

NCMLE 43rd Annual Conference

Proposed Session Schedule



1. SUNDAY, 5:45pm-6:45pm, **NCPOMLE Opening Discussion**

Middle level professors will gather for an hour to begin discussions on the ways in which our teacher education programs can better meet the needs of public and private middle schools across our state. This preliminary agenda setting and discussion will continue across the day Monday in the NCPOMLE business meeting and the John Van Hoose Lecture series. Please join us!

Presenter(s): Dr. Jeanneine P. Jones, UNC Charlotte
Meadowbrook

2. SUNDAY, 7:00pm-8:30pm, **CMLA Business Meeting and Early Years Teacher Panel**

Come join CMLA (Collegiate Middle Level Association) members for pre-conference business meeting and beginning teacher panel. Clubs can hear what other CMLAs do to attract members, the types of service activities these clubs lead, and various fundraising ideas. In addition, there will be an opportunity to ask new teachers about their experiences. Be ready to share and come prepared with questions!

Presenter(s): Dr. Laurie Ramirez, Appalachian State University
Meadowbrook

3. SUNDAY, 7:00pm-8:30pm, **From Zero to Sixty - from EVAAS Red to Blue - in 60 Minutes or Less: Accelerating Authentic Learning in Any Middle School Classroom in Sixty Minute Blocks**

Get in the driver's seat! Experience intentional instructional design that optimizes every single second of a 60-minute instructional block. The purposeful design provides access to rigorous content and standards, engages every learner, fosters independence and accountability, meets students at point-of-need, and, ultimately, yields significant outcomes.

Presenter(s): Lee Hunter
Auditorium II

4. SUNDAY, 7:00pm-8:30pm, **Ignite Curiosity and Enhance Achievement in the Content Areas**

Rev up your content area instruction with the use of comprehension constructors and multigenre text sets to enhance student understanding. You are invited to participate in a hands-on/minds-on workshop centered on research-proven literacy integration strategies that can be utilized for whole class, small group and individual student activities. Participants will leave with an array of strategies guaranteed to spark students' curiosity and promote greater achievement.

Presenter(s): Debbie Linville and Leni Fragakis
Auditorium III

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5. SUNDAY, 7:00pm-8:30pm, **Schools to Watch Visitation Training**

STW or Re-Designation recipients serve as members of the North Carolina Schools to Watch state committee by completing the annual training (activities include reading applications, visiting potential North Carolina Schools to Watch sites, coaching future applicants, etc.). Upon completion of the training, new trainers will be grouped with experienced trainers to go on STW selection and Re-Designation visits. Members of the NC School to Watch Committee will provide training. This session will also facilitate networking with other Schools to Watch.

Presenter(s): Dr. Cathy Tomon

Auditorium IV

6. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Mini Stem Challenges**

Some people think STEM has to be very in depth and that it takes a lot of work. This session will allow participants to see Mini Stem Challenges that can be used with materials you already have on hand in your classroom. These challenges need little to no preparation. Index card towers, spaghetti/marshmallow towers, etc. Tips will also be given on how to manage these in your classroom. Resources will be available to take back and implement the very next day in your classroom.

Presenter(s): Ms. Jennifer Biddix

Pebble Beach

7. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Tricked into Thinking... Math and Science Simulations that take Students to the Next Level**

There are life events that make us wonder-- some that occur quite often, others only once in a while. While some events can easily be investigated, others may be more perplexing to figure out. However each of these life events provides us the opportunity to THINK. Using online simulations, teachers and students can be Tricked into Thinking about these and other naturally occurring math and science events.

Presenter(s): Mr. Thom O'Brien

Arrowhead

8. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Helping Teens Find Voice in Writing: Focus on Middle School Young Men**

Why are so many boys and young men uninterested in school? Could it be related to the way writing is taught? With proper scaffolding and the judicious use of film clips, we can help students -- particularly African American and Latino males -- power their writing and find their resplendent voices. This scholarship is based on a research study I did through Elon University, and this presentation will include both scholarship and "take away" ideas for classroom use for boys and men up through the college level. The results of this study have been published in *The Journal of Black Masculinity* (2011) and in the textbook *The Institution of Education* (2013).

Presenter(s): Dr. Pamela Fitzpatrick

Moorehead

9. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Creating a Balanced System of Accountability for Students, Staff and Parents**

Swansboro Middle School will share the system of accountability currently in place for students, staff and teachers. The balanced accountability for all stakeholders has translated into 12% student achievement growth, a 60% decrease in discipline infractions, and a significant decrease on the tardy and absence rate during the 2016/2017 school year, the first year of implementation. Strategies will be

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shared to improve teacher instruction, student engagement and responsibility, and parent involvement. The shared strategies impact the total climate of the school.

Presenter(s): Mr. Jacob Mabry

Meadowbrook

10. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Engaging Communities Through Your Curriculum**

Engaging communities can be the most critical aspect for success of a school. For some schools, engaging communities can prove to be a challenge. Come learn how to flip your approach to engaging communities, and allow your students and curriculum to guide the engagement of your local community .

Presenter(s): Mr. Douglas Price

Sandpiper

11. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **If you can't Manage them, you can't Measure them!**

If you can't Manage them, you can't Measure them!

Presenter(s): Mr. Stephen Boyd

Auditorium III

12. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Becoming a School to Watch**

If you have been designated an A or B School in our state perhaps you are on your way to becoming a STW. Join us for a presentation of the process as well as a question/answer session

Presenter(s): Dr. Cathy Tomon

Colony B

13. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Middle School is Soup, and I feel like all of my students have forks: Differentiating for the dedicated educator**

Attendees will learn and practice the art of storytelling and dynamic tension to better engage more students using multiple intelligence approaches to learning the same lesson.

Presenter(s): Ms. Erica Hennessy

Tanglewood B

14. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Building a Classroom Community Through Effective Management Strategies**

Add to your management toolbox through a classroom simulation which includes creating classroom contracts, modeling positive reinforcement, verbal & non-verbal transition cues, and student relationship building.

Presenter(s): Mr. David James and Ms. Kristy Bullock

Biltmore

15. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Ensuring Racial Equity in NC Schools**

What is educational equity? How does it impact our work in middle school? During this session, participants will learn about the need to address issues of racial equity in North Carolina, reflect on cultural dissonance in the classroom, and consider ways to build relationships with diverse students.

Presenter(s): Dr. Daniel Bullock

Auditorium IV

16. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Must Have Books for Reluctant Readers**

We all have those students in our classrooms who are reluctant to pick up a book. We so often hear "I hate reading" or "There's nothing that interests me" or "Where do I even begin?" In this session, Travis will leave participants with a long list of titles that are sure to engage any middle school

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student. Come to this session prepared to hear stories of students whose reading lives were forever changed because of the power of books. Travis will giving away several books that have inspired his students. This is a “not-to-be-missed” high energy session!

Presenter(s): Mr. Travis Crowder
Blandwood

17. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Teaching Civil Conversation in Uncivil Times**

Learn how to empower students to discuss controversial issues, make evidence-based arguments, and develop speaking, listening, and close-reading skills. Leave with access to free, ready-to-implement materials from www.CarolinaK12.org & www.CRF-USA.org.

Presenter(s): Ms. Jamie Davis and Ms. Laura Gonzalez
Tidewater

18. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Spiraling 6th Grade Math Curriculum**

Spiraling the five mathematical strands with an emphasis on integrating the number system throughout all remaining standards allowing students to achieve mastery of concepts.

Presenter(s): Dr. Danyah Hill, Ms. Whitney Honeycutt, Ms. Jaime Cassada, Ms. Rhiannon Kriessler
Heritage

19. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Developing Teams and Driving Change**

How can you develop a leadership team to drive change in your building? Gamewell Middle School leadership will share our journey in transforming our school to be a student centered, data driven, developmentally responsive learning environment. We will discuss our unique leadership strategies including a team approach to school administration which has allowed us to establish a school climate of high expectations for teachers and students. Come and let us share our successes as we change to overcome our challenges.

Presenter(s): Ms. Anna Crooke, Ms. Monica Martin, Ms. Jill Pippen
Grandover West

20. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Growing All Students: One School's Journey**

What do you do when 1/3 of your students enter sixth grade reading at the 3.5 grade level or below? How do you foster literacy growth so that students can experience success in all academic areas? This session highlights one school's journey of an instructional shift that empowered their students to exceed growth over the past two years.

Presenter(s): Dr. Teresa Santis, Mr. Jonathan Clark and Ms. Sydney Houghton
Grandover East

21. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **A Comprehensive Peer mentoring program**

The challenge is real when working with students who are At-Risk in our school buildings. Traditional interventions and supports are able to reach the majority of our students, yet we still have a percentage of students who do not respond. My focus is on a Comprehensive Peer Mentoring program that utilizes At-Risk students as mentors to support other At-Risk students in the school building who are either in 6th or 7th grade. This program utilizes restorative justice, psychology of persuasion, culturally relevant practices and peer mentoring to increase students GPA and decrease number of referrals/suspensions in the school building. Loyola University analyzed our data and our effect size on mentors was .84!

Presenter(s): Mr. Miguel Salinas
Auditorium II

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22. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **An Innovative Approach to Retention: Creating a Transitional Classroom for Students**

Many schools struggle with how to approach students who do not meet promotion standards. Do you retain them? Promote them anyway? Both approaches have positive and negative outcomes. Hear from a middle school that has created a transitional plan and transitional class to help students who have not met retention standards stay on grade level while closing the academic gaps that have likely affected them for years. The session will include an opportunity to dialogue with other school and district leaders about their approach to retention.

Presenter(s): Mr. Bruce Carroll, Dr. Dustin Johnson, Dr. Brent Cooper
Colony C

23. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **The Future City Program in North Carolina-Authentic STEM Engagement for Middle Grades Learners**

Please join us to learn about the engaging and dynamic experiences that the Future City Program can provide to Middle Grades learners! Through the process of creating a city of the future by designing it within the SimCity environment, and translating the virtual model in to a scale model of their city, students learn about how to design a city to answer a thematic issue. The authentic application of the Engineering Design process and Habits of Mind that all students need to prepare for our ever changing world are emphasized as they work in teams with an engineer-mentor to translate their learning into a future vision. Students who have just participated in the Regional Competition will be on hand to share their experiences. After this session, you'll want to bring Future City to your district and middle school!

Presenter(s): Ms. Lisa Thompson and Ms. Nancy Shaw
Colony A

24. MONDAY, 10:15am-11:15am, **Free Summer Travel Adventures for Teachers**

Do you daydream about how you would like to spend your summer as a learner, preferably at someone else's expense? If so, you are cordially invited to come investigate fellowships, workshops, seminars and the application process. If you are new to the teacher workshop circuit, this session is for you! Let us help you find a FREE workshop with FREE housing, and hopefully a travel stipend that even pays the taxi driver!

Presenter(s): Ms. Nancy Huskins, Ms. Christine Preddy, Ms. Jennifer Duncan
Augusta A

25. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Instructional Leadership Teams and Literacy**

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) is in year three of system shift in providing professional learning for school leaders and teachers to raise the outcomes in literacy for students. Instructional Leadership Teams (ILTs) are used across the district to set common expectations for complex text, text dependent questions, close reading strategies, academic conversations and writing in response to reading. Two trailblazing middle school principals will assist in presenting the benefits of ILTs across CMS, in their schools and the impact for students when empowering teacher leadership around literacy.

Presenter(s): Mr. Chuck Nusinov, Mr. Mike Miliote and Mr. Leduan Pratt
Pebble Beach

26. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Creating Common Ground for Learning**

If you have found yourself bewildered by the mind of a middle schooler then this workshop is for you. Taking on the role of a MS student, you will complete a learning inventory, develop a personal learning profile, and practice how to explain your learning processes to others. You will also learn

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how to develop personalized learning strategies so you can self-regulate your responses to class work and social relationships thereby making life, in and out of school, work better for you.

Presenter(s): Mr. Joel Johnson and Dr. Christine Johnston
Augusta B

27. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Growing with Writing: Mind over Matter**

One of the most influential current mindset strategy is the one developed by Carol Dweck who believes that students can learn more effectively when they let go of the idea that their capabilities are fixed. This session will focus on altering the mindset and improving writing skills, an ongoing collaborative research project. The professor, librarians, and students are elements of the puzzle and the problem.

Presenter(s): Ms. Fernanda Tate-Owens
Arrowhead

28. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Teaching Writing in Middle School**

Teachers will leave this session with lessons, memory aids, and strategies that are ready to be implemented. Having taught writing for almost 20 years, these are my tried and true strategies! Join me to learn how I utilize approaches that middle school students enjoy--collaboration, group work, and discussions--to jump the hurdles in writing instruction. (Aligned to the Common Core)

Presenter(s): Ms. Catherine Rusch
Moorehead

29. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Schools to Watch Showcase: Ashe County Middle School**

Ashe County Middle has been recognized for using academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support to provide a great experience for our students. In this session we will highlight some of the practices that helped us earn this recognition. Join us and learn what makes our school a "School to Watch."

Presenter(s): Ashe County Middle School
Meadowbrook

30. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Find "Common Ground": Integrate 8th Grade Language Arts and Social Studies**

Embrace the positive educational outcomes that derive from integrated studies. Bring historical fiction, memoir, satire, and poetry into your 8th Grade Language Arts class as you team with your Social Studies teacher. Students' motivation, understanding, and ability to think critically will increase as they explore The Great Depression, World War II, race relations, and the role of government.

Presenter(s): Ms. Louise Miller
Sandpiper

31. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **EVAAS 101 To Improve Instruction**

Are you having problems understanding EVAAS and how to use it? If so, you are not alone and this session is just for you! Come see how one middle school of only 92 schools in the state used EVAAS to move from Red to Blue student growth in one year. This Think Tank session will allow participants to see and discuss the difference between Student Growth and Student Proficiency. Participants will gain an understanding of how to navigate EVAAS and run reports that will be beneficial to your school and for teachers to improve instruction.

Presenter(s): Mr. Norman McDuffie
Auditorium III

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32. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Its Gotta Be the Shoes: Supporting Students' Motivation and Space Exploration Through Culturally-Reimagined Problem Based Learning**

"It's Gotta Be the Shoes!" is an innovative, inspiring, interdisciplinary lesson which promotes optimal 21st century learning for all students. For anyone looking for unique ways to motivate students, this session will be centered around lessons designed through The iScholar Project and will be presented by teachers who implemented the lessons. This thought-provoking unit awakens creativity and collaboration for both students and teachers, embeds STEM project based learning, problem solving skills, culturally relevant content, civic and environmental awareness--all while allowing students to delve into the implications of space exploration and potential STEM and business pathways.

Presenter(s): Ms. Green, Ms. Ms.Shamia Truitt-Martin & Mr. Gregory Johnson
Colony B

33. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Warnings, Warnings, Warnings: How Many Are Enough?**

Are you tired of students being unprepared and/or unwilling to learn? Empower your students to take responsibility for their actions and achieve success. Apply research-based strategies providing more time to teach. Spend more time doing what you love to do: TEACH

Presenter(s): Dr. Cassandra Jones
Biltmore

34. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Classroom Misbehavior - Unfortunately, An All-Too-Often Common Ground**

The most overlooked misconception in education today is students come to school with the social skills needed for learning to take place. Research shows an average classroom teacher loses between five to nine hours per week dealing with low-level pesky behaviors. Frustrated by students' misbehaviors? Dealing with discipline matters taking up valuable teaching time? I'll share some core beliefs and introduce you to theories that help you understand the impact of low level inappropriate behaviors on your students and classroom. Learn "8:00 Monday morning" research-based strategies of a fair and simple classroom management system that will eliminate unwanted behaviors by 70% or more. Learn the essential steps of teaching to expected behaviors and discover the benefits and the importance of positive interactions with your students. Learn how to dramatically increase the amount of time you spend on instruction and decrease the amount of time giving multiple warnings and repeated requests to stop misbehavior. Learn how investing extra time in your students at the beginning of the year increases the amount of time you have for instruction throughout the year. Reduce your and your students' stress level while creating a working relationship that is built on caring and respect.

Presenter(s): Dr. Peter Vajda
Auditorium IV

35. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Are You Single? Developing Data Driven PLCs Across Single Staffed Grade Levels**

Are you a singleton trying to PLC effectively? This session will teach you how to find common ground with colleagues in your own building, district, and state to create data-driven PLCs. Taking you through a 5 step process to find your "team", you leave this session secure in your understanding of successfully creating a singleton PLC.

Presenter(s): Ms. Elaina Wingfield
Blandwood

36. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **So You Think You Can Teach Middle Level Students?**

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Understanding the students that you are working with is essential when making decisions about how to differentiate content, process, and product. This session will provide resources and materials to assist with instruction in order to create a developmentally responsive middle level classroom.

Presenter(s): Dr. CeCe Toole and Dr. Tisha Duncan
Tidewater

37. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Focused Instructional Model: The 10 minute math warm up that will CHANGE the way you TEACH and PRODUCES Results.**

The Math Focused Instructional Model (FIM) provides a focused and intentional approach that targets specifically identified Critical Focus Areas (CFAs) within the Common Core Standards. FIM places a large emphasis on critical application questions and building the habits of minds which are present in efficient and effective thinkers.

Math FIM encourages teachers to intentionally engage students in necessary critical thinking practices and help learners better understand the math concepts and ideas appropriate to their grade level. By assessing students by-weekly on Progress Monitoring Tests and providing focused intervention based on the results of these, students can self-evaluate and teachers can ensure students are progressing smoothly through the critical material. Come learn how we have effectively put this model into place within Kennedy Middle School in Charlotte, NC.

Presenter(s): Ms. Mary Newsome and Ms. Meighan Erickson
Heritage

38. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Developing Academic Language across Content Areas**

This session will cover research-based strategies to extend and develop academic language within content area disciplines. Several of the strategies covered include the use of sentence frames, revision to develop code-switching skills and writing transitions, as well as group and peer writing feedback, and the use of language function frames to deepen understanding of subject-specific language.

Presenter(s): Dr. Catherine Elise Barrett
Grandover West

39. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Unwrapping Standards**

In this session you will learn a process of deconstructing your standards that can be shared with your students and school community alike. The focus is to create standards based lessons and teacher instruction. Bring a standard prepared to work with and apply what you will learn all in the same setting.

Presenter(s): Mr. Markiss Barnes
Grandover East

40. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Progress Not Perfection**

Low performing AND low morale? Not sure where to begin with data analysis, PLCs, and corrective instruction, all while building a positive school culture? Learn how we put data driven academic structures in place to change the climate, morale, and most importantly the growth of our students in just one year.

Presenter(s): Ms. Elizabeth Pierce, Ms. Holly Ball and Ms. Suzanna Moyer
Auditorium II

41. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Engaging Students with Standards-Based Projects in Social Studies**

Come on in to learn how I use projects to engage and challenge my students. Gone are the days of maximum curriculum coverage (WHAT?) and hello to planning and assessing to the standards. Yes,

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it has been a challenge to this traditional teacher, but my students have fun and their projects are amazing!

Presenter(s): Ms. Denise Vargas
Colony C

42. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **Google Tools for Teachers and Students**

There is so much more beyond Google docs, sheets and forms! Learn about apps for note taking and image and video creation. Search tips and shortcuts. Google tools to enhance student learning. All the hidden gems of Google.

Presenter(s): Ms. Kim Harris
Colony A

43. MONDAY, 11:30-1:30 pm, **NCPOMLE Annual Members Luncheon**

Meet at Registration Table at 11:30

Presenter(s): Dr. Jeanneine P. Jones, President
Registration Table

44. MONDAY, 11:30am-12:30pm, **ENGAGING 21st Century Learning for ALL students!**

Learn how to create powerful and relevant lessons that will empower and engage your students. The method is PBI (Project Based Inquiry), the secret is integrating global content. We will model the lesson format and show you how to adapt the methodology to every standard you teach.

Presenter(s): Dr. Sara Whitaker and Dr. Garrett Tomlinson
Augusta A

45. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Keeping Students Accountable Through Rubrics**

In this session, I will share strategies of how to make students accountable in the classroom and throughout the day. I will also share how to develop rubrics to get students more invested in their assignments.

Presenter(s): Dr. Tiffany Fuller
Pebble Beach

46. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Getting to the ROOT of it... In 5 Minutes a Day!**

"There is nothing more powerful in our society than literacy. But what happens after phonics and sight words are mastered? How do we take readers beyond proficiency and into the realm of being equipped to sophisticatedly decode any and every word that they encounter? And how do we make sure that even the most novice English educator can do this within the 21st century constraints of our Common Core standards? We are bringing the solution to NCMLE and it's called ROOT CHALLENGE! This session will cover:

- why etymology skill development & word study are essential to any English language program
- what motivated SynergyEd to develop this powerful program and its place in the market
- how learners across the spectrum can benefit from just 5 minutes of ROOT CHALLENGE a day
- how ROOT CHALLENGE can help cultivate other 21st century skills beyond vocabulary development

Participants will participate in a mock ROOT CHALLENGE day to begin to brainstorm how to immediately implement this powerful program in any English classroom or program! Come ready for the challenge!

Presenter(s): Ms. Kimberly Perry-Sanderlin
Augusta B

47. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Building Relationships to Build Academic Achievement**

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Do you find yourself working hard to create lessons, but you are still not seeing some of the academic outcomes you expect? What's the missing piece? Relationships. Building a strong teacher-student relationship may seem like a trivial idea, but it's part of the foundation for academic success. During this session, we will explore the correlation between teacher-student relationships and academic outcomes. We will provide tools and ideas on how you can go back into your classroom and continue to or begin to build relationships and see the best from your students.

Presenter(s): Ms. Amber Coburn and Ms. Kristin Martin
Arrowhead

48. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **“The Best Me”:** Students in the Middle Discover Their Unique Life Contribution Through Deep Reading and Self-Discovery

Each student has a unique contribution to make in this world, and this reading, writing, and talking project helps students discover their intrinsic traits that make them who they are. After a process of asking questions about core beliefs, students will willingly read multiple biographies of people who share their traits and then compare and contrast themselves with their subjects. Why? These people are like them. The educator/philosopher Edith Stein is the inspiration.

Presenter(s): Dr. Pamela Fitzpatrick
Moorehead

49. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Digging into Data**

Are your teachers data savvy? Do you know how to lead a team in understanding and using data effectively? Participants in this session will learn a process for analyzing data that can be implemented with MTSS teams, school improvement teams, and PLC's.

Presenter(s): Dr. Mary Beth Roth
Meadowbrook

50. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Promoting Young Leaders: Lessons Learned From First-Year Teachers in a Leadership Preparation Program**

Five undergraduate students from High Point University identified as future school leaders became the first members of a graduate cohort designed to provide leadership skills and opportunities in traditional public, private, and charter school settings. Along with the many challenges faced by first-year teachers, these graduate candidates have also been provided with a wide range of leadership development opportunities. The completion of the leadership-development opportunities will not only make these future educators stronger teacher-leaders, but these opportunities will also allow these students to better understand public, private, and charter education systems.

Presenter(s): Dr. Dustin Johnson, Dr. J. Brent Cooper, Mr. Bruce Carroll, Ms. Alana Pulling, Ms. Claudia Beard, Ms. Lucy Kennedy, Ms. Sam Entwistle, Ms. Mallory Heffelfinger
Sandpiper

51. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **From Red to Blue in 1**

Learn and discuss strategies A.G. Cox Middle School used to become one of only 92 schools in the state to move from Red to Blue student growth in one year. Resources from High Growth, Rapidly Improving, and High Reliability schools were instrumental to develop school wide priorities. This session will help districts and schools identify realistic practices to consider in their journey to build staff's capacity for the sake of improving student learning. Intentional questions and dialogue will prompt the audience to think steps ahead and consider ideas beyond the traditional school improvement process.

Presenter(s): Mr. Norman McDuffie
Auditorium III

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52. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Drum Fit**

In this presentation teachers will learn how to perform and teach one of the latest fitness craves using fitness ball and drumsticks. Performing standing, great music, and lost of fun movements. (Adapted Physical Education)

Presenter(s): Dr. Gloria Elliott, Dr. Tiffany Fuller and Dr. Dee Ellis
Colony B

53. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Schools to Watch Showcase: Northview Middle School**

Northview Middle School has been recognized for using academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support to provide a great experience for our students. In this session we will highlight some of the practices that helped us earn this recognition. Join us and learn what makes our school a "School to Watch."

Presenter(s): Northview Middle School
Tanglewood B

54. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Blended Learning for Optimal Student Success**

While nothing can take the place of the educator in the classroom, effective use of today's technology can add depth to classroom instruction. Online LMS platforms allow teachers to create an organized structure where students can easily access course materials and information. Using interactive reading programs can help students develop critical reading skills as students and teachers are engaged in real time conversations. Targeting questions that activate thinking engages students and begins the process. As students read and respond, their thought process is deconstructed so that teachers can see where gaps lie and build support. Hamlet Middle reading test scores increased from 46 to 52 percent proficient with a cohort of students in these blended classrooms. Today's math technology also allows teachers to assess their students' needs and guide instruction to tailor those needs. Progress can be tracked easily so that interventions can take place immediately. Students in these blended math classes raised scores from 41 to 57 percent proficient with a cohort of students.

Presenter(s): Ms. Karen Allen, Ms. Michelle Burns, Ms. Hayley Gordon, and Ms. Lakresha Sibley
Auditorium IV

55. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Schools to Watch Showcase: Crestdale Middle**

Crestdale Middle School has been recognized for using academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support to provide a great experience for our students. In this session we will highlight some of the practices that helped us earn this recognition. Join us and learn what makes our school a "School to Watch."

Presenter(s): Crestdale Middle School
Blandwood

56. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Schools to Watch Showcase: Lakewood Montessori Middle School**

From Classroom to Community- In this session we will share Montessori elements we use to build relationships and independence in teenagers, and we will share how these strategies can be adapted to any classroom.

Presenter(s): Lakewood Montessori Middle School
Tidewater

57. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Interdisciplinary Learning for a Changing Planet**

Engage in interdisciplinary activities that help students explore human impacts on the planet including population growth, rising global temperature, threats to biodiversity, and compromised

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ecosystems. The presented activities and interactive websites build skills in science, math and social sciences, while applying learning to authentic problems and inspiring students to find creative approaches to sustainability. Activity formats include graphing and data analysis, modeling and group problem-solving. Receive electronic lesson plans matched to state standards.

Presenter(s): Mr. Scott Byington
Heritage

58. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Schools to Watch Showcase: Rugby Middle School**
Culture of Literacy: Learn how Rugby Middle School uses social interactions to engage students in a culture of literacy. From building a student-parent-teacher book club over 15 years ago to implementing the dream of a one book, one school initiative in the last few years, Rugby is committed to engaging students, families, and our community around a common text.

Presenter(s): Ms. Melissa Waycaster, Ms. Karen Maxon, Ms. Brittany McCall, Ms. Lauren Stanfield, Mr. Michael Gates
Grandover West

59. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Teacher Working Conditions Impact on Teacher Retention in NC's Middle Schools**

In 2010, there were 3.2 million teachers in the United States, but more than half of those teachers were baby boomers, born between 1946 and 1964 preparing to retire soon. Losing experienced teachers has a negative impact on the entire school district, the administration, teachers, and students. This session will share the impact of teacher working conditions on middle school teacher's retention rates. This study used data from the 2014 North Carolina Teacher Working Condition Survey. The sample in this study included middle school teachers at traditional schools in North Carolina.

Presenter(s): Dr. Marquita Wood
Grandover East

60. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Growing Leaders: The Use of an Instructional Leadership Team to Develop Teacher Leaders**

Growing Leaders: The Use of an Instructional Leadership Team to Develop Teacher Leaders
Presenter(s): Mr. Michael Williams, Ms. Karen Hollar, Ms. Jana Hartsell, Mr. Michael Petersen
Auditorium II

61. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Small Group Instruction: Using Text Sets to Challenge All Students**

Providing middle school students with literacy instruction tailored to their individual needs can be challenging! This session will examine how text sets can be used to ground small group instruction in the middle school classroom. Participants will engage in a sample lesson; guidelines for creating and implementing text sets will be shared.

Presenter(s): Dr. Jamie Abercrombie
Colony C

62. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Can You Escape?**

Bring escape rooms to your classroom with this easy-to-use format for creating an interactive review for any content area. With a simple set-up and as many as 32 multiple choice questions, your students will be engaged from start to finish! So the question is, can you escape?

Presenter(s): Ms. Alysha Tench and Ms. Dana Cline
Colony A

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63. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Join us as we pay tribute to a special colleague and friend with The John Van Hoose Memorial Session: The North Carolina Middle Level Education Association (NCMLE) Conference features the John Van Hoose invited session each year to continue John's legacy.**

Middle Schools and their university partners are engaged in a number of exciting new initiatives. In an informal fashion, presenters will provide brief updates of successful ventures. Examples will include "innovative lab school adventures," "teachers as professors - and vice-versa," "distance programs," and "family collaboratives." Participants will explore possibilities and have the opportunity to share their own cutting edge practices.

Presenter(s): Dr. Dave Strahan, Western Carolina University Biography: David Strahan is the Taft B. Botner Distinguished Professor of Elementary and Middle Grades Education at Western Carolina University. Currently the Chair of the Research Advisory Committee for the Biltmore

64. MONDAY, 1:30pm-2:30pm, **Kindness: How to embrace it in the classroom, community, and beyond**

Carrie Grace will lead discussions based on her experience with ventures in spreading kindness and allow participants to discuss their thoughts and develop a plan of action for incorporating kindness into their classrooms and schools.

**Presenter(s): Carrie Grace
Augusta A**

65. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Continuing Our Journey to School-wide Differentiation**

We are in our second year on a journey to implement differentiation school-wide. How do we continue to foster a community of differentiation? Where are we now and what are our next steps? Join us to find out how offering in-house professional development and support for differentiation grows teachers and impacts student learning.

**Presenter(s): Ms. Jennifer Hall
Pebble Beach**

66. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Shining with Gifted Underrepresented Girls**

What support is in place for underrepresented gifted girls in your middle school? This session describes practical strategies on how to engage the stakeholders and cultivate advocacy for emergent talent or gifted identified middle school underrepresented girls. This session will also discuss how advocacy can impact their academic performance and narrow the excellence gap.

**Presenter(s): Ms. Benna Haas and Ms. Friecka Baldwin
Augusta B**

67. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Tightropes and Trapezes: Techniques for your Instructional Toolbox**

Come learn or revisit strategies to help you get across that classroom "tightrope" from one part of the lesson to the next. We'll look at instructional strategies to use in all parts of a lesson, from beginning to end. While you swing on your instructional "trapeze" through your content, we'll build a net of teaching approaches to help you and your students be the stars of your show.

**Presenter(s): Ms. Shanon White
Arrowhead**

68. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Making History Cross-Curricular and Differentiated**

A fun and interactive way to make history cross-curricular and differentiated for all learners.

Presenter(s): Ms. Stephanie Eidson, Ms. Melodie Willis and Ms. Stephanie Merritt

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69. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Poems & Rhymes for Students to Shine

All students can be poets! Engage any 6-8th grade learner with a creative, rigorous, and curriculum aligned poetry unit that culminates in a grade level poetry slam performance. Teachers will leave with: creative writing exercises that can be utilized throughout the year, conferencing strategies, and a unit plan that can be taken back and implemented immediately. Attendees will also have the opportunity to view student work and poetry performances while exploring how to implement a poetry slam in their classroom, grade level, or school.

Presenter(s): Ms. Samantha Haun and Ms. Katie Hoff

Meadowbrook

70. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Schools to Watch Showcase: Apple Valley Middle School

Apple Valley Middle School has been recognized for using academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support to provide a great experience for our students. In this session we will highlight some of the practices that helped us earn this recognition. Join us and learn what makes our school a "School to Watch."

Presenter(s): Apple Valley Middle School

Sandpiper

71. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Career Day

Our Career Day hosts around 20 Career presenters from varying professions from law enforcement, nursing, forestry, teaching, dancing, video game creation, attorney, and many more. Scheduled purposefully on a half-day for students, our entire school day is devoted to exposing students of all three grades to various careers of their choosing. Students are able to demonstrate equity and independence in being asked for input throughout the planning process for career day and in creating their own individualized session schedule for the day. The day and process of planning for it is always improving as students are surveyed in a reflective session at the conclusion of the day to assess how we can make it better.

Presenter(s): Ms. Meghann Lambeth and Ms. Bonnie Yarbrough

Auditorium III

72. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Healthy Choices in Area Restaurants

Healthy Choices in Area Restaurants

Presenter(s): Dr. Heather Colleran and Dr. Tiffany Fuller

Colony B

73. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, EVERFI: Engaging, Free Resources to Prepare Middle School Students for the Real World

Middle School educators know that their time with students is precious and formative. From developing strong social and emotional behaviors and habits to beginning to set a path for future career and personal goals, the pivotal time for adolescent development are the Middle School years. EVERFI, an e-learning company that partners with corporations and foundations to provide online learning courses to schools at no cost, is empowering educators with tools to teach, assess, and build critical skills and mindsets for middle schoolers. In this session, educators will learn about EVERFI's Middle School courses, including Endeavor (STEM Career Exploration), FutureSmart (Financial Literacy) and Health Relationships (Social Emotional Learning), and leave with both access to EVERFI's resources and with a plan for classroom implementation.

Presenter(s): Mr. Peter Kelpin and Ms. Yvette Medina

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Tanglewood B

74. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Schools to Watch Showcase: Rockingham County Middle School

Rockingham County Middle School has been recognized for using academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support to provide a great experience for our students. In this session we will highlight some of the practices that helped us earn this recognition. Join us and learn what makes our school a "School to Watch."

**Presenter(s): Rockingham County Middle School
Biltmore**

75. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Crucial Conversations: The Power of Talk

Quiet spaces. No talking (except for the teacher's lecture). Desks in rows. How often do we find so many reading classes looking just like this? In this session Travis will share how having critical conversations with your students can change the class environment completely. Just the simple act of talking about the books they're reading with specifically developed questions, can have your students thinking deeper, challenge what they currently believe, force them to explain themselves, and really dive into the thoughts behind the words. Participants will leave this session pumped up and ready to tackle any reading conversation.

**Presenter(s): Mr. Travis Crowder
Auditorium IV**

76. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Schools to Watch Showcase: Alexander Graham Middle School
Alexander Graham Middle School has been recognized for using academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support to provide a great experience for our students. In this session we will highlight some of the practices that helped us earn this recognition. Join us and learn what makes our school a "School to Watch."

**Presenter(s): Alexander Graham Middle School
Blandwood**

77. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Keep In Touch

This session would focus on the various mediums for keeping in contact with parents. Tools such as Class Dojo, Remind, and Google Voice will be center to the session. The session will also discuss the importance of having a web presence for your local community and the greater internet community. We will cover how having a visible classroom is a great advantage for your students. Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. will be shared and analyzed.

**Presenter(s): Mr. Julian Wilson and Ms. April Wilson
Tidewater**

78. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, Cultural Competence in Urban Context: Understanding Self to Teach Effectively

This session will engage participants in an interactive journey into understanding how personal competence of sociocultural phenomenon is imperative to effective teaching in urban schools.

**Presenter(s): Dr. Stephen Hancock
Heritage**

79. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, CMLA Showcase of Student Research

Pre-Service teachers from teacher preparation programs will share innovative projects, lessons, and reflections. You can circulate through their posters and chat, gather ideas, and meet college and

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university middle grades candidates who will apply for jobs within the next year. Come and meet your future colleagues at the CMLA Showcase!

