

TUESDAY MARCH 16, 2010

9:00 – 12:00 (THREE-HOUR WORKSHOPS)

SALON A 9:00 – 12:00

Five Skills The Common Thread - A Proactive Community Approach to Education

Linda Remington - Five Skills, The Common Thread

Learn how your community - parents, educator, businesses & others - can work together to create confident readers & life-long learners from birth, preschool, grade school & high school graduation. Participants will receive a guide explaining the five skills & strategies will be modeled with visual aids & a fun interactive agenda.

SALON B 9:00 – 12:00

Integrating Science Throughout Your Curriculum

Corrine Steever - Education Program Specialist and Jennifer Gresham, Director of Education - Zoo New England: Stone Zoo

Science can be incorporated into your curriculum, making learning more authentic. In this workshop, learn how to apply inquiry-based lessons throughout your curriculum while integrating with science. Explore connections to ELA, math, and social studies as well as provide some science content and a background on inquiry-based learning.

SALON C 9:00 – 12:00

Spotlight on Vocabulary & Theme Instruction in Literary Text

Marybeth Keane - Education Specialist, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Janet Hosking, Julie Tagliamonte, and Mary Ann Sharpe - Lynn Public Schools

Two research-based instructional frameworks for vocabulary and theme instruction using high-quality children's literature will be shared. Engaging and enriching instructional activities will be modeled, including but not limited to: semantic mapping, story impressions, word splash, four-square concept mapping, and theme walls. This will be followed by make-and-take-segment. Attendees will leave with classroom-ready instructional materials. In addition, a resource packet with graphic organizers, instructional framework templates,

and a mentor text booklist for vocabulary and theme instruction will be provided.

9:00 – 10:30 (1.5 HOUR WORKSHOPS)

SALON D 9:00 – 10:30

Creating Family-Friendly Schools

***Roxanne Hoke Chandler - Education and Outreach Specialist,
Massachusetts Parent Information & Resource Center, Elaine Arsenault,
Massachusetts Parent Information & Resource Center***

Welcoming families into their children's schools is everyone's responsibility. Understanding diverse cultures and ways to support family involvement are central to this workshop designed for teachers, administrators, and school personnel. Both new and seasoned professionals will acquire information, resources, and strategies that can be used to support family involvement initiatives within their schools and district. Participants will learn the characteristics of family-friendly schools and explore challenges related to implementing these practices within diverse communities. This workshop focuses on practical strategies for enhancing communication between schools and families, developing a welcoming school climate, and building working relationships with community partners.

SALON E 9:00 – 10:30

Conflict at Work & Management Strategies to Achieve Collaboration

John Desses – Educator

Work expectations and pressure to improve performance and results create conflict between administrators & staff. During this interactive workshop, conflict management strategies will be discussed on how to convert negative energy to positive synergy & collaboration.

NORTHBORO 9:00 – 10:30

Building Links Between Addition & Subtraction: Concepts & Number Facts

James Burnett - Math Consultant, Origo Education

Addition & subtraction are closely linked. This session will demonstrate strategies that can be used to reinforce the connection between these operations & to develop flexible thinking. In particular the session will show

practical ways to develop number facts for both operations through the use of visual materials & games.

MARLBORO 9:00 – 10:30

Dr. Harriet J. Bessette – Kennesaw State University and Stuart Peskin – Director, Title 1 Dissemination Project, Inc.

Distributing Leadership in Ways that Maximize Achievement for All Students

Strong claims about successful school leadership include empirical evidence which suggests that teaching and learning for all students is improved when leadership is widely distributed. In this session, participants will explore their own school's and district's readiness for leadership that focuses on the achievement of diverse learners.

An overview of distributed leadership, session objectives and background information will be introduced. To learn where participants are in terms of readiness for distributed leadership and developing a positive school climate for distributed leadership, attendees will take the Assessing Your readiness for Teacher Leadership Survey and District Survey. Data will be shared within the session to generate reflection and feedback. Session will conclude with question and answer session.

STERLING 9:00 -10:30

Exploring Science & Literacy Integration

Ann Marie Pilch - Tower Hill Botanic Garden

Reading, writing and language are tools to acquire knowledge in science and other disciplines, but are best used when integrated with hands-on, inquiry-based investigation. This workshop will present a model of this integration in action while exploring the life cycle of a flowering plant. Guided observation and dissection of a flower will be supported with high quality information texts.

SOUTHBORO 9:00 – 10:30

Math Intervention – Strategies to Improve Student Performance and Achievement

Dr. Thomasenia Adams – Consultant, Houghton Mifflin

The primary aim of this session is to examine a variety of constructs that support instruction in mathematics, particularly that which is present for

learners who are challenged in mathematics. The session content will be grounded in strategies recently highlighted in the field of mathematics education. The presenter will draw from research and practitioner literature, on-going engagement in schools and knowledge of contexts that empower students for success in mathematics.

10:45 – 12:15 (1.5 HOUR WORKSHOPS)

SALON D 10:45 – 12:15

Parental Involvement: A Catalyst for Change

Margaret O'Hare – Director, Massachusetts Parent Information & Resource Center

Studies have shown that the greatest improvement in student performance & school achievement occurs when parents are actively involved in the schools. But how do schools engage parents in their children's education? What motivates parents to become involved? What can parents really do? This workshop is designed for school personnel to explore what research has shown to be the impact of family engagement of student attitudes, skills & behaviors. Participants discuss their own experiences ... both successes & challenges ... in partnering with families to support their children's education & success in school.

SALON E 10:45 – 12:15

Components of Systematic Oral Language & Vocabulary Development

Tracey Martineau - Implementation Facilitator, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Maureen Carroll - Head Reading & Writing Coach, and Donna Mastrovito, Worcester Public Schools

This workshop will define oral language and vocabulary development, provide research on language development, identify the components of systematic & explicit oral language and vocabulary development instruction, present activities that build word consciousness & demonstrate the "Read Three Words" strategy for interactive read-alouds.

HUDSON 10:45 – 12:15

Dealing with Homework Horrors

Stuart Peskin, Director, Title I Dissemination Project, Inc.

For parents and teachers alike, homework can be a frustrating and difficult task. This workshop will explore strategies and methods to make homework less difficult to complete and more productive for parents, teachers, and students.

SOUTHBORO 10:45 – 12:15

Motivational Leadership During Difficult Times

John Desses – Educator

Presenter will address the motivational theories & strategies effective leaders use for the accomplishment of long lasting results. The importance of a positive working environment will be discussed as a contributive factor to satisfy individual & institutional goals. In addition, the importance of “trust” will be discussed based on the book “The Speed of Trust” by Stephen Covey

MARLBORO 10:45 – 12:15

S.P.I.N. Meeting

Vicki Netzer - Parent Coordinator, Westfield Public Schools

The best ideas and advice usually come from colleagues who have “been there” and “done that”. That’s what Support Parent Involvement Now (S.P.I.N.) is all about. In this session we will share ideas and participants will take home ideas for complying with Title 1 regulations, keeping parents involved, and planning successful events.

NORTHBORO 10:45 – 12:15

Exploring a Process for Using Data to Improve Teaching & Learning

Meenaksi Khanna - The Center for Collaborative Education

In this hands-on workshop participants will learn how to use data and the Cycle of Inquiry to improve student achievement. Participants will engage in several activities and leave with practical tools that they can use in their own schools. The workshop will also focus on effective teaming practices that help teams support their colleagues as they use the Cycle of Inquiry to reflect on, assess, and improve their practice.

STERLING

10:45 – 12:15

Using the Title I Website

Alex Lilley - Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

The Title I webpage, located on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website, offers a wealth of important information for both new and seasoned Title I Directors. During this workshop participants will have an opportunity to view the many resources available to them.

1:15 – 2:45 or 1:15 – 3:15 (1.5 or 2 HOUR WORKSHOPS)

SALON A

1:15 – 3:15

Miss Jones, How Soon Can We Do ANOTHER Research Study?

Virginia Morse, Cindy Nottage - Active Learning Systems

When was the last time your students asked for more research assignments? They will when they are engaged in the motivation, sequencing, and skills building that come from using a research model. IIM: Independent Investigation Method is a child **and** teacher friendly model that provides structure for process & open-endedness for differentiation to guide learning of all abilities and learning modalities to achieve amazing end products, both written & created. Come experience hands-on strategies to introduce your students to this critical 21st century skill set - successfully & joyfully conducting authentic, inquiry-based research. The presenters share their 25 years of experience with students & research assignments, including strategies that really work & examples of work from students of all abilities.

