

Featured Speaker

Chase Mielke



About:

Chase Mielke is an award-winning educator, writer, and speaker focusing on preventing teacher burnout and increasing student engagement.

He has been awarded multiple honors, including being a Michigan Teacher of the Year nominee and a Allegan County "Outstanding People for Education" recipient. For his work minimizing the achievement gap with at-risk high schoolers, his Positive Psychology program received a Michigan Association of School Administrators "Winner's Circle Award." The program teaches concepts of positive emotion, engagement, meaning, and accomplishment to hundreds of students each year, especially at-risk high schoolers. Consistently, students reduce failure rates by at least 50% each year.

As an engaging, nationally recognized speaker, he has traveled across the nation to speak with students and educators on topics of resilience, mindset, applied neuroscience, and positive psychology.

REIGNITE: Avoid Burnout, Increase Outcomes, and Learn to Love Education Again

Chase was moments away from quitting teaching — a career he loved. He was burned out, bitter, and beaten by the external challenges of modern education. But he didn't quit. He doubled-down, using the same science of well-being he had taught his students for over a decade.

In this engaging, humorous, and heartfelt talk,
Chase shares his experience as a veteran educator
and provides key insights on how the science of
small, positive moments creates thriving adults,
learners, and communities. Your audience will be
empowered to take care of themselves, so they can
better take care of the young adults who need
them.

Learning Outcomes:

- **OPTIMISM** Refocus on the good in order to reignite our love for teaching and parenting
- OWNERSHIP Take control of our own well-being through simple, research-based actions that boost purpose and happiness
- MINDFULNESS Be present and turn minor moments into major momentum to thrive personally and professionally
- COMMUNITY Cultivate positive relationships with kids and adults to build supportive and resilient cultures.

Featured Speaker

Willie Spears



About:

Willie Spears, M. Ed., is a critically acclaimed author, highly sought after speaker, educator, and coach. Coach Spears has taken the country by storm with his passionate, energetic, and hilarious approach to teaching life management skills to students, business leaders, organizations, and teams. Through a significant social media presence, and an average of twenty presentations per month in seven states, The Willie Spears Experience has become a reliable source of inspiration.

You Matter

This inspiring keynote recognizes and celebrates the profound impact teachers have on our society. Titled "You Matter," this presentation will delve into the invaluable role educators play in shaping the minds and futures of their students. Through compelling stories, research, and personal anecdotes, Willie Spears will emphasize the following key themes:

- 1. *The Transformative Power of Educators*: Highlighting how teachers inspire curiosity, foster resilience, and ignite a passion for learning in their students, this section will showcase the remarkable ability of educators to change lives and communities.
- 2. **Building Relationships**: Discussing the importance of connection in the classroom, Willie will share strategies for cultivating trust and rapport, which are essential for creating a supportive learning environment.
- 3. **Advocating for Teacher Well-being**: Recognizing the challenges teachers face, this address will stress the importance of self-care and the need for systemic support to ensure educators can thrive in their roles.
 - 4. *The Impact on Society*: The presentation will explore how dedicated teaching influences not just individual students, but society as a whole, by contributing to a more informed, compassionate, and capable citizenry.
- 5. **A Call to Action**: Concluding with an empowering message, Willie will encourage teachers to embrace their unique strengths and advocate for their profession, reminding them that they are not just instructors, but mentors, role models, and leaders in their communities.

This keynote aims to rejuvenate the passion for teaching and reinforce the essential message that teachers truly matter—not just in the lives of their students but as pillars of our society. Join us in celebrating the invaluable contributions of educators everywhere and leave feeling inspired and empowered to continue making a difference!

Schedule

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

MATTOON & CHARLESTON BUILDINGS OPEN

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

9:45 AM AM - 10:30 AM

Breakout Session 1

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Breakout Session 2

11:45 PM - 12:45 PM

CLOSING KEYNOTE SPEAKER



USING YOUR
PHONE, SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
COMPLETE THE
REGISTRATION FOR
TODAY'S EVENT.



Guest Wifi for Charleston

Network: AF

Password: american

Guest Wifi for Mattoon

Username: guest@mattoon.com

Password: GreenWave

Menu Items Available for Purchase

CHARLESTON - TROJAN BREW 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM

COFFEE \$1

REGULAR LEMONADE \$1

FLAVORED LEMONADE \$2

BLACK COFFEE \$1

HOT FLAVORED COFFEE \$2

ICED COFFEE \$3

HOT CHOCOLATE \$1

PEPPERMINT HOT CHOCOLATE \$2





MATTOON - MILK & HONEY 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM

House coffee \$3
Decaf coffee \$3
Lotus Energy \$3.50
Lemonade \$3.50
(Strawberry or Blue Raspberry)
Cold Brew \$5.00
(Caramel, Hazelnut, Pumpkin, Vanilla)
*All flavors sugar free

LFT - Leaders Innovating for Tomorrow

LIFT CENTER 121 SOUTH 17TH STREET MATTOON, IL 61938



10:00 AM - 10:45 AM & 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Acceptance and Commitment Therapy

ROOM 209

Alex Poe, Associate Director, Eastern Illinois Area of Special Education

Participants will receive training on the 6 core processes of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. ACT therapy can be helpful for students who have experienced trauma and/or chronic stress.

Threat Assessments: Steps in the Investigative Process

ROOM 210

Kendra Rogers, Associate Director, Eastern Illinois Area of Special Education

Attend this session to become better prepared to respond to student crises with comprehensive threat assessments and safety plans. Participants will gain access to a threat assessment screening tool, investigative questions, and safety and supervision plans. The legal requirements for districts, their threat assessment teams, and procedures will also be reviewed.

College and Career Readiness with Illinois 4-H

ROOM 212

Tiffany Cervantes, 4-H Program Coordinator, University of Illinois Extension

4-H is a leader in developing well-rounded young people prepared for their future with technical and leadership skills that outpace their peers. Discover how to partner with your local 4-H program and bring research-backed programs with positive youth development curricula and standardized evaluations to your school. Learn more about programs such as Ready4Work, Welcome to the Real World, and SEL programs.

It's the Little Words: Tips to Promote Respectful Communication and Resolve Conflicts

ROOM 314

Ondine Gross, Educational Consultant, ROE SchoolWorks & Ondine Gross Solutions, LLC

In this lively, interactive workshop, participants will gain usable strategies to promote healthy connections and relationships with students and adults in their schools.

Anxiety in the Classroom

ROOM 517

Wesley Allan, Associate Professor & Program Coordinator, Eastern Illinois University

This session will review the signs and symptoms of anxiety in students within the classroom setting. Participants will explore effective strategies and quick tips for addressing anxiety in the learning environment.

LATT - Leaders Innovating for Tomorrow

LIFT CENTER 121 SOUTH 17TH STREET MATTOON, IL 61938



10:00 AM - 10:45 AM & 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Boundary Setting and Self Appreciation

ROOM 612

Andrew Bunyard, Director of Community Support Services, LifeLinks Mental Health

This session will focus on effective strategies for establishing and maintaining boundaries in professional and personal relationships. Participants will engage in discussions about the importance of boundaries and learn practical techniques to implement them confidently. Additionally, the session will explore methods for identifying personal ways of expressing and receiving appreciation, enhancing interpersonal dynamics and fostering healthier connections.

Legal Updates for School Support Personnel

BASEMENT

Michelle Weber, Attorney, Robbins Schwartz

Join us for an essential workshop tailored for school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers. This session will provide critical legal updates that impact your daily practice within educational settings. Led by an experienced attorney specializing in education law, the workshop will cover the latest changes in regulations, policies, and legal responsibilities that affect student support services.

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM ROUNDTABLES

These sessions will provide an opportunity to collaborate with fellow professionals, discuss take-aways from the day's Institute sessions, gain fresh perspectives, and share resources.

School Counselor Roundtable

BASEMENT

Facilitated by Allison Phillips, School Counselor, Arcola CUSD #306

School Social Worker Roundtable

ROOM 517

Facilitated by Jordan Coleman, Social Worker, Mattoon CUSD #2

ROOM 210

School Psychologist Roundtable

Facilitated by Kendra Rogers, Associate Director, EIASE

Eastern Illinois Area of Special Education

EIASE CENTRAL OFFICE 5837 PARK DRIVE CHARLESTON, IL 61920

10:00 AM - 12:45 PM



Collaboration in the School Setting

Conference Room B

Reagan Carey, Board Certified Behavior Analyst, Eastern Illinois Area of Special Education Marcie Miller, Speech Language Pathologist, Mattoon CUSD #2

Collaborative approaches to support students receiving special education services in schools are recommended to best meet student needs. This presentation discussed how SLPs can collaborate with classroom teachers when using narrative evaluation and treatment with students to bolster students' oral language. Additionally, participants will learn about the role of ABA therapists and how to integrate evidence-based ABA strategies into speech/language service delivery.

VISIT WITH TABLE REPRESENTATIVES



MATTOON & CHARLESTON:
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY
TEACHER READY WEST FLORIDA
ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL

LIFT:

PARENTABLE

University of Illinois Extension

SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA THAT YOU ARE LEARNING WITH #ROEII TODAY







Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center

THE LUMPKIN FAMILY CENTER FOR HEALTH EDUCATION 1000 HEALTH CENTER DRIVE MATTOON, IL 61938

10:00 AM - 12:45 PM



Health Fair

Education Center

This event will feature a variety of services designed to enhance your well-being and provide you with valuable resources to support your journey to a healthier lifestyle. Connect with professionals who can guide you on your path to wellness and discover how these resources can also benefit our school district's students, staff, and the wider community. Don't miss this opportunity to take positive steps toward a healthier future for everyone!

- Tanita Scale Body Composition Checks
- Physical and Occupational Therapy (PT/OT)
- Heart Center Blood Pressure Checks

Sarah Bush Center for Healthy Living

- Communications
- Wellness Center for Healthy Living
- Dietician Services
- Mammography Information
- Sleep Lab Insights

Meet & Greet

Vanessa Ramsey, Customer Service and Sales Manager, School Nurse Supply

Vanessa will provide a general introduction to School Nurse Supply Company and its offerings. She will also discuss in particular a few products: feminine hygiene, vision and hearing equipment, and Stop the Bleed training equipment.

Healthy Eating

Michelle Schultz, Registered Dietitian, Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center

Join Michelle as she discusses tips, tricks, and strategies for better nutrition. This presentation will cover basic nutrition concepts that benefit your health, while providing simple strategies to help with application. So often we know what to do, we just need help doing it. This talk will address that, while offering plenty of opportunity to ask your own nutrition related questions.

Exercise Demonstration: Relaxation

Ashley Berkheimer, NASM Certified Wellness Coach/Fitness Instructor and Personal Trainer, Mattoon YMCA

Ashley Berkheimer will provide a beautiful blend of yoga principles, stretching, resistance, body weight and breathing techniques. Restoration from the inside out. This session is designed to help participants reduce stress, enhance mindfulness, and improve overall well-being through accessible movements and breathing practices.

Wellness

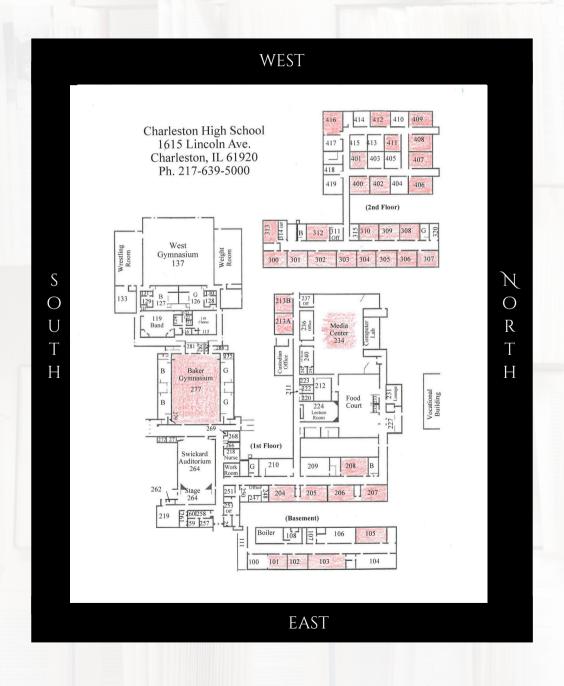
Melissa Pruemer, Wellness Specialist, Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center

This engaging session will focus on the 8 dimensions of wellness, simple strategies to improve overall health, and health checks we should be doing regularly.

7

Charleston High School

CHARLESTON HIGH SCHOOL 1615 LINCOLN AVE. CHARLESTON, IL 61920



9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Apprenticeship Opportunities

ROOM 101

Bonnie Moore, Director of the Center for Business & Industry, Lake Land Community College

This breakout session will include apprenticeship opportunities for high school students, highlighting the benefits of combining classroom learning with hands-on training. Educators will learn how to guide students towards these programs, which enhance employability and provide a pathway to full-time, high-paying careers. The session will also cover strategies for integrating apprenticeship information into the curriculum. Attendees will leave with practical tools to better prepare students for their future careers.

Unlocking Hidden Potential: How Co-op Opportunities Transform Careers Beyond Expectations

ROOM 102

Baley Milton, Agriculture, Arcola CUSD #306

Brad Ingram, Owner, Country Learning Center

Discover exciting new possibilities through local partnerships for Cooperative Education students. This collaboration opens doors to diverse agribusiness opportunities across Douglas County, including hands-on work with animals, developing a community garden, and engaging with students of all ages. With so many avenues to explore, this is just the beginning—imagine where these opportunities could lead and how you could implement a program like this in your school!

Enhancing Personalized Learning Using Pacing Guides and the 4DX Method

ROOM 103

Chris Brown, Program Facilitator, LIFT

Dan Compton, Program Facilitator, LIFT

In today's diverse classrooms, increasing student engagement and supporting personalized learning are crucial for academic success. Pacing guides are essential tools that help educators plan and track curriculum progress effectively. In this session, learn how using these guides provides a structured yet flexible framework, allowing teachers to adjust instruction to meet individual student needs. By incorporating pacing guides, educators can create targeted activities and assessments that cater to different learning styles and levels. This approach ensures that all students stay engaged, challenged, and on a consistent learning path.

Exploring Illinois 4-H Signature Programs: Grades 7-12

ROOM 105

Jaylynn Schober, 4-H Youth Development Leader, University of Illinois

Join us for an engaging and informative workshop that explores the dynamic world of Illinois 4-H Signature Programs! Specifically designed to meet the needs of teachers and youth in schools, this workshop will introduce you to a variety of impactful programs aimed at empowering youth and fostering their development. Discover how you can bring exciting programs in STEM, SEL, college and career readiness, environmental education, health and wellness, gardening, agriculture, and food access into your classroom. Don't miss this opportunity to enrich your teaching and inspire your students!

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Bark to Basics: Unleashing the Benefits of Canine Companions in Schools

ROOM 204

Stephanie Dietzen, Student Integration Skills Coach, Mattoon CUSD #2 Mocha, Certified Therapy Dog

Have you ever wondered what having a fluffy four-legged friend in your building or classroom looks like? This session will provide information and testimonies on the positive effects our canine companions can have on Social Emotional Learning in a school environment for students and staff, as well as provide an overview of the rules and regulations, training options, pet insurance, administrative acceptance and approval and the difference between a Therapy Dog, Service Animal, and Emotional Support Animal.

Dungeons and Dragons in ELA - Team Unit

ROOM 205

Jenny Gergeni, 7th Grade LEA, Shelbyville CUSD #4

Caleb Mathis, Grades 6-12 Art, Shelbyville CUSD #4

Dungeons and Dragons is growing in popularity, so why not use it to your advantage in the ELA classroom? Join us to see how the seventh grade team at Moulton engages students on an early dismissal day. This unit does not cost much, and the students enjoy it. You could even use this as a unit in one classroom over a week or more.

Technology in the Classroom

ROOM 206

Lindsay Krumreich, High School Math, Shelbyville CUSD #4

This session will guide educators through an exploration of diverse technological tools, not only within the realm of mathematics but also across various subjects. Participants will gain insights into leveraging programs such as Plickers, Kahoot, Quizizz, Lumio, Automagical Forms, and more, enhancing classroom engagement and learning experiences.

Digital Notes Binder ROOM 207

Michelle Duke, Junior High Math, Paris CUSD #4

Discover how to efficiently record your daily lessons using Smart Notebook or any screen recorder in this workshop. Learn the process of uploading your recorded files to My VR Spot and organizing them into a dedicated classroom folder. Empower students and parents to access missed or challenging lessons, fostering enhanced comprehension and engagement.

Misinformation and Disinformation: Educating in the Age of High-Tech Hoaxes

ROOM 208

Andy Cougill, Librarian, Lake Land Community College

The 2024 presidential election is likely to include an unprecedented barrage of misinformation and disinformation. Empower your students with skills to navigate the information landscape and separate fact from fiction!

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Vocational Training to Support Young Workers Entering the Modern Workforce

ROOM 213A

Christopher Hanson, Director of Hazardous Materials Training Program, University of Illinois

This session will highlight the diverse training courses designed to elevate young workers' resumes in a competitive job market. Discover how these stackable certification programs—ranging from 8 to 40 hours—can enhance career prospects across various occupations. We'll delve into the ultimate benefits of these certifications and how they can strategically boost your career path.

AI-mazing Differentiation: Tools to Tailor Your Teaching

ROOM 213B

Matt Sherrill, Regional Educational Technology Coordinator, Learning Technology Center

In this interactive session, we'll dive into the time-saving tools that help tailor your teaching to meet the unique needs of every student. Explore how Diffit, MagicSchool, and other tools can transform your classroom into a personalized learning haven. You'll discover practical strategies for creating custom lessons, simplifying planning, and boosting student engagement. Whether you're a tech newbie or an AI enthusiast, this session will equip you with the tools to make your instruction truly AI-mazing!

Legal Updates for Teachers

ROOM 224

Brian D. Schwartz, Attorney at Law, Law Offices of Brian D. Schwartz

Discover the latest legislative changes affecting classroom instruction and the teaching profession at this essential update. Stay informed and compliant while engaging in a dynamic and insightful session. We encourage your questions and active participation.

Technology in Physical Education

ROOM 234

Mark Jones, Physical Education, Neoga CUSD #3

Discover the transformative impact of PLT4M in our fitness curriculum at Neoga. Explore how this platform empowers students through personalized workout experiences, whether working individually, in groups, or through whole-class instruction. Learn how PE teachers customize workouts for each class and individual students, fostering organization, technological integration, and self-paced learning. Additionally, delve into our innovative use of heart rate monitors to further enhance student engagement and performance.

Abuse is Preventable

ROOM 300

Josie Ellingsworth, Prevention Educator, Prevail

At Prevail Illinois, we believe that sexual abuse is preventable. Prevail Illinois is committed to creating a world without sexual abuse by educating professionals, parents, and children about sexual abuse. We want to partner with professionals like you who care about ending this type of violence in their communities. Join us as we discuss the standards set in place by Faith & Hope's Laws, red flags of sexual abuse, and the services that Prevail Illinois offers to you, your students, and their families.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Developing an Educational Technology Plan

ROOM 301

Robert Knilands, High School Math, Villa Grove CUSD #302

How is educational technology addressed outside Illinois? Hear about the discussions of two groups -- ISTE and the Nebraska Department of Education -- and how they might affect what happens in Illinois. The discussion will focus on apps and AI. In addition, there might be a demonstration of an AI math program currently under development.

Unlock the Power of Financial Wellness

ROOM 302

Dr. Linda Simpson, Professor, Eastern Illinois University

By mastering your money mindset, you'll not only enhance your personal life but also become a powerful role model for your kids and students. Discover how your financial well-being can positively impact both your home and classroom, and how artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) are revolutionizing personal financial planning, paving the way for a brighter, debt-free future for the next generation. This session will explore how you can use and promote financial literacy in your different roles: 1) as a personal money manager, 2) as a parent, and 3) as an educator.

Assessing in a Competency Based Education Classroom

ROOM 303

Lauren Mellott, Junior High English Language Arts, Charleston CUSD #1

This session will offer a secondary (Middle and High School) perspective on how to design, implement, and score assessments in a CBE classroom. Topics covered will include: the role of proficiency scales in assessment, how to develop success criteria, and strategies for meeting learners with varying needs while still maintaining rigor.

Retirement Planning Beyond TRS Benefits

ROOM 304

Michelle Zumbahlen, Retirement Plan Specialist, First Mid Wealth Management

Regardless of your TRS tier status, it's important to have a comprehensive and diversified plan for retirement, giving you more power to retire on your own terms. In this session, we will discuss the importance of retirement planning as well as share methods for saving for retirement beyond your TRS benefits. We will look at examples of how seemingly small contributions can accumulate over time due to the power of compound interest.

Teaching Current Events with Structure and Substance

ROOM 305

Jacob Koniak, High School Social Studies, Taylorville CUSD #3

Teaching Current Events requires adapting to a dynamic news cycle while maintaining structure. Through intentional planning, creativity, and technology, educators can effectively navigate this challenge. This session offers concrete strategies for educators to balance structure and flexibility, incorporating no-cost technology solutions to cultivate lifelong, informed, critical, and empathetic news consumers.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Get Your School Moving

ROOM 306

Trisha Hutchinson, Wellness Director, YMCA

Who's up for a challenge? Find fun and inspiring ways to create community through health and wellness challenges in your school. You'll walk away with easy-to-implement friendly competitions that will bring new energy to your school and classroom.

McKinney-Vento: Let Me Help!

ROOM 307

Teresa Metzger, Area IV McKinney-Vento Homeless lead Liaison, Regional Office of Education #11

McKinney-Vento liaisons, counselors, and principals, stop by to learn about all things MKV. A wide variety of topics ranging from MKV basics, to finding out what it means to be an unaccompanied youth, to outlining the responsibilities of districts in order to follow the law to assist MKV families. Individual scenarios from actual school districts will be discussed and talked through. As there is quite a bit of gray connected with MKV, let me help you clear up some of the unknowns during our time.

Rapport and Relationships: A Roadmap Cultivating a Positive Culture Kendall Huffman, Principal, Oakland CUSD #5

ROOM 308

Kendall Huffman, Principal, Oakland CUSD #5

This session is aimed at helping educators cultivate a positive classroom/school culture through building strong connections. It will explore various strategies and practical techniques for enhancing rapport and relationships within the classroom and school setting. Participants can expect to leave the workshop equipped with the tools to establish meaningful connections with their students/staff and create a positive atmosphere for learning and growth.

School Success Starts with Attendance

ROOM 309

Samantha Shores, Attendance Specialist, Regional Office of Education #11 Joel Lowry, Attendance Specialist, Regional Office of Education #11

Dive into 3 different character-based mini lessons that you will be able to incorporate into your own classroom. Lessons will be centered around student attendance. This breakout session will be interactive with time for discussion and collaboration.

Trends in Drug Use

ROOM 310

Josh Robinson, Trooper, Illinois State Police

The drugs used today are more complex than what was seen 20 years ago, and typically contain synthetic ingredients or may be entirely synthetic. Having a depressant or a stimulant isn't always the case anymore. With a lot of the drugs being used today, even cannabis, the user may exhibit signs of being under the influence of several different drug categories, even though they just took 1 drug. We will take a brief look at some of the newest drugs being used, how difficult they are to detect, and what signs/symptoms the user may exhibit.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Yearbook Advisor Survival Guide

ROOM 312

Brian Cordes, Junior High Math & Yearbook Advisor, Villa Grove CUSD #302

Need tips for survival when starting out as an adviser, or perhaps just looking for fresh ideas? This will be a crash course in the fundamentals of keeping one's head above water when attempting to juggle the responsibilities of life and yearbook. Photography, journalism, business and staff management are the critical components of the process which will be explored.

The Illinois Seal of Biliteracy

ROOM 313

Cate Baldwin, Spanish and ESL, Arthur CUSD #305

The Seal of Biliteracy is a wonderful incentive, both for world language students and multilingual learners, so let's talk about how to add it to our programs!

Unleashing the Genius in Every Student

ROOM 400

Tori Hale, Business and Technology, Casey-Westfield CUSD #C-4

This session provides an overview of the Working Genius theory, exploring the six distinct Genius types and their implications for educators. Participants will gain a foundational understanding of how to identify and leverage individual strengths to enhance classroom dynamics. Discover how the Working Genius framework can contribute to increased student engagement, improved outcomes, stronger teacher-student relationships, a positive school culture, and better preparation for students' futures.

What if Traditional Discipline Doesn't Work?

ROOM 401

Aly Mott, Special Education, Sullivan CUSD #300

The breakout will include a reflection on traditional/punitive discipline, information on restorative justice, and how it works in the classroom.

Classroom Management for New Teachers

ROOM 402

Jim Kestner, High School English, Villa Grove CUSD #302

Jim Kestner will present his nationally recognized program in a high-energy session dedicated to helping teachers in their early career years address a wide range of classroom management issues. Teachers who attend will find strategies that lead students to make good choices, replacing controlling behaviors with strategies that lead students to monitor and take responsibility for their own behavior. Specifically, the session will prepare teachers to establish a character-building environment that builds self-respect, self-discipline, and responsibility in students, leading them to make good choices. Kestner will share his own classroom policies, which he has used effectively throughout his career.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Starting a School Game Club: A How-To Guide for Expanding Your School's

ROOM 406

Extracurricular and Enrichment Opportunities

Dr. Ian Kinkley, K-12 Band and General Music, Stewardson-Strasburg CUSD #5A

Whether your school is looking to expand its non-athletic, extracurricular offerings or you have a groups of students who really want to play board games and roleplaying games in a supportive environment, this session will provide you with the strategies and tools to make a School Game Club happen. This presentation will include a how-to guide for starting a Game Club, considering what to include, establishing ground rules and norms, as well as gaming resources and recommendations - and where to find them.

A Language Teacher's Toolkit to Ignite Engagement Beyond the Ordinary

ROOM 407

Daniela Coombe, Bilingual Teacher, Arcola CUSD #306

Learning a second language can be challenging, so brace yourself for a session brimming with creativity, innovation, and the promise of transforming language learning into an unforgettable experience. Leave this session with a toolkit of resources ready for you to take back into your classroom and keep your students engaged.

Burnout Busters: Grants and Self-Guided PD

ROOM 408

Amy McClain, Junior-High and High School English & Director of Discipline, Shiloh CUSD #1

What's on your Bucket List? Do you have an idea that you wish you could fund? Look no further if you want to direct your own kind of professional development over the summer. A Fund for Teachers Fellowship can help you accomplish that goal, take that trip, or start that project. This presentation will include a website and materials created during a Fellowship to the University of Iowa's Summer Writing Workshop.

Co-Teaching ROOM 409

Katherine Engelke, Learning Behavior Specialist, Charleston CUSD #1

Wendy Gallaher, Learning Behavior Specialist, Retired

Discover the fundamentals of co-teaching and its adaptable models in this concise workshop. Explore effective strategies for collaborative teaching in diverse classroom settings. Engage in interactive group activities to brainstorm and address co-teaching scenarios, fostering practical insights and teamwork among educators.

FCCLA - Past, Present, and Future

ROOM 411

Ginger Voegel, Family and Consumer Science, Arthur CUSD #305

Calling all FCCLA advisors and Family & Consumer Sciences teachers! Join us for an informative workshop where you'll receive updates on the past, present, and future of FCCLA. Explore updates at the section, state, and national levels, and engage in collaborative discussions to exchange ideas on recruitment strategies, service projects, competitions, and fundraising initiatives. Don't miss this opportunity to network with peers and discover innovative ways to enhance your FCCLA chapter's success.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

General Weight Lifting for High School Students

ROOM 412

Mitch Wilson, Physical Education, Arthur CUSD #305

The #1 goal in Strength and Conditioning class is to improve overall body strength. This session will explore targeted exercises to develop flexibility, coordination, and ankle stability and provide tips to get this accomplished in a 43 minute class! We will also share innovative strength record boards, tracking and ranking performance across eight different tests for boys and girls.

FCS - Food Protection Manager and Handler: How to Certify Our Students and More! Bonnie Scott, Family and Consumer Science, Okaw Valley CUSD #302

ROOM 416

Join us for a workshop designed for FCS teachers interested in becoming Food Protection Manager Instructor/Proctor or those wishing to enhance their existing skills. We'll explore effective teaching strategies for certifying students with Food Protection Manager or Food Handler Certification. Participants will also gain experience navigating the certification website.

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TEACHER READY WEST FLORIDA
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LIFT:

PARENTABLE

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Lake Land College English Language Acquisition Classes

ROOM 101

Dustyn Fatheree, Director of Adult Education, Lake Land Community College

Lake Land College Adult Education offers a number of locations for English language learners to attend English Language Acquisition classes (formerly known as English as a Second Language). These classes serve to teach students an array of English skills including reading, writing, speaking, comprehension and more. Classes are free to the student, but these sections normally fill up fast. In this session, learn more about student eligibility, class details, locations and testing requirements.

Unlocking Hidden Potential: How Co-op Opportunities Transform Careers Beyond Expectations

ROOM 102

Baley Milton, Agriculture, Arcola CUSD #306

Brad Ingram, Owner, Country Learning Center

Discover exciting new possibilities through local partnerships for Cooperative Education students. This collaboration opens doors to diverse agribusiness opportunities across Douglas County, including hands-on work with animals, developing a community garden, and engaging with students of all ages. With so many avenues to explore, this is just the beginning—imagine where these opportunities could lead and how you could implement a program like this in your school!

Enhancing Personalized Learning Using Pacing Guides and the 4DX Method

ROOM 103

Chris Brown, Program Facilitator, LIFT

Dan Compton, Program Facilitator, LIFT

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Exploring Illinois 4-H Signature Programs: Grades 7-12

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Mocha, Certified Therapy Dog

Have you ever wondered what having a fluffy four-legged friend in your building or classroom looks like? This session will provide information and testimonies on the positive effects our canine companions can have on Social Emotional Learning in a school environment for students and staff, as well as provide an overview of the rules and regulations, training options, pet insurance, administrative acceptance and approval and the difference between a Therapy Dog, Service Animal, and Emotional Support Animal.

Dungeons and Dragons in ELA - Team Unit

ROOM 205

Jenny Gergeni, 7th Grade LEA, Shelbyville CUSD #4

Caleb Mathis, Grades 6-12 Art, Shelbyville CUSD #4

Dungeons and Dragons is growing in popularity, so why not use it to your advantage in the ELA classroom? Join us to see how the seventh grade team at Moulton engages students on an early dismissal day. This unit does not cost much, and the students enjoy this day. You could even use this as a unit in one classroom over a week or more.

Math Professional Learning Community

ROOM 206

Lindsay Krumreich, High School Math, Shelbyville CUSD #4

This math professional learning roundtable will focus on junior high and high school math topics. This collaborative workshop offers educators a platform to delve into diverse mathematical concepts, share best practices, and explore innovative teaching strategies. Engage in dynamic discussions, exchange insights, and enhance your pedagogical toolkit in a supportive and collaborative environment.

Digital Notes Binder

ROOM 207

Michelle Duke, Junior High Math, Paris CUSD #4

Discover how to efficiently record your daily lessons using Smart Notebook or any screen recorder in this workshop. Learn the process of uploading your recorded files to My VR Spot and organizing them into a dedicated classroom folder. Empower students and parents to access missed or challenging lessons, fostering enhanced comprehension and engagement.

Artificial Intelligence and Secondary Education

ROOM 208

Andy Cougill, Librarian, Lake Land Community College

Constant growth and evolution means AI will be a hot topic for many years. Learn how AI can help teachers create more engaging content and save you time in the process. Discover resources that can help you teach about its ethical use and how to guard against misuse.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Vocational Training to Support Young Workers Entering the Modern Workforce

ROOM 213A

Christopher Hanson, Director of Hazardous Materials Training Program, University of Illinois

This session will highlight the diverse training courses designed to elevate young workers' resumes in a competitive job market. Discover how these stackable certification programs—ranging from 8 to 40 hours—can enhance career prospects across various occupations. We'll delve into the ultimate benefits of these certifications and how they can strategically boost your career path.

