

1A: Creating a Culturally Responsive Classroom

Facilitator(s): *Deborah Carter*

All teachers dream of teaching of creating a classroom culture where the members respect one another, learning can flourish, and gifts are celebrated. In this workshop, we will explore ways to implement current research about culturally responsive classrooms. We will examine culturally responsive literature, lessons, and classroom management strategies.

Audience: Preschool-Grade 12 Teachers

Format: Discussion-based, Interactive

OCFS Areas: 1,3

1B: Strategies for Teaching Fractions

Facilitator(s): *Elaine Zsellar*

This workshop will focus on conceptual understanding strategies for the teaching of fractions. An understanding of fractions in elementary school is crucial for a student's success in Algebra.

Audience: Grades 3-5 Teachers

Format: Discussion-based

OCFS Areas: n/a

1C: Better Together

Facilitator(s): *Marlene Lund*

In forty years of ministry I have seen relationships between pastors and administrators from what I'd term toxic to ideal. My experience is that those relationships which work and are strong benefit both church, school and the individuals in them. We are better together. This workshop will look at the relationships between pastors and administrators--what works, what gets in the way, what are the tricks of the trade. Come alone or even better come as the team you are or wish to become.

Audience: Administrators, Pastors

Format: Interactive, Tangible Take-away

OCFS Areas: n/a

1D: Don't Go Nutty and Bolt - Establishing the Nuts and Bolts of a Great Team

Facilitator(s): *Kim Kusilek & Kris Dudak*

Get ready for an eye-opening interactive workshop in which to explore the seven essential elements of establishing positive relationships with your staff--the nuts and bolts of a great team. As Directors and Administrative Staff we are sometimes at a loss as to where to go and who to turn to. Come join our crew to discuss the power of communication, the importance of solution planning, being direct to state needs, building allies while taking responsibility, keeping commitments, sharing credit and helping others find their greatness. Start building a team management approach where every person is valued, trusted and affirmed. We will share our stories and would love to hear yours!

Audience: Administrators (emphasis on Preschool Directors), Administrative Assistants

Format: Interactive

OCFS Areas: 3

1E: Supporting Parents of Children with Special Needs - Learning to Listen with a Caring Ear

Facilitator(s): *Jeanne Ginsberg*

As a parent, being told that your child has special needs has been compared to preparing for a trip to one country and ending up in another for which your suitcase is not packed. Confusion, fright, exhaustion, and feeling overwhelmed are all common emotions when faced with this situation. As a teacher in a typical nursery setting, you may also experience some of these feelings to a lesser degree. Yet, you are in the position to listen to and partner with parents in a way that will benefit the child and family. This seminar describes aspects of a parent's experience

and ways to support parents on their journey. Specific suggestions will be provided to increase your ability to deeply listen as well as gain in information.

Audience: Toddler Teachers, Nursery Teachers, Pre-K Teachers, Administrators, Administrative Assistants, Preschool Teaching Assistants

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Interactive

OCFS Areas: 1, 3, 4

1F: Wild, Wacky, and Worthy - New & Exciting Tech Tools to Increase Student Engagement

Facilitator(s): Kara Martone

In this workshop, participants will be exposed to new and exciting computer applications that they can use with their students. Participants will see examples of how they can use this in the classroom, and at the end of the session they will have to experiment with their favorite new tech tools, or share a tool that they love. iPad apps, as well as computer based applications, will be shared.

Audience: Grades 3-12 Teachers

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Interactive, Hands-On

OCFS Areas: n/a

1G: STEM in Your Early Childhood Classroom (repeat from 2014)

Facilitator(s): Pat Scanlon

In this hands-on workshop we'll look at how this intimidating sounding acronym (Science! Technology! Engineering! Math!) is making its way down to the Early Childhood Classroom, and what these STEM subjects look like in the preschool setting. We'll also discuss how comfortable teachers are with these subjects, along with possible impediments to teaching STEM in the EC classroom. While women make up over half of the work force in our country, they hold only 26% of STEM-related jobs. Blacks and Hispanics fare even more poorly in the STEM fields. We'll consider societal and cultural influences that may contribute to this disparity, and how teachers can start to level the playing field for future generations.

Audience: Pre-K Teachers

Format: Hands-On

OCFS Areas: 1, 3

1H: Meeting Nutritional and Health Needs in Early Childhood Consumers

Facilitator(s): Jennifer Edwards & Roman Matthews

Come explore topics like: Family Style Feeding Practices, Balanced Nutrition, Anaphylaxis, Supervision in Child Care Settings, Indoor/Outdoor Preventive Care, Safe Sleep Practices, Active Playtime

Audience: Infant, Toddler, Nursery & Pre-K Teachers, Administrators, Preschool Teaching Assistants, Directors

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive

OCFS Areas: 2, 4

1I: Practicing Project-Based Learning

Facilitator(s): David Black

Perhaps you have heard of Project-Based Learning (PBL) but are not sure how to implement this learning approach in the classroom. Or maybe you know a little about PBL but need practice in applying this strategy. Whatever your experience with PBL, join us as together we engage in practical PBL activities that may be immediately transferred to your classroom. Be prepared to create, question, collaborate, and share as we learn more about PBL together. Your laptop and/or digital devices are welcome as we work together!

Audience: Grades 3-5 Teachers, Grades 6-8 Teachers, Grades 9-12 Teachers, Teachers of English Language Arts/Reading, Teachers of Math, Teachers of Social Studies, Teachers of Science, Teachers of Music, Arts, etc., Administrators, Administrative Assistants

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive, Hands-On

OCFS Areas: n/a

1J: The Seven Correlates of Effective Schools

Facilitator(s): Chris James Anderson

Effective Schools Research identifies the following correlates as being present in all cases of an identified effective school:

1. Clear and focused mission
2. Climate of high expectations
3. Instructional leadership
4. Opportunity to learn/student time on task
5. Frequently monitoring student progress
6. Safe and orderly environment
7. Home-school relations (Lezotte & Snyder, 2011)

These seven correlates provide schools with a comprehensive framework for identifying, categorizing, and solving the problems confronting educational programs. Utilizing the Effective Schools Model, a school and its stakeholders willingly seek to implement an approach that actively involved: faculty, administrators, parents, and community. Student achievement data and the seven correlates help develop, implement, and sustain school improvement. Most importantly, the Effective Schools Model has been shown to promote system-wide restructuring that provides continuous improvement thereby ensuring every child has access to a quality education and an equal educational opportunity.

Audience: