce. I believe that teachers can positively impact students when given the right tools. If teachers are prepared they can help students to achieve their goals.

Session Title

Presenter

Intro into GA Hands & Voices Family Engagement Programs

ID

Deshonda Washington

Biography

Deshonda Washington is the Executive Director of GA Hands & Voices. Having a child with a hearing loss has prepared her for a lifelong journey of advocating for the needs of her daughter, Lauren. She is passionate about supporting Deaf/Hard of Hearing families across the state of Georgia. Deshonda has been trained as an educational advocate through the Hands & Voices Advocacy Support and Training (ASTra) program; she participates on the H&V HQ ASTra committee and has presented these supports around our state. Her ultimate goal is to empower parents of children with disabilities and ensure our Deaf/Hard of Hearing children reach their highest potential. Deshonda is married with three children Ashanti, Lauren and Lorenzo Jr. and resides in Marietta, GA. She truly believes in the Hands & Voices motto, "What works for the child is what makes the choice right."

Keep Calm and Carry on with Whole Body Listening

ID

Claudia Weathers

Biography

It has been my pleasure to be an educator for 28 years. I began my career teaching second grade then after seven years I moved to first grade. I then became an Instructional Coach at the school level and a Literacy Coach for the Governors Office. I returned to the classroom four years ago serving as a Reading Specialist, RTI Coordinator, and Reading Interventionist. I now find myself for the first time teaching Special Education with a delightful group of Kindergartners!

Integrating Technology for Student Engagement

ID

Kimbia Webb

Biography

Kimbia Webb currently serves as a special education math teacher for Marietta City Schools. Mrs. Webb holds a master's degree in math education from Kennesaw State University and an undergraduate degree in instructional technology from the University of Georgia. She has over 10 years of experience as an educator working with all levels of exceptionality from small group special education to accelerated mathematics content grades 6-12. Mrs. Webb has served in a number of roles as general education classroom teacher, special education classroom teacher, and 504 coordinator. She has previously presented at the Georgia Math Conference at Rock Eagle.

From Person Centered to Person Driven - Successful Innovative Accommodations Getting Students to Work (Repeat)

ID

2019388

Jennifer

White

Biography

Jennifer L. White has worked in the field of rehabilitation since her first paid job with the ARC of Bucks County, PA. After a career as a special education teacher, she opened Able Opportunities, Inc., a national consulting and local vocational rehabilitation company. She works with a broad range of people, specializing in vocational, education, and communication goals and programs for children and adults. She has worked as a researcher at the University of Washington to develop accommodation strategies and tools to increase integration for those with more severe disabilities, in Alaska designing vocational, residential and educational programs serving First Nation People and communities, and has developed and trained nationwide on non-linguistic communication strategies that promote self determination and autonomy. In 2006 she created the Work Independence Network (WIN) Program, a replicable business model for hiring and retaining employees with developmental disabilities in collaboration with Harrison Medical Center and Kitsap County DD. Jennifer is known for innovative, business-minded strategies and for working in minority populations where issues of privilege and cultural respect are vital to long-term success. In 2014 she launched the Work Autonomy App, a person-centered accommodation tool. As a technical assistance consultant and a Subject Matter Expert for the national Employment First project, she works with state teams, schools, employers, families, counties, providers and agencies on Employer Engagement, Customized Employment, Innovative Technology Tools and Collaborative Design that lead to increased paid employment opportunities. Jennifer brings contagious enthusiasm, functional tools and exceptional services molded by decades of experience and a genuine belief in the value of diversity.

Jennifer White

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From Person Centered to Person Driven - Successful Innovative Accommodations Getting Students to Work

ID

2019387

Jennifer

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From Person Centered to Person Driven - Successful Innovative Accommodations Getting Students to Work (Continued) *Closed Session

ID 394895096

Jennifer White

Biography

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From Person Centered to Person Driven - Successful Innovative Accommodations Getting Students to Work *Closed Session

ID

394895091

Jennifer

White

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Session Title

Presenter

From Person Centered to Person Driven - Successful Innovative Accommodations Getting Students to Work (Continued) *Closed Session

ID 394895092

Jennifer White

Biography

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Vocabulary Strategies that Work!

ID 2019341

Elizabeth Wills

Biography

Mrs. Wills has been an educator for over 20 years in Alabama and Georgia as a special education teacher, general education teacher or library media specialist. She received her B.S. degree from Auburn University, received teacher certification from Georgia Southern, and earned her masters in library media from Alabama State University. She currently teaches ninth grade study skills and teaches students with disabilities at the Jones County alternative school. She believes that all students come to school with unique skills, abilities, and background experiences that affect their learning and their view of schooling. She believes that these skills, abilities, and experiences must all be considered when planning instruction and creating a positive classroom environment.

Session Title

Presenter

Augmented Accessibility: Can games be considered assistive technology?

ID

Tanya Wise

Biography

Tanya Wise is the Social Media Technologist for the E3 program. She is responsible for developing E3's online presence through a variety of platforms as well as incorporating technology into agency outreach efforts. She played a large role in the development of the two, currently available, E3 apps, Souptastic! and Get that Gig. She is a graduate of Clayton State University with a major in Business Management and a minor in Services Marketing. She is passionate about providing access to under-served communities and hopes to use her knowledge and experience to help new audiences learn more about VR services and achieve meaningful employment.

Vispero & APH Partner to Provide Accommodations for K-12 through college

ID

Michael Wood

Biography

Michael Wood has been working in the Assistive Technology field for 13 years. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business and Marketing before beginning his career in AT. Currently his position has him focusing on supporting students and educators in the Blindness and Low Vision areas by providing software and hardware to help individuals succeed with independence.

Teaching Outside the Box

ID

Dawn Wright

Biography

I have always loved working with children, particularly in special education. In 2008 I was asked to work one-on-one with a student who was blind. It didn't take long for me to know that my heart was with this field. This prompted me to go back to school where I earned my Masters in Visual Impairments from USC Upstate and I became the teacher for Visually Impaired in Rome City Schools in 2014. I am happily married to my husband Robert and we have one daughter, Abigail, who is currently studying music at City University of London.

Mastering the Facts

ID

Diana Zoellner

Biography

Diana Lynn Zoellner has been involved in education for 27 years as a special education teacher, general education teacher, Student Support Specialist, Student Support Facilitator, and Regional Special Education Specialist. She believes that all teachers strive to positively impact children, therefore she enjoys sharing with teachers to help them achieve this endeavor.