AI-mazing Differentiation: Tools to Tailor Your Teaching

ROOM 213B

Matt Sherrill, Regional Educational Technology Coordinator, Learning Technology Center

In this interactive session, we'll dive into the time-saving tools that help tailor your teaching to meet the unique needs of every student. Explore how Diffit, MagicSchool, and other tools can transform your classroom into a personalized learning haven. You'll discover practical strategies for creating custom lessons, simplifying planning, and boosting student engagement. Whether you're a tech newbie or an AI enthusiast, this session will equip you with the tools to make your instruction truly AI-mazing!

Legal Updates for Teachers

ROOM 224

Brian D. Schwartz, Attorney at Law, Law Offices of Brian D. Schwartz

Discover the latest legislative changes affecting classroom instruction and the teaching profession at this essential update. Stay informed and compliant while engaging in a dynamic and insightful session. We encourage your questions and active participation.

Staff Fitness with PLT4M

ROOM 234

Mark Jones, Physical Education, Neoga CUSD #3

Join us for an insightful workshop focusing on the advantages of integrating the PLT4M program into staff wellness initiatives. Discover how this program can enhance physical and mental well-being among staff members. Engage in a demonstration of one of the introductory lessons to experience firsthand the potential impact on wellness and team cohesion. Don't miss this opportunity to explore practical strategies for promoting staff health and vitality through PLT4M.

Abuse is Preventable

ROOM 300

Josie Ellingsworth, Prevention Educator, Prevail

At Prevail Illinois, we believe that sexual abuse is preventable. Prevail Illinois is committed to creating a world without sexual abuse by educating professionals, parents, and children about sexual abuse. We want to partner with professionals like you who care about ending this type of violence in their communities. Join us as we discuss the standards set in place by Faith & Hope's Laws, red flags of sexual abuse, and the services that Prevail Illinois offers to you, your students, and their families.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

The Secret Sauce for Personal Growth

ROOM 306

Trisha Hutchinson, Wellness Director, YMCA

Find the recipe substitutions for: less stress and more peace of mind, less pain and more movement, less negativity and more positivity. In this session you'll find the key ingredients for building long-term lifestyle improvement.

McKinney-Vento: Let Me Help!

ROOM 307

Teresa Metzger, Area IV McKinney-Vento Homeless lead Liaison, Regional Office of Education #11

McKinney-Vento liaisons, counselors, and principals, stop by to learn about all things MKV. A wide variety of topics ranging from MKV basics, to finding out what it means to be an unaccompanied youth, to outlining the responsibilities of districts in order to follow the law to assist MKV families. Individual scenarios from actual school districts will be discussed and talked through. As there is quite a bit of gray connected with MKV, let me help you clear up some of the unknowns during our time.

Rapport and Relationships: A Roadmap Cultivating a Positive Culture

ROOM 308

Kendall Huffman, Principal, Oakland CUSD #5

This session is aimed at helping educators cultivate a positive classroom/school culture through building strong connections. It will explore various strategies and practical techniques for enhancing rapport and relationships within the classroom and school setting. Participants can expect to leave the workshop equipped with the tools to establish meaningful connections with their students/staff and create a positive atmosphere for learning and growth.

School Success Starts with Attendance

ROOM 309

Samantha Shores, Attendance Specialist, Regional Office of Education #11 Joel Lowry, Attendance Specialist, Regional Office of Education #11

Dive into 3 different character-based mini lessons that you will be able to incorporate into your own classroom. Lessons will be centered around student attendance. This breakout session will be interactive with time for discussion and collaboration.

Trends in Drug Use

ROOM 310

Josh Robinson, Trooper, Illinois State Police

The drugs used today are more complex than what was seen 20 years ago, and typically contain synthetic ingredients or may be entirely synthetic. Having a depressant or a stimulant isn't always the case anymore. With a lot of the drugs being used today, even cannabis, the user may exhibit signs of being under the influence of several different drug categories, even though they just took 1 drug. We will take a brief look at some of the newest drugs being used, how difficult they are to detect, and what signs/symptoms the user may exhibit.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Yearbook Advisor Roundtable

ROOM 312

Brian Cordes, Junior High Math & Yearbook Advisor, Villa Grove CUSD #302

This session will serve as a collaborative time to share ideas, ask questions, and make connections with other hardworking yearbook advisors.

World Language Teacher Roundtable

ROOM 313

Cate Baldwin, Spanish and ESL, Arthur CUSD #305

Join this interactive roundtable where educators can either bring a resource, strategy, or challenge to share or come ready to listen and learn from peers. Whether you are looking to showcase your innovative approaches or seek solutions to classroom challenges, this is the perfect opportunity to connect and grow with fellow world language teachers.

EmpowerED: Transformative Teaching with Choice Boards in High School CTE Classrooms Tori Hale, Business and Technology, Casey-Westfield CUSD #C-4

ROOM 400

This workshop is designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to seamlessly integrate Choice Boards into your instructional toolkit, fostering student engagement, autonomy, and skill development. Choice Boards are a versatile and dynamic instructional strategy that empowers students to take ownership of their learning by providing a menu of diverse learning activities. In this session, you will explore the various ways in which Choice Boards can be adapted to the unique needs and goals of your classroom. We will discuss how to design choice boards, integrate them into a variety of situations, discuss ways to boost student engagement with the content, explore methods for assessing student progress and providing constructive feedback within the context of Choice Board assignments, and even suggest some ideas for how to use Choice Boards to facilitate collaboration. By the end of this session, you will leave with a practical toolkit of strategies and resources to confidently implement Choice Boards in your classroom, promoting student autonomy,

What if Traditional Discipline Doesn't Work?

ROOM 401

Aly Mott, Special Education, Sullivan CUSD #300

The breakout will include a reflection on traditional/punitive discipline, information on restorative justice, and how it works in the classroom.

Writers' Workshop: A Self-Paced, Gamified Approach to Teaching All Students to Write Iim Kestner, High School English, Villa Grove CUSD #302

fostering creativity, and ultimately enhancing the overall learning experience for your students.

ROOM 402

Jim Kestner, High School English, Villa Grove CUSD #302

This session shares approaches and practical examples of harnessing students' interest in gaming and competition to teach students to write. It also addresses the challenge of differentiating instruction to teach students who struggle and advanced students in the same class. Google tools for implementing these approaches will be shared with those who attend.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Starting a School Game Club: A How-To Guide for Expanding Your School's

ROOM 406

Extracurricular and Enrichment Opportunities

Dr. Ian Kinkley, K-12 Band and General Music, Stewardson-Strasburg CUSD #5A

Whether your school is looking to expand its non-athletic, extracurricular offerings or you have a groups of students who really want to play board games and roleplaying games in a supportive environment, this session will provide you with the strategies and tools to make a School Game Club happen. This presentation will include a how-to guide for: starting a Game Club; considering what to include; establishing ground rules and norms; as well as gaming resources and recommendations - and where to find them.

A Language Teacher's Toolkit to Ignite Engagement Beyond the Ordinary

ROOM 407

Daniela Coombe, Bilingual Teacher, Arcola CUSD #306

Learning a second language can be challenging, so brace yourself for a session brimming with creativity, innovation, and the promise of transforming language learning into an unforgettable experience. Leave this session with a toolkit of resources ready for you to take back into your classroom and keep your students engaged.

20 Time Projects: Motivating High School Learners

ROOM 408

Amy McClain, Junior-High and High School English & Director of Discipline, Shiloh CUSD #1

Are you tired of the glazed look your reluctant students give you? Do you wish that you could challenge those kiddos who are on top of their work and eager for more? Look no further than the 20 Time Project, the concept that brought us Gmail and Post-It notes. Free materials will be available for teachers of any discipline to implement the project on Monday.

Co-Teaching ROOM 409

Katherine Engelke, Learning Behavior Specialist, Charleston CUSD #1

Wendy Gallaher, Learning Behavior Specialist, Retired

Discover the fundamentals of co-teaching and its adaptable models in this concise workshop. Explore effective strategies for collaborative teaching in diverse classroom settings. Engage in interactive group activities to brainstorm and address co-teaching scenarios, fostering practical insights and teamwork among educators.

FCCLA - Past, Present, and Future

ROOM 411

Ginger Voegel, Family and Consumer Science, Arthur CUSD #305

Calling all FCCLA advisors and Family & Consumer Sciences teachers! Join us for an informative workshop where you'll receive updates on the past, present, and future of FCCLA. Explore updates at the section, state, and national levels, and engage in collaborative discussions to exchange ideas on recruitment strategies, service projects, competitions, and fundraising initiatives. Don't miss this opportunity to network with peers and discover innovative ways to enhance your FCCLA chapter's success.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Rest and Recovery for Student Athletes

ROOM 412

Mitch Wilson, Physical Education, Arthur CUSD #305

Coach Wilson will share about how to optimize student athlete rest and recovery through a peanut butter and jelly and chocolate milk station recently implemented at Arthur CUSD #305. Discover effective tools and strategies to support student recovery post-workout and learn about how coaches can integrate rest days into athletes' schedules and promote holistic well-being for optimal performance.

FCS - Food Protection Manager and Handler: How to Certify Our Students and More! Bonnie Scott, Family and Consumer Science, Okaw Valley CUSD #302

ROOM 416

Join us for a workshop designed for FCS teachers interested in becoming Food Protection Manager Instructor/Proctor or those wishing to enhance their existing skills. We'll explore effective teaching strategies for certifying students with Food Protection Manager or Food Handler Certification. Participants will also gain experience navigating the certification website.







MATTOON & CHARLESTON:
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY
TEACHER READY WEST FLORIDA
ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL

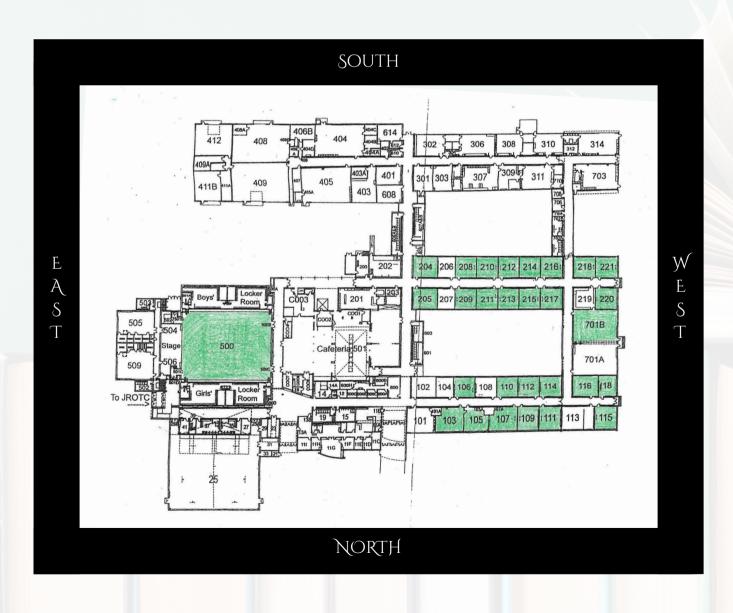
LIFT:

PARENTABLE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

Mattoon High School

MATTOON HIGH SCHOOL 2521 WALNUT AVENUE MATTOON, IL 61938





Mattoon High School Breakout Sessions

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Human Trafficking Awareness

ROOM 103

Doug Cochran, Deputy, Kansas Police Department

This session will address the pressing issue of child human trafficking. We will explore the mechanisms through which children are lured into trafficking and identify potential indicators of trafficking victims.

Whatever it Takes ROOM 105

Susie Bishop, Independent Education Consultant

Veteran teacher, Susie Bishop, presents a highly engaging, super energetic session. Participants will receive exciting activities to implement in their classrooms and strategies to encourage reading, writing, and mental health. Come be a "WHATEVER IT TAKES" teacher for your students.

The Importance of SEL within the MTSS Framework

ROOM 106

Rose Hollingsworth, K-5 Special Education & District Mentor Program Coordinator, Arthur CUSD #305 Marla Graham, Principal, Arthur CUSD #305

This session will delve into the significance of social-emotional learning (SEL) in the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework and advocate for its integration and continuous improvement within the district's educational policies and practices.

Exploring Creativity: An Introduction to Generative AI for Pre-k through 6th Grade

ROOM 107

Sarah Hill, Director of Library Services/Faculty Accreditation Coordinator, Lake Land Community College

Discover the magic of Generative AI! From generating art to crafting stories, Chat GPT opens up a world of creative possibilities for educators. We'll explore the fundamentals of this innovative technology, exploring simple tools and techniques to integrate Generative AI into your classroom activities.

Compassion Fatigue: Practical Ideas that Work!

ROOM 109

Laura Bollan, Director of Healthy Communities, Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center

If you have ever had to drag yourself to work, felt cynical or critical about work, became irritable with students or coworkers, found it hard to concentrate, felt you did not have the energy to be productive, you were likely among the 78% of teachers who described themselves as stressed in 2023. We will look at ways to help identify burnout and look at simple, practical, and effective ways to prevent and provide self-care for yourself and your coworkers.

Get Your School Moving

ROOM 110

Emily Hayden, Sr. Director of Wellness and Youth, YMCA

Who's up for a challenge? Find fun and inspiring ways to create community through health and wellness challenges in your school. You'll walk away with easy-to-implement friendly competitions that will bring new energy to your school and classroom.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

School Success Starts with Attendance

ROOM 111

Blair Dosch, Attendance Specialist, Regional Office of Education #11 Erin Beck, Attendance Specialist, Regional Office of Education #11

Dive into 3 different character-based mini lessons that you will be able to incorporate into your own classroom. Lessons will be centered around student attendance. This breakout session will be interactive with time for discussion and collaboration.

Math Strategies and More - Come Explore!

ROOM 112

Melinda Miethe, Program Advisor, Illinois Elevating Special Educators

This session will cover various math strategies for individualized, group, and whole-class settings. We will also explore the concept of finding math in life, discuss effective teaching methods, and provide parents tips. Additionally, there will be opportunities for brainstorming your ideas, sharing how to use Padlets, and engaging in open discussion.

Trends in School Law: A Legal Update

ROOM 114

Luke Feeney, Partner, Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, LTD.

Come discover the latest statutory and case law changes affecting public school districts, educators, and students. This update will provide essential insights and analysis on recent legal developments and their implications for educational settings. Don't miss this opportunity to stay informed on how new regulations and court decisions impact your role and responsibilities.

Benefits of Therapy Dogs in School Settings Denise Sentel, Second Grade, Windsor CUSD #1 Gauge, Certified Therapy Dog

ROOM 115

This engaging breakout session will feature Gauge, a therapy dog, and explore the myriad benefits of incorporating therapy dogs in school settings. Discover how these canine companions positively impact staff, students, and parents alike. Learn about the therapeutic effects of interaction with therapy dogs and gain insights into implementing successful programs in your school community.

Empowering Students Through Teach-To's: A Proactive Approach to Behavior Management Jason Wyatt, Business Leadership Coach, 1LEAD

ROOM 116

This powerful speech will explore the revolutionary concept of "teach-to's" in education, a proactive strategy designed to explicitly teach students the expected behaviors and skills they need to thrive. We'll delve into the philosophy behind teach-to's, their departure from traditional disciplinary approaches, and showcase examples of effective teach-to strategies. Furthermore, we'll uncover the multitude of benefits for students, teachers, and school culture, while also providing insightful implementation tips for educators. Ultimately, we aim to highlight how teach-to's can cultivate a

positive learning environment, diminish behavioral issues, and empower students with vital social-emotional skills.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

SOR - NOT Just Phonics

ROOM 118

Rochelle Luttrell, Kindergarten & 2023 Illinois Reading League Ambassador, Arthur CUSD #305

Science of Reading is not just phonics! In this session, we will discuss Scarborough's Rope and what it means for your teaching. This discussion will cover what each strand may look like in your classroom.

Taking Control of the Classroom

ROOM 204

Aimee Lugo, K-6 Instructional Coach, Arcola CUSD #306

Are you looking for ways to foster a positive learning environment in your classroom? Join me for some fun and unique strategies for the classroom environment that can help take back control of your classroom while engaging your students. These techniques focus on understanding and addressing various behaviors, allowing us to create a more productive atmosphere.

Math Vocabulary Development

ROOM 205

Dr. Cathleen Weber, Independent Education Consultant, Education Lane

Every grade level has a language development responsibility. What vocabulary is essential for you to develop? How do you develop that vocabulary? This session will give all K-6 staff vocabulary for their grade level and ideas on how to ensure students utilize and master them!