**Presenter(s): CMLA Student Showcase Organizer: Dr. Laurie Ramirez, Appalachian State University
Grandover West**

80. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Travel Changes Lives**

If you're looking for a run-of-the-mill educational travel company, keep looking. But if you want an exceptional trip, amazing hands-on experiences, truly talented tour managers, and details designed to maximize your time- you're in the right place. Exhibitor Showcase: ACIS (American Council for International Studies)

**Presenter(s): Ariana Breckner
Grandover East**

81. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Overcoming Cultural Poverty, Disengaged Parents, and Apathetic Students.**

Take an unconventional look at student motivation and poverty from the eyes of an individual who struggled with education and eventually dropped out. It's clear that students from poverty are habitually at a disadvantage when it comes to education, and educators can find it challenging to motivate such students to become positively engaged in learning. In this interactive session, participants will receive dozens of real, practical, eye-opening prevention and intervention strategies from someone whose mother abused drugs, father wasn't present, and he was placed in special education. Craig ultimately repeated 3rd & 5th grade and eventually dropped out. Craig shows you how to motivate the unmotivated students you teach daily. Craig's trademark slogan is "GED to PHD", which is a concrete paradigm that educators should never give up on any student. Regardless of how impoverished they may seem.

**Presenter(s): Mr. Craig Boykin
Auditorium II**

82. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Creating a Positive School Culture: Changing a school from within—One on one, one by one**

This session will describe the process that a school used to change a culture into a positive educational environment that is spreading throughout the community. After implementation of various programs, there was clear evidence of a vast improvement of the overall school climate and culture. The school demonstrated such a collegial and cooperative environment that it is currently attracting other students and even teachers who want to work at this campus. Specific approaches will be discussed including, PBIS, community relations, first day of school activities, parent involvement plans, staff morale, and others. Participants will receive practical strategies that will equip school leaders with specific tools to use at their own location. Handouts will be provided to all those in attendance.

**Presenter(s): Mr. Tim Farrar, Ms. Kim Hoyle, Ms. Allison Cottingham
Colony C**

83. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Tech Tools for Students and Teachers**

Come learn some quick tech tools that you can take back to your classroom and use immediately, no matter what your subject area. Online tools will be presented that can be used for engaging and collaborative projects. We will cover easy screen recording, group collaboration, formative assessment and more!

**Presenter(s): Ms. Kim Harris
Colony A**

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84. MONDAY, 2:45pm-3:45pm, **Hidden Figures: Uncovering the Full Academic Potential of Students**

Hidden Figures was a 2016 movie about female mathematicians at NASA. Given the time in our history, neither women, nor African Americans were expected to achieve such success. Unfortunately, in some areas these expectations for minorities, low wealth, and first generation students have not improved. As a result, a large number of students may be "hidden figures" who are overlooked in rigorous academic course placement because of a reliance on educator judgement rather than use of data to drive decisions. This session will introduce Edstar Analytics' Tower of Hope, a tool to talk with school leaders about using data to drive academic placement decisions while leveraging services to achieve better student outcomes. The session will be highly engaging. Participants will play a very lighthearted game (known as "Shift") where educators learn to uncover the "hidden figures" and match services to academic ability. This session will provide tips and techniques to address academic readiness so students can achieve their full potential.

Presenter(s): Dr. Janet Johnson, Ms. Cindy Corcoran, Dr. Ken Gattis
Augusta A

85. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Coaching Benchwarmers into Starters**

How do we get teachers off the bench of mediocrity and onto the championship court of success? Instructional Coaches and Teacher Leaders will engage in activities and discussions that strengthen coaching skills for building strong coach-teacher relationships, for ensuring effective classroom observations with constructive feedback, for modeling research-based instruction, and for shaping teacher leaders within our schools. Let's play ball!

Presenter(s): Ms. Michelle Vuncannon and Ms. Debbie Daurity
Pebble Beach

86. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **There's No Time For Downtime!**

Want to decrease the downtime in your Middle School Math classroom? In this presentation, strategies will be shared on how to keep all students actively engaged from the slow starters to the fast finishers.

Presenter(s): Ms. Emily Leary and Ms. Bailie Monahan
Augusta B

87. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Psychology of Persuasion in the Middle School Classroom**

The demands as well as the daily pressures have increased on us as educators from high stakes testing to meeting the needs of our diverse and most challenging learners. Psychology of Persuasion focuses on the factors that increase the likelihood that your students will say "yes" to a request made by you the teacher. There are 6 principles that we have manipulated in the middle school classroom from building commitment to improving relationships with your students. We have video demonstrations of how to implement these strategies in your classroom when you return to your classroom. Our work is grounded in research, yet our focus is on application of these principles in your classroom.

Presenter(s): Mr. Miguel Salinas, Mr. Mark Grant, Mr. Tim Sidenstick
Moorehead

88. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Return to the Middle School Classroom**

Reflections on returning to the middle school classroom after serving as a school and central office administrator will be shared by the presenters of this session. A comparison of the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of middle school teachers then and now will be discussed. The session will conclude with a collaborative discussion on the challenges middle school teachers

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currently encounter while pursuing their passion for middle level instruction. Active participation is encouraged.

Presenter(s): Dr. J. Brent Cooper, Dr. Dustin N. Johnson & Mr. Bruce Carroll
Meadowbrook

89. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Personalized Learning - The power of Pathways, Playlists, and Mastery Tracking**

Personalized Learning is Personalized Teaching. Give your students the power to work at their own pace with activities that they choose to master learning objectives. Through the use of the pathways, playlists and master trackers students take ownership of their learning while mapping their path to mastery.

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela Meekey and Ms. Jacquelyn Price
Sandpiper

90. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Finding Common Ground Through the Electoral Process**

The Social Studies Department at Rogers-Herr believes in the importance of educating our students to be civically well-rounded and well informed decision makers. Every election is an opportunity to teach kids about the importance of voting and the political process. Make the election fun for your students while teaching them a valuable lesson about the election process that they'll carry with them to the polls when they become voters themselves. Through collaboration with interdisciplinary colleagues, community resources, and KidsVote representatives, our students are educated on the importance of being well informed and educated citizens prior to exercising their choice and right to vote that impacts all United States citizens.

Presenter(s): Ms. Kelly Stevens and Ms. Alison Edwards
Auditorium III

91. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Modeling Algebra Concepts Using 2 Highlighters**

An inexpensive way to teach the concepts of solving equation, distributive property, and operations of integers using only 2 highlighters.

Presenter(s): Mr. Terry Dugger
Colony B

92. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Sharing Math Data Driven Instructional Practices**

Learning Trajectory based diagnostic assessments can fundamentally change instruction, but the data they provide should be used differently than typical assessment data. Researchers at NC State and a team of administrators and math teachers at Highland Middle School share their work communicating best practices across the math department.

Presenter(s): Ms. Catherine Schwoebel, Ms. Danielle Sturkie, Ms. Lissa Teston, Mr. William McGowan, Mr. Michael Belcher
Tanglewood B

93. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Digital Transformation: One student at a time**

The purpose of this session is to provide attendees with a technology toolkit with a plethora of resources that will support transformative teaching practices and create common ground teaching platforms for 21st-century students, educators, and schools. The outcome is the achievement of a balance of pedagogical knowledge and strategies, and technological resources in support of the Digital Learning Competencies.

Presenter(s): Ms. Ella Wise
Biltmore

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94. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Awakening the Voice Within: Choice, Voice, and Creativity in the ELA Classroom**

Do you want to allow more space for student choice in your ELA classroom, but you're not sure how? Come to this session for a blueprint for building an entirely choice-driven curriculum that capitalizes on student voices and creativity. Participants will receive information to help them create and curate a powerful classroom library, integrate mentor text studies into reading and writing, and truly differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all students.

Presenter(s): Ms. Cristi Julsrud and Mr. Travis Crowder
Auditorium IV

95. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Schools to Watch Showcase: North Lincoln Middle School**

North Lincoln Middle School has been recognized for using academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support to provide a great experience for our students. In this session we will highlight some of the practices that helped us earn this recognition. Join us and learn what makes our school a "School to Watch."

Presenter(s): North Lincoln Middle School
Blandwood

96. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Connect student learning to the world beyond their classroom!**

What exactly is global education? What does 21st century learning look like in the classroom? How can I grow as a global educator and become a distinguished teacher on my NC evaluation? We want to share the components of successful global schools highlighting resources to connect student learning in your classroom to the world beyond the classroom.

Presenter(s): Dr. Sara Whitaker and Dr. Garrett Tomlinson
Tidewater

97. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **The Cure for Reluctant Readers, A Middle School Journey to Publications and Public Presentations**

Our reading program is in its third year of creating, publishing and presenting the work of reluctant readers. Students simply needed an outlet and a little push to strut their stuff. We have not only collaborated across academic disciplines, but have taken our show on the road to other classrooms and schools. Our students have overcome emotional and academic barriers to lead our school in public speaking, singing, playing and illustrating.

Presenter(s): Mr. Jeff Bloomer, Mr. Stephen Harrison and Mr. Tony Campbell
Heritage

98. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Walk, Listen and Learn with The Walking Classroom**

What do childhood obesity, the achievement gap, and reaching students with learning differences all have in common? Their solution: Exercise. This hands-on session will show you how The Walking Classroom provides exercise without sacrificing instructional time, how easy it is to implement, and how our nonprofit program helps educators meet multiple standards and objectives with each lesson. Come learn how to improve student engagement, address learning differences, and develop health literacy in this fun and active session.