SALON B

1:15 – 3:15

Learning Geometry through Paper folding is Fun & Effective

Margaret Kenney – Professor, Boston College Mathematics Institute

This workshop targets the study of geometry using a visual and hands-on approach. It examines polygons and their characteristics, the concepts of symmetry, congruence and aspects of deductive reasoning through paper folding and cutting. Regular polygons are featured with emphasis placed on the equilateral triangle, the square, regular pentagon and hexagon. Some two-dimensional applications and three-dimensional connections will be developed as time permits. Handouts will be provided.

SALON C 1:15 – 3:15

Artists/Writers Workshop: Fostering Literacy Through Art

Kathy Shanks - Title I Director, University of New Hampshire/Picturing Writing

Students make powerful gains in literacy learning when given access to visual & kinesthetic modes of thinking throughout the writing process. Learn how educators across the US have adopted an art-&-literature-based approach to writing, resulting in dramatic increases in reading & writing skills & standardized test scores, particularly for those at risk. Discover how this remarkably simple, innovative approach will close the achievement gap & increase student engagement.

A 20-minute DVD will take teachers into the classroom to view the Artists/Writers Workshop in progress. Learn about research findings, which document dramatic improvement in the writing of at-risk students & standardized test scores in reading & writing of Title I & Special Education populations. Come sample the process.

SALON D 1:15 – 3:15

Finding & Using Research to Improve Programs, Schools & Districts

Richard Fournier - Researcher, Education Development Center, Inc.

What is scientifically -based research? Is it the only useful research to inform decisions? Where can you find scientifically -based research and research -based programs? As administrators and teachers seek to improve their efforts to teach all students, research has an important role to play. Using accessible language and interactive activities, this session will provide participants:

definitions of scientifically-based research and other kinds of research; links to research & researched-based resources; reviews of research-based resources

in literacy, mathematics, etc. that can help address the needs of all students to learn at high levels.

SALON E 1:15 – 3:15

Working with English Language Learners: Increasing Access for All

Dr. Debbie Zacarian - Director, Center for English Language Education, Hampshire Educational Collaborative

This two hour workshop is designed to provide participants with information in response to three key questions targeted for meeting the needs of a growing population of English Language Learners: What do the regulations require? What is sheltered instruction? What are effective practices for teaching English learners?

SOUTHBORO 1:15 – 2:45

Avoiding the “Summer Brain Drain”

Stuart Peskin – Director, Title 1 Dissemination Project, Inc.

The beginning of the school year can be very difficult for students. After a summer of few academic opportunities, they have a hard time getting back into the swing of school. Most teachers have to spend the first months of school reviewing material that had been covered in the previous school year. This workshop will offer strategies and suggestions to help students avoid the Summer Brain Drain.

STERLING 1:15 – 3:15

Escalating Reading Engagement Using High Quality Literature

Susannah Richards - Assistant Professor, Eastern Connecticut State University

Building educational experiences around student interest is an effective way to increase reading motivation. This session will highlight how different types of books can be used to grab student interest and provide a motivation to read for both pleasure and for information. The focus is on motivating readers, engaging the reader with a wide range of texts(reflecting multiple fiction and nonfiction genres and formats), and supporting comprehension. Criteria for book selection, and suggestions for locating high interest, quality literature, and

ideas for increasing reading engagement will be addressed. The goal of the presentation is to create an environment that supports lifetime readers rather than school time readers.

HUDSON **1:15 – 2:45**

Supporting English Language Learners: Increasing Family Involvement

Lee Soto - Massachusetts Parent Involvement & Resource Center

How can teachers & families of English Language Learners work together to support children's education? What does it mean to be culturally sensitive & aware? How can teachers engage non-English speaking families? What are some of the barriers & misconceptions of what families really want and need to support their children's education? This workshop addresses these questions and many others. It provides concrete tips for how families can provide a rich learning environment outside of school and ways they can forge powerful, productive partnerships with teachers to support their children's academic success.