Using Puppets in Social Emotional Learning

ROOM 208

Dave Zanton, Kindergarten, Charleston CUSD #1

This session will focus on how we can use puppets to help young children learn social-emotional skills. There will be songs, skits, and each person will have a chance to use the puppet at the end of the session to sing along with the songs learned during the session. Puppets will help to understand how to identify feelings, solve problems, and regulate emotions.

Understanding the Journey: What Happens to Youth in Care

ROOM 209

Robin Strauss, Permanency Area Administrator, DCFS

Arnold Black, Investigations Supervisor, DCFS

This presentation will explain how a case is determined to be founded or unfounded, how youth come into DCFS care, what happens while they are in care, and what services are available to them and their families. It will also review how we can support them as well as provide preventative services.

Pre-K Introduction to Robotics

ROOM 210

Hope Thompson, Program Operations Manager, NextWaveSTEM

Alyse Kondrat, Outreach Consultant, NextWaveSTEM

In this session participants will interact with K-2 lessons in which they learn what a robot is, write basic commands, and sequence using basic programming skills.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Reaching and Teaching the Vulnerable Student

ROOM 211

Stacy Mesnard, Principal, Vandalia Christian Academy

Vulnerable (at risk) students come to school with a host of problems. We can all identify and acknowledge these problems, but educators need skills to help children manage their challenges and teach them to develop and learn despite their circumstances. In this session we will discuss strategies to help the student become a more resilient learner, develop questioning and discussion techniques that are more engaging to these students, discuss how their vulnerabilities affect their learning, and gather some tactics to help motivate them at school.

Exploring Illinois 4-H Signature Programs: Grades Pre-K through 6th

ROOM 212

Rachel Stenger, 4-H Program Coordinator, University of Illinois

Join us for an engaging and informative workshop that explores the dynamic world of Illinois 4-H Signature Programs! Specifically designed to meet the needs of teachers and youth in schools, this workshop will introduce you to a variety of impactful programs aimed at empowering youth and fostering their development. Discover how you can bring exciting programs in STEM, environmental education, health and wellness, gardening, agriculture, and food access into your classroom. Don't miss this opportunity to enrich your teaching and inspire your students!

Abuse is Preventable ROOM 213

Tina Johnson, Director of Prevention & Volunteer Services, Prevail

At Prevail Illinois, we believe that sexual abuse is preventable. Prevail Illinois is committed to creating a world without sexual abuse by educating professionals, parents, and children about sexual abuse. We want to partner with professionals like you who care about ending this type of violence in their communities. Join us as we discuss the standards set in place by Faith & Hope's Laws, red flags of sexual abuse, and the services that Prevail Illinois offers to you, your students, and their families.

Motivating the Disengaged

ROOM 214

Morgan Wilhoit, Superintendent, Shiloh CUSD #1

During this session, we will delve into the realm of research-backed strategies that can revolutionize academic motivation and engagement. In today's classrooms disengagement is at an all time high among students. I will share ways to assess the engagement of your students, while also giving strategies to improve higher-order thinking without having to spend too much extra time planning.

Light it Up with Paper Circuits

ROOM 215

Terence Sullivan, EdTech Support, EIU Rural Schools Network

This session uses low cost and safe LED lights and copper tape to learn about basic electricity. We'll create lighted greeting cards and be able to cover all the basics of electronics. As a learning activity it can be used from 3rd grade to high school science or vocational classes. Its fun but the base activities can be extended into coding or even micro controllers for pattern lighting projects.

28

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Competency-Based Education 101

ROOM 216

Jenny Evans, Third Grade, Charleston CUSD #1

Competency-Based Education (CBE) has become a buzzword in education reform. With many schools in the area making the shift, come find out what it is and how you can start implementing some ideas in your classroom. We will discuss how CBE looks in an elementary classroom as well as all the basics like grading, voice and choice, and student agency. Presented by Jenny Evans, a third-grade teacher with 5 years experience in teaching a CBE classroom.

T3ch010GY: The Impact Technology Has On Our School's Ecosystem

ROOM 217

Holly Kelly, Regional Educational Technology Coordinator, Learning Technology Center

Join us to explore the intricate balance between human relationships and technology interactions. This session will delve into technology's profound impact on students' developing brains, the school ecosystem, the classroom environment, and the integration of AI. We will uncover the root causes of the current student mental health crisis and identify actionable strategies for positive change. This session is essential for educators seeking to understand and navigate the high-anxiety, uncertain world our students live in. By the end, you'll gain practical tools and resources to create a balanced, mindful approach to technology use, promoting a school environment where students digitally and interpersonally thrive.

Supporting At Risk Families

ROOM 218

Katrina Farris, Director of Early Childhood, Mattoon CUSD #2

Supporting a child's entire family unit shows greater school success for the child in later years. Learn how to provide a wrap-around support system with the education and community systems in place, and how to build and strengthen the family's support system to create lasting bonds.

Word Power: Effective Vocabulary Strategies for Every Subject

ROOM 220

Cindy Goodchild, Instructional Coach, Charleston CUSD #1

Lauren Hopper, Instructional Coach, Charleston CUSD #1

Vocabulary plays a critical role in all subjects, and students face challenges when they have a limited vocabulary. Learn how to embed rich language within your classroom, routines for explicit vocabulary instruction, fun ways to practice Tier 3 vocabulary words, and strategies to help words stick in students' brains. We will look at both vocabulary in reading and content-area vocabulary.

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Sounds Like Fun - Multisensory Phonics in the Early Elementary Classroom

ROOM 221

Kristen Brown, Kindergarten, Tuscola CUSD #301

Amber Knight, K-2 Special Education, Tuscola CUSD #301

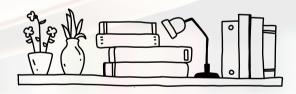
This breakout session equips educators with advanced strategies for teaching phonics through both whole group and small group instruction. Participants will learn to implement explicit and systematic phonics methods tailored for grades kindergarten through second grade. The session emphasizes multi-sensory techniques, incorporating visual, auditory, and kinesthetic activities to enhance student engagement and learning. Educators will gain practical tools and activities to effectively address diverse learning needs and promote early literacy skills. By the end of the session, teachers will be prepared to create dynamic and effective phonics instruction in their classrooms.

Retirement Planning...Beyond TRS

ROOM 701B

Chad Arnold, Principal, Mattoon CUSD #2

It's never too early... or late to begin planning for retirement. In this session we will discuss how to take your place in the driver's seat and begin to dream and plan for your retirement. We will discuss key topics such as setting retirement goals and saving for retirement through your 403b plan and ROTH IRAs. There will also be discussion about planning for health care costs as well as how to keep a long-term perspective and the importance of working with a financial advisor. If you are in tier 1 or tier 2 and haven't looked beyond your TRS benefits, this session is for you.



VISIT WITH TABLE REPRESENTATIVES



MATTOON & CHARLESTON:
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY
TEACHER READY WEST FLORIDA
ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL

LIFT:

PARENTABLE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

Mattoon High School Breakout Sessions

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

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Doug Cochran, Deputy, Kansas Police Department

This session will address the pressing issue of child human trafficking. We will explore the mechanisms through which children are lured into trafficking and identify potential indicators of trafficking victims.

Be the Light ROOM 105

Susie Bishop, Independent Education Consultant

Come join Susie as she shares ideas for helping students become positive leaders at school and home. Research and evidence-based strategies are modeled and will be available to explore. If you are ready for excitement, this session is for you!

Boosting Induction: Develop and Mentor Like a Pro

ROOM 106

Rose Hollingsworth, K-5 Special Education & District Mentor Program Coordinator, Arthur CUSD #305 Marla Graham, Principal, Arthur CUSD #305

This session will focus on designing a robust two-year induction program or elevating existing mentorship initiatives. Explore key topics such as professional development strategies, orientation protocols, and fostering impactful mentormentee relationships within the induction framework.

Exploring Creativity: An Introduction to Generative AI for Pre-k through 6th Grade

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Sarah Hill, Director of Library Services/Faculty Accreditation Coordinator, Lake Land Community College

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Multi-Sensory Learning in Reading

ROOM 112

Melinda Miethe, Program Advisor, Illinois Elevating Special Educators

In this session, you'll learn about using a multisensory approach to learning and how to bring a multimodal approach into classrooms. We'll also cover strategies for using a multisensory approach to improve reading skills.