Presenter(s): Ms. Laura Fenn
Grandover West

99. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Can you retire on \$1,800 a month?**

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School employees are in a crisis! The core mission of ValuTeachers is to help educators and school employees retire with financial dignity and to help have more secure income at retirement! Come learn more!

Presenter(s): Mr. Woody Ayers and Mr. Kiel Mashburn
Grandover East

100. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **I'm not bad, I'm just bored!**

Do you have student's who seem to 'check out' in your class? Do you have students whose motivation for learning seems low? Do you envision a classroom where all students are actively engaged purposefully? In this breakout session, "I'm not Bad, I'm just Bored", we'll explore concepts around student brain development, student learning styles, multiple intelligence's, and how to increase student engagement in the classroom.

Presenter(s): Mr. Stephen Boyd
Colony C

101. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **No More Excuses: The Impact of Culturally Relevant Instruction, Low Teacher Expectations and**

102. **Unfair Discipline Practices on Academic Achievement**

This powerful session will move educators beyond excuses as to why students of color (i.e., African American males) cannot achieve in their classrooms. More specifically, this powerful session will describe the impact of low teacher expectations and unfair discipline practices on academic achievement. More importantly, this session will inform educators on how to properly utilize culturally relevant pedagogy, to bring state standards to life in the classroom. Attendees will be provided interactive exercises based on real state standards in major academic content areas at the middle school level to support the main ideas of this session.

Presenter(s): Dr. Chance Lewis
Auditorium II

103. MONDAY, 4:00pm-5:00pm, **Matter and Its' Interactions; Phenomena-rich investigations from the Smithsonian**

Phenomena-rich investigations with real world engineering design challenges.

Presenter(s): Ms. Sally Dudley
Augusta A

104. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Refining the Implementation of MTSS in a Middle School**

Our middle school is now in our third year of establishing a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). In this session, we will explore the challenges, barriers, and successes we encountered while creating a three-tiered system of instructional support. Throughout the process, we analyzed data in various ways to assist in defining tiers two and three at our school. Come see how our process has evolved and get some ideas for your school!

Presenter(s): Ms. Jennifer Hall and Ms. Justine Ward
Pebble Beach

105. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Designing a school and university STEM partnership that doesn't create more work than it's worth**

North Carolina State University's iScholar program empowers students to think about ways of substantively contributing to the social and physical conditions in which they live. To bring this concept to local middle school students, the program director coordinated efforts with two Durham middle schools. This session outlines the steps both organizations took to collaborate and produce a

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meaningful program to benefit students in their STEM educational journey. By year two of this three-year partnership, administrators, teachers, graduate students and professors developed hands-on lesson incorporating the design and modeling concept. This was possible due to purposeful collaboration, a flexible mindset and a desire to do what is best for children. Come learn how we are making this work! Maybe you could do this to.

Presenter(s): Ms. Stephanie Halpin and Mr. DeLeon Gray
Augusta B

106. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Creative Ways for Classroom Management**

This session will provide engaging, student friendly and ready to use creative strategies and activities that will save you loads of time and set your students up for success all year long for classroom management activities. High academic and behavior expectations can go hand in hand with a positive, nurturing classroom environment along with meaningful affirmations and motivational techniques.

Presenter(s): Dr. Sharon Hunter and Dr. Tiffany M. Fuller
Arrowhead

107. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Teaching Empathy in the Middle: Values in the Forefront**

Why is it so important to teach middle school students about empathy? By being taught about empathy, can students grow as human beings and improve as readers and writers? Is empathy the “glue” that connects person-to-person? If we looked at members of our school community as another “I” versus the “other”, would we have fewer problems with, for example, bullying? These questions will be answered in this interactive session. Practical solutions, as well as diverse, multi-political, and specifically differentiated reading materials and writing lessons will be included to help your students see the brother and sisterhood of humankind – and read better. This workshop springs from my PhD dissertation and is inspired by the philosopher/educator Dr. Edith Stein.

Presenter(s): Dr. Pamela Fitzpatrick
Moorehead

108. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **How EC Works within the MTSS Framework**

H. E. Winkler Middle school has embraced the MTSS framework. We have created and designed many teams and processes around the MTSS framework to ensure the success and growth for all students. We will take you through those teaming structures and specific processes to give a better understanding of how they work within the school setting and how to make the MTSS Framework useful for all students and staff.

Presenter(s): Ms. Jana Hartsell and Ms. Karen Hollar
Meadowbrook

109. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Pimp My Worksheet**

Looking for something other than worksheets to practice math? Want to increase student engagement? Join us for several simple, easy-prep ideas to take traditional, worksheet-based practice and turning it into fun, high-engagement experiences. “Zombies in the Graveyard”, “Who Said It Best?” and “Build-It” are just a few of the ideas that will be shared. Material is adaptable for elementary through high school classrooms

Presenter(s): Ms. Lydia Kirkman and Ms. Kelly Hoyme
Sandpiper

110. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Think Like Socrates to Power Up Classroom Discussions**

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Learn the "Top Ten Reasons to Conduct Socratic Seminars" along with practical information about how this best-practice strategy can work for you. Your students will be highly engaged, contribute more ideas and evidence, and gain deeper understanding of the text as they construct their own knowledge in these structured classroom discussions. Suitable for all subject areas and teams.

Presenter(s): Ms. Louise Miller
Auditorium III

111. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Instructional Leadership Teams: A Model for Teacher Leadership**

With a goal to increase students' academic achievement through a focus on literacy instruction, teacher leaders and the school administration team worked together to develop a unique leadership model that has built teachers' instructional capacity and improved student learning.

Presenter(s): Ms. Courtney Armstrong and Ms. Jennifer Bonack
Colony B

112. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Adventures of The Dynamic Diva Duo: Defenders of Literacy and the Love of Reading!**

A Media Coordinator and an ELA teacher join forces to get a little goofy, keep the students guessing, and keep the pages turning. Learn how to motivate readers and ignite the spark that will keep them coming back to the library through themed literacy events, promotions, and unconventional lessons.

Presenter(s): Ms. Michelle Sweeting and Ms. Britta Shaver
Tanglewood B

113. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Preparing Our Students for Jobs not yet Created**

Attendees will participate in an interactive demonstration of learning tools that are facilitated in our Innovation Hub; including Virtual Realty, Bee Bots, Bloxels, and Ozobots. Each learning tool will be showcased within the framework of the curriculum. Each participant will be given time to collaborate on how to embed the technology into their existing curricular framework.

Presenter(s): Ms. Courtney Clyde and Mr. Noah Kaufman
Biltmore

114. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **A Blueprint for Successful Student-Led Conferencing**

Do you want students to be actively engaged in their learning process? Do you want students to self-evaluate and set personal goals? Student-led conferences can do this and more! Join us as we share our successful structure for student-led conferences. Materials will be shared that can be adapted for any school.

Presenter(s): Ms. Kim Harris and Ms. Jannelle Grey
Auditorium IV

115. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Math Workstations: An Interactive, Hands-On Small Group Experience**

In Richmond County Schools our focus in mathematics is small group instruction. Come and experience how the math department at Ellerbe Middle School utilizes Math Workstations in their weekly instruction for accountability, alignment, fluency, rigor, and intervention.

Presenter(s): Ms. Roxi Anderson and Ms. Heather James
Blandwood

116. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Smackdown Tag Team**

It's spring, and you're tired. Like, really, REALLY tired. Being a phenomenal teacher day in and day out is exhausting. So, how do you keep being awesome, but lighten your load? You become half

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of a Smackdown Tag Team! Come hear about ways to collaborate with some of the staff in your building who may be behind-the-scenes, but deserve a starring role in your teacher life. Whether you've been teaching 20 years, or just getting started, these men and women can be your sounding board when you're lesson planning, and your life jacket on days when you feel you're drowning. We'll share real life experiences, suggestions for successful co-teaching, and digital tools & resources you can use in nearly any space. Let's get ready to rumble...and rock the rest of your year.

Presenter(s): Ms. Annette York and Chrisy Horgan
Tidewater

117. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Can You Hear Me Now? Getting Middle School Students to Understand Precisely What You Expect So They Can Succeed**

Are you tired of repeating yourself? Do you wish students understood exactly what you meant and completed tasks the first time they are asked? There is a simple solution, and it's not one that involves trendy gimmicks or paying a student to behave. It simply involves clear communication and expectations. Eliminate the repeated warnings and requests. The techniques provided will increase the time you spend on academics while at the same time empowering your students to take responsibility for their actions and achieve success. Come learn how to create a smooth operating classroom where the teacher teaches and the students learn.

Presenter(s): Dr. Kimberley Daly
Heritage

118. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Open Says Me! The system that can open any and all opportunities in your career**

At some point in your career, you feel stuck: You feel like you can't move up in your job. You feel like no one is buying from you. You feel like no one wants to do business with you. Everyone wants to get a lot out of their career, but not everybody knows how. This seminar will teach Carlos Davis's proven system that can take you wherever you want to go in your professional career. He will uncover the secrets of how to improve your face to face interactions to make you the magnet of opportunity and influence. He will also share the ONE WORD that can break down any barrier in starting a professional relationship. All of this along with some fun, interactive exercises will begin opening the doors of new success for you and your career!

Presenter(s): Carlos V Davis- Keynoter
Grandover East

119. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **It's All About the H.Y.P.E.! (Helping Young People Excel!)**

Join our session, "It's All About the H.Y.P.E.!", to find out how we have been able to increase our school performance grade, exceed growth, and improve our index score over the last three years in a Title I School! Come hear about our innovative and creative strategies that have served to engage students which have led to improved academic performance. You will walk away with suggestions that you can use tomorrow.

Presenter(s): Ms. Loretta Reed, Laura Bowman, La'Tisha Hemingway, Camilia Smith, Tammy Lance, Verlishia Clay, Jasmine Hunter, and Bernice Parkhurst
Augusta A

120. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Simulations and Investigations: Bringing History to Life in the Eighth Grade Social Studies Classroom**

We will share investigations and simulations that have made our classrooms come to life by engaging students and improving outcomes. From mercantilism and colonization to the Great Depression and

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Civil Rights, students will have the opportunity to reach new levels of understanding in the social studies curriculum!

Presenter(s): Ms. Teri Mills and Ms. Patti Miller

Colony C

121. TUESDAY, 8:30am-9:30am, **Progress Monitoring of Student Performance**

This session will demonstrate how educators can use EVAAS data along with year-long data points to progress monitor student performance. By setting student goals based on EVAAS projections, teachers will be able to monitor individual student performance towards growth.

Presenter(s): Ms. Sharon Griffith, Ms. Chanel Sidbury, Dr. Linda Tugurian

Colony A

122. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **The Revised Middle School Math Standards**

During this session, we will discuss changes to the middle school math standards to be implemented in the 2018-19 school year. We will pay particular attention to the coherent development of fractions, proportional reasoning, and statistics. We will also discuss and review some of the resources that are being developed for teachers.

Presenter(s): Mr. Joseph Reaper and Ms. Lisa Ashe

Pebble Beach

123. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Dare to Differentiate 101: How to Differentiate for High-Ability Learners in Mixed-Ability Classroom**

The session offers an entry-level differentiation framework and strategies for high-ability learners in mixed-ability classrooms. First, we will debunk common misconceptions on differentiated instruction. Then, we will introduce how to construct emotional, social, and instructional spaces to create multiple entry points for authentic differentiation. Lastly, you get to take home some read-made instructional tools you can use in your classrooms!

Presenter(s): Ms. Benna Haas and Ms. Helen Motta

Augusta B

124. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Journey Motif in Selected Middle School Novels**

The journey motif has been used for a very long time in literature beginning with the Greeks. For example, in Oedipus the King, Oedipus in running away from Thebes to forestall the words of the gods from coming to pass finds out who

he really is and what he has done. - killed his father and married his mother as was foretold.

Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, undertaken by a group of pilgrims allows each narrator to tell us who he/she really is and enables the reader

to see not only the irony but the hypocrisy for some of the characters in the Tales. This paper analyzes selected Middle grades novels from two cultures using the journey motif as the vehicle for the analysis. The novels include Bud Not Buddy and The Watsons Go to Birmingham both by Paul Curtis, Jacob Have I Loved by Patterson and Journey to Jo'burg by Naidoo (1986) A content analysis approach was used. In engaging in a journey, what did each protagonist/ reader learn about some questions that middle school students deal with- who am I?, why am I here? What are some of the lessons on social justice? What lesson on family relationship is each teaching the reader? Finally, strategies for reading these novels were also discussed

Presenter(s): Dr. James S. Etim, Susan Vogeley and Marie Yacinthe

Arrowhead

125. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Connecting ELA and SS**

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Would you like to know how easy it is to connect ELA and SS into one content core class? Come and see all the easy techniques you can use in your lesson planning in order to engage and educate your students. This session will show you rigorous and meaningful instruction that every middle school teacher should use in their classroom.

**Presenter(s): Ms. Jennifer Ennis
Moorehead**

126. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Non-Traditional Professional Development that Sparks Change**

This session will give administrators and instructional coaches new ideas of how to implement effective professional development that invokes and sustains lasting change in classroom instruction. Best practices in delivering professional development and follow-up coaching will be shared.

**Presenter(s): Dr. Mary Beth Roth and Dr. Jamie Abercrombie
Meadowbrook**

127. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Team-Wide Behavior Management: Using the House System**

Inspired by Harry Potter along with a desire to establish a community among our students while supporting and celebrating their individual growths, we have created a house system for team-wide positive behavior management. The house system fosters camaraderie, ownership, and team work through competitions and personal development. Attend this session and learn strategies of how to change student behavior positively using the house system for your middle school team.

**Presenter(s): Ms. Madison Ambrose and Ms. Alison Edwards
Sandpiper**

128. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Orbit Earth Expo: An Out of This World Astronomy Experience**

Orbit Earth Expo brings to life hard to teach concepts such as phases of the moon, seasons, tides, patterns in the solar system, eclipses, winds, plate tectonics, and more. Experience Orbit Earth Expo as a student during our free preview and see the many ways it will stimulate student thinking and enrich your curriculum! Our 14' inflatable earth, proportional 3.5' moon, and other materials help inspire students' wonder about scale and limitations of models while bringing abstract earth and space concepts to life. (**Guilford C: located to the side of the keynote stage, closest to the escalators)

**Presenter(s): Ms. Tracy Custer
Guilford C**

129. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Save the Drama for Your Mama!**

Drama got you down? Are your star-struck students more interested in he said/she said? Do you want to keep student drama on the stage and out of your classrooms?! Reduce the drama and discipline challenges 50% - 70% in your classroom. Reduce the stress on your teachers, improve the teaching time for students and help improve time on task. By setting high expectations and teaching appropriate behaviors you can turn those critical moments wasted on non-educational conflicts in the classroom into invaluable teaching time. This seminar will present strategies and tools to help the classroom teacher reduce disruptive behavior, keep students on task and allow administrators more time for leading education.

**Presenter(s): Mr. Antigone Peek
Blandwood**

130. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Rethinking Differentiation in the Classroom**

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Students in our classes have a variety of needs. This session focuses on personalized learning strategies in order to differentiate content, process and product.

Presenter(s): Ms. Danielle Lefebvre and Mr. Brad Hobson
Tanglewood B

131. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **More Time to Teach Please!**

Participants will learn how to dramatically increase the amount of time they spend on instruction and decrease the amount of time they spend on giving multiple warnings and repeated requests for misbehavior.

Presenter(s): Dr. Shavon Brown
Augusta A

132. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Classroom Misbehavior - Unfortunately, An All-Too-Often Common Ground**

The most overlooked misconception in education today is students come to school with the social skills needed for learning to take place.

Research shows an average classroom teacher loses between five to nine hours per week dealing with low-level pesky behaviors.

Frustrated by students' misbehaviors? Dealing with discipline matters taking up valuable teaching time? I'll share some core beliefs and introduce you to theories that help you understand the impact of low level inappropriate behaviors on your students and classroom. Learn "8:00 Monday morning" research-based strategies of a fair and simple classroom management system that will eliminate unwanted behaviors by 70% or more. Learn the essential steps of teaching to expected behaviors and discover the benefits and the importance of positive interactions with your students.

Learn how to dramatically increase the amount of time you spend on instruction and decrease the amount of time giving multiple warnings and repeated requests to stop misbehavior. Learn how investing extra time in your students at the beginning of the year increases the amount of time you have for instruction throughout the year. Reduce your and your students' stress level while creating a working relationship that is built on caring and respect.

Presenter(s): Dr. Peter Vajda
Auditorium IV

133. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Designing Tiny Houses as a Platform for Engaging Minority Students in STEM, Cultural Learning and Communal Responsibility**

This presentation encourages the use of relevant media articles and clips to expose students to, and create solutions for local community issues from inside the classroom. Attendees will learn ways The iScholar Project has adopted a culturally relevant teaching to provide curriculum and instruction that promotes social action and STEM innovation. The featured tiny house lessons incorporate hands-on and computer activities that enhance students' identities as engineers and social change agents. This session is open to teachers of all disciplines, especially those who teach or promote engineering, critical and creative thinking and communal responsibility.

Presenter(s): Ms. Briana Green and Ms. Joanna Ali
Colony B

134. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Circus of the Kids**

A special mix of learning, exercise, character building, and just plain fun, come see how Circus of the Kids transforms and inspires our middle school students. From the perspective of a middle school principal and two middle school teachers, we'll share how this program impacted our student body and our community.

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Presenter(s): Ms. Allyson Carson, Ms. Cathy Hallman, Ms. Jeannie Monson
Tidewater

135. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Math: Tiered Mastery**

The mastery concept was developed to meet students at their academic level allowing for individual growth to occur. Mastery quizzes build a solid foundation for students to focus on the standards found within the grade level content. The analysis of the mastery data allows the teachers to build strategy groups to remediate and review.

Presenter(s): Ms. Whitney Honeycutt, Ms. Jaime Cassada, Ms. Danyah Hill, Ms. Rhiannon Kriessler
Heritage

136. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Hashtag That! Social Media for the 21st Century Leader**

Become a high performing educator that feels comfortable using 21st century teaching and learning skills. This session is a BYOD (bring your own device) session that will allow participants first to learn about how social media can help move schools and classrooms toward high performance as well as how to get started integrating 21st century methods effectively at the school and classroom level. Participants will have an opportunity to learn about a variety of ways to increase their PLN (professional learning network) and to lead using social media.

Presenter(s): Ms. Leslie Kinard
Grandover West

137. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **6 P's of Community School Vision: Power, Parents, Plan, Positive, Public Perception**

Think of the power of welcoming our families and communities into our schools. Imagine the benefits to student learning when communities feel that their schools are a place of incredible learning. Public perception is the cornerstone in transforming the attitudes that previously existed about a school into positive mindset, where communities look forward to what is happening next in the school. Changing the negativities of prior conceptions into positive awareness of our students' learning adventures. It begins with the telling of our story as a group of community schools determined to make a difference in the lives of the students in the North Rowan Community. Join us as we share our vision to spread the good news of the North Area Schools. This was accomplished with a detailed marketing plan that included adults and students working together. Come and learn how we have accomplished this task.

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela Fleming
Auditorium III

138. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **At the Core of Middle School: Building Supports to Grow All Children**

In this session, participants will learn more about the student supports H.E. Winkler Middle School has created to grow all children. These include alignment to the standards in core instruction, development of effective PLCs, our plan for teacher leadership, tier two interventions, and our problem solving model. The result of our work is a growth score of +8.23 in a school with nearly 60% of students receiving free/reduced lunch. In our session, we will share the hard work that has made us successful!

Presenter(s): Mr. Michael Williams and Ms. Karen Hollar
Auditorium II

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139. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Organizational Structures for School Success**
A key component to the middle school concept is organizational structures. Effectively using organizational structures can help enhance student performance and establish a positive school community. This session highlights how to implement common planning time, interdisciplinary teaming, and advisory programs to maximize school success.
Presenter(s): Dr. Chris Cook
Colony C
140. TUESDAY, 9:40am-10:40am, **Don't Forget Your Umbrella: Preparing Students for Rigorous Conceptual Learning in Social Studies**
Are your students drowning in a storm of facts? When the rain clears, do you feel like your students quickly forget the material you taught them? This engaging, interactive session will show you how concept-driven social studies instruction will help your students weather any current or future storm!
Presenter(s): Mr. Greg Griffin and Ms. Regina Griggs
Biltmore
141. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Literacy Moves**
Get up and get active with literacy strategies that engage your most energetic students. Research has shown the link between kinesthetic learning and retention. This session will review the supporting research and guide you through ready to use movement based literacy activities- no yoga pants required. Language development does not happen in isolation. Come add to your teacher toolbox with another strategy for truly “balanced” literacy.
Presenter(s): Ms. Sarena Fuller
Augusta B
142. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Tightropes and Trapezes: Techniques for your Instructional Toolbox.**
Come learn or revisit strategies to help you get across that classroom “tightrope” from one part of the lesson to the next. We'll look at instructional strategies to use in all parts of a lesson, from beginning to end. While you swing on your instructional “trapeze” through your content, we'll build a net of teaching approaches to help you and your students be the stars of your show.
Presenter(s): Dr. Shanon White
Arrowhead
143. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Physical Education and Sports: Avenues to Improve Middle School Reading and Writing**
How can we better motivate and excite our struggling and proficient male readers to read and write more? Connect their reading to one of their favorite classes: physical education! This workshop will offer a wealth of practical examples about how teachers may customize their instruction with interesting fiction and nonfiction reading materials connected to sports, games, fitness, famous athletes, sports history, extreme sports, sports adventures, and more.
Presenter(s): Dr. Pamela Fitzpatrick
Moorehead
144. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **History in Living Color**
Are you tired of the same old strategies day in and day out in your classroom? Join us for a few new tips and tricks to spice up your favorite lesson plans with primary sources from the Library of Congress in any curriculum! Door prizes and Candy!
Presenter(s): Ms. Angela Johnson and Ms. Rachel Tallent

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Sandpiper

145. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **How to Win Over the Difficult Parent**

The parent-teacher relationship is a precarious one; especially during the Middle School years when misbehavior abounds and academics are the least of a student's concerns. How do you build a positive rapport with them? What do you do to maintain a working relationship? The key is to understand why parents do what they do.

Presenter(s): Dr. Christina Christian

Auditorium III

146. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Reaching All Middle Level Students With STEM**

Overview of PLTW Gateway STEM units, professional development, and activity based learning. Participants will work in groups to complete an Instant Design Challenge.

Presenter(s): Ken Verburg

Colony B

147. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Math Engagement = Growth**

Actively engage your students with activities that will promote higher level depths of knowledge, substantial conversation, and an increase in not only procedural knowledge but a higher level of understanding. This session will include how to change a level 1 question into a level 3 or 4 depth of knowledge question. This does not require a huge shift in lesson planning but a shift in the way that we ask questions and build on answers. There will be examples of scavenger hunts, task cards, "justifying" your learning centers, and questions/activities. A virtual wall for data will be presented and how this simple addition to your classroom can improve the engagement of your students. Get ready for a fast paced session packed full of things you can take back to your math class tomorrow.

Presenter(s): Ms. Christina Edwards

Tanglewood B

148. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Staying the Course - Leading for Positive Change**

Having open and honest conversations, sharing data, overcoming a toxic culture, and coming out on top. What are some ways school leadership can model and lead for continuous improvement.

Presenter(s): Ms. Jeni McNulty and Dr. Dottie Hayes

Biltmore

149. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Sparks in the Dark: Writing in the Content Areas**

Looking for strategies to awaken the writer in your students? Searching for ways to get students writing in all content areas? This session will provide you with strategies to engage your students in writing opportunities in your classroom. Reading, studying, crafting, and sharing strategies will be highlighted throughout this session, leaving you with practical ideas to incorporate in your classroom. Time will also be provided for participants to write as well.

Presenter(s): Mr. Travis Crowder

Auditorium IV

150. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Math Teachers Toolkit**

Digital resources and activities to promote problem solving in the middle school mathematics classroom.

Presenter(s): Ms. Tammie Slate and Ms. Kimberly Ervin

Blandwood

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151. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Access, Alignment, Assessments: Success for ALL students within Content**

We at H.E. Winkler Middle School pride ourselves on exceeding high academic growth. For 5 consecutive years our teacher effectiveness exceeded expected growth. We have been on a discovery journey of how to set up ALL students for academic success through access, alignment and assessments. We will take you through that journey by exploring our work in scaffolding assessments, aligning instruction to the content standards, vertical planning and incorporating literacy. This work is what works in the classroom for ALL students met or exceed expected growth.

Presenter(s): Ms. Jana Hartsell, Ms. Trent Mauney and Mr. David Newman
Tidewater

152. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Inquiry Based Literacy**

How do "learning by doing" and the PBL model align with disciplinary literacy practices? Learn how the use of text sets, tiered vocabulary, and purposeful writing tasks can increase the depth of knowledge of classroom activities, increase instructional engagement, and enhance the PBL process.

Presenter(s): Ms. Alyn Szymanski
Heritage

153. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **The North Carolina Total Retirement Plans**

Who wants to retire? We all do but how? It is never too early or too late to figure how the steps you can take to get you closer to the goal. Whether you are close to retirement or just starting your career, come find out how the NC 401(k) Plan, NC 457 Plan and the NC 403(b) Programs may help you achieve a secure financial future and a more comfortable retirement.

Presenter(s): Ms. Tammy Uzzell and Mr. Robert Sipprell
Grandover West

154. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Classroom C.E.O.(Chief Education Officer) - Strategies for an evolving educational environment**

The world we live in is changing at a rapid pace. From the way we work to the way we shop, our lives are at constant state of change. The area of education is no different, and there are more and more choices for education than ever before. In order to stay relevant, an educator and it's institution has to continually improve it's value. In this session, Carlos Davis of Stand & Deliver, LLC will bring an fun yet interactive spin on some strategies to increase the value of your class as well as the value of your institution.

Presenter(s): Carlos V Davis- Keynoter
Grandover East

155. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Middle School 101**

What does an exemplary middle school look like? What practices are taking place that impact student learning? Using the foundational elements of This We Believe and practices currently researched by AMLE and AERA come hear the strengths and practices of exemplary middle schools.

Presenter(s): Dr. Nancy Ruppert and Mr. Reid Chapman
Auditorium II

156. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Digitally Differentiate with Canvas**

Digital lessons don't have to be "one size fits all". Come learn how to design differentiated tasks and assignments within Canvas to individualize instruction. Lesson tools such as embedded slideshows, collaborative assignments, and external tools (i.e. CK-12, Khan Academy) will be explored.

Designing tiered lessons will take your Canvas class to the next level.

Presenter(s): Ms. Kim Harris

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157. TUESDAY, 11:15am-12:15pm, **Smooth Transition Techniques**

In this session we will train teachers on how to do transitions. First, we will learn to identify the skills students' lack. Next, we will demonstrate appropriate behaviors and describe techniques of handling potentially disruptive situations and ways to avoid behavior problems. Lastly, we will identify four common mistakes teachers make during transitions to meet the same high standards as any other part of the school day.

Presenter(s): Dr. Sharon Hunter and Dr. Tiffany M. Fuller

Augusta A