Trends in School Law: A Legal Update

ROOM 114

Luke Feeney, Partner, Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, LTD.

Come discover the latest statutory and case law changes affecting public school districts, educators, and students. This update will provide essential insights and analysis on recent legal developments and their implications for educational settings. Don't miss this opportunity to stay informed on how new regulations and court decisions impact your role and responsibilities.

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We're Good, Really

ROOM 116

Jason Wyatt, Business Leadership Coach, 1LEAD

Embark on a compelling exploration of common leadership pitfalls and gain invaluable insights into successfully navigating them. By understanding and dissecting the triumphs and setbacks of organizations grappling with the pervasive "We're Good" Mentality. By delving into real-world scenarios, this presentation aims to provide participants with actionable strategies and a step-by-step process to effectively address and overcome prevalent leadership frustrations. Join us on a journey towards honing your leadership skills and mastering the art of navigating challenges with resilience and foresight.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

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Classroom Management

ROOM 205

Dr. Cathleen Weber, Independent Education Consultant, Education Lane

This session will explore practical and effective strategies to foster a positive learning environment. Come discover valuable resources and techniques that will assist in mid-semester reset to ensure all student behaviors are aligning with your expectations.

Using Puppets in Social Emotional Learning

ROOM 208

Dave Zanton, Kindergarten, Charleston CUSD #1

This session will focus on how we can use puppets to help young children learn social-emotional skills. There will be songs, skits, and each person will have a chance to use the puppet at the end of the session to sing along with the songs learned during the session. Puppets will help to understand how to identify feelings, solve problems, and regulate emotions.

Understanding the Journey: What Happens to Youth in Care

ROOM 209

Robin Strauss, Permanency Area Administrator, DCFS

Arnold Black, Investigations Supervisor, DCFS

This presentation will explain how a case is determined to be founded or unfounded, how youth come into DCFS care, what happens while they are in care, and what services are available to them and their families. It will also review how we can support them as well as provide preventative services.

Grades 3-5 AI Artificial Intelligence Artists

ROOM 210

$Hope\ Thompson, Program\ Operations\ Manager, NextWave STEM$

Alyse Kondrat, Outreach Consultant, NextWaveSTEM

In this session participants will interact with grades 3-5 lessons that show how AI is used in the arts, determine which images are AI generated and which are human created, and discuss implications of AI usage in the arts.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

The Danielson Model for Teacher Evaluation

ROOM 211

Stacy Mesnard, Principal, Vandalia Christian Academy

This session is an overview of the Danielson Model of teacher evaluation. Stacy will provide an explanation of the four domains and discuss and provide practical examples of the indicators within each domain. Pieces of "evidence" samples will be provided for participants to examine to get ideas about what types of items they could use to prove proficiency to their administrators within each domain during their evaluation cycle. Lastly, she will explain how the teacher evaluation process does not have to be a "gotcha" situation between the teacher and the administrator!

Exploring Illinois 4-H Signature Programs: Grades Pre-K through 6th

ROOM 212

Rachel Stenger, 4-H Program Coordinator, University of Illinois

Join us for an engaging and informative workshop that explores the dynamic world of Illinois 4-H Signature Programs! Specifically designed to meet the needs of teachers and youth in schools, this workshop will introduce you to a variety of impactful programs aimed at empowering youth and fostering their development. Discover how you can bring exciting programs in STEM, environmental education, health and wellness, gardening, agriculture, and food access into your classroom. Don't miss this opportunity to enrich your teaching and inspire your students!

Abuse is Preventable ROOM 213

Tina Johnson, Director of Prevention & Volunteer Services, Prevail

At Prevail Illinois, we believe that sexual abuse is preventable. Prevail Illinois is committed to creating a world without sexual abuse by educating professionals, parents, and children about sexual abuse. We want to partner with professionals like you who care about ending this type of violence in their communities. Join us as we discuss the standards set in place by Faith & Hope's Laws, red flags of sexual abuse, and the services that Prevail Illinois offers to you, your students, and their families.

School Culture and Student Engagement

ROOM 214

Morgan Wilhoit, Superintendent, Shiloh CUSD #1

During this session, new research will be presented on the relationship between school culture and student engagement. To preface, participants will be given some research-based background information on the two areas and how they align. Tips and tricks will be shared to improve your classroom culture, while also heightening student engagement and higher-order thinking.

Stellarium: Premier Free Open-Source Planetarium App

ROOM 215

Terence Sullivan, EdTech Support, EIU Rural Schools Network

Stellarium is the ideal planetarium program for teachers. Students are naturally interested in the stars and in the last year we've seen an eclipse, northern lights, a nova, and a comet. Use that interest! Stellarium is intuitive and easy for young students but offers features needed by professionals. Learn about the night sky, planets facts, identify constellations, stars, and view the sky from any location or any time in history.

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10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Proficiency Scales 101

ROOM 216

Jenny Evans, Third Grade, Charleston CUSD #1

Many schools have shifted from traditional grading to proficiency-based grading (also known as standards-based grading). Come learn about the benefits of using a proficiency-based grading system and how to appropriately and effectively use proficiency scales in your elementary classroom.

T3ch010GY: The Impact Technology Has On Our School's Ecosystem

ROOM 217

Holly Kelly, Regional Educational Technology Coordinator, Learning Technology Center

Join us to explore the intricate balance between human relationships and technology interactions. This session will delve into technology's profound impact on students' developing brains, the school ecosystem, the classroom environment, and the integration of AI. We will uncover the root causes of the current student mental health crisis and identify actionable strategies for positive change. This session is essential for educators seeking to understand and navigate the high-anxiety, uncertain world our students live in. By the end, you'll gain practical tools and resources to create a balanced, mindful approach to technology use, promoting a school environment where students digitally and interpersonally thrive.

Supporting At Risk Families

ROOM 218

Katrina Farris, Director of Early Childhood, Mattoon CUSD #2

Supporting a child's entire family unit shows greater school success for the child in later years. Learn how to provide a wrap-around support system with the education and community systems in place, and how to build and strengthen the family's support system to create lasting bonds.

Word Power: Effective Vocabulary Strategies for Every Subject

ROOM 220

Cindy Goodchild, Instructional Coach, Charleston CUSD #1

Lauren Hopper, Instructional Coach, Charleston CUSD #1

Vocabulary plays a critical role in all subjects, and students face challenges when they have a limited vocabulary. Learn how to embed rich language within your classroom, routines for explicit vocabulary instruction, fun ways to practice Tier 3 vocabulary words, and strategies to help words stick in students' brains. We will look at both vocabulary in reading and content-area vocabulary.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Sounds Like Fun - Multisensory Phonics in the Early Elementary Classroom

ROOM 221

Kristen Brown, Kindergarten, Tuscola CUSD #301

Amber Knight, K-2 Special Education, Tuscola CUSD #301

This breakout session equips educators with advanced strategies for teaching phonics through both whole group and small group instruction. Participants will learn to implement explicit and systematic phonics methods tailored for grades kindergarten through second grade. The session emphasizes multi-sensory techniques, incorporating visual, auditory, and kinesthetic activities to enhance student engagement and learning. Educators will gain practical tools and activities to effectively address diverse learning needs and promote early literacy skills. By the end of the session, teachers will be prepared to create dynamic and effective phonics instruction in their classrooms.

Retirement Planning...Beyond TRS

ROOM 701B

Chad Arnold, Principal, Mattoon CUSD #2

It's never too early... or late to begin planning for retirement. In this session we will discuss how to take your place in the driver's seat and begin to dream and plan for your retirement. We will discuss key topics such as setting retirement goals and saving for retirement through your 403b plan and ROTH IRAs. There will also be discussion about planning for health care costs as well as how to keep a long-term perspective and the importance of working with a financial advisor. If you are in tier 1 or tier 2 and haven't looked beyond your TRS benefits, this session is for you.



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Eastern Illinois University
Eastern Illinois Education for Employment System (EFE 340)
Eastern Illinois University
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MATTOON HIGH SCHOOL STAFF
REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION #11 STAFF
SARAH BUSH LINCOLN HEALTH CENTER

THE EFFORTS OF SO MANY CONTRIBUTED TO THE GREAT SUCCESS OF THIS EVENT.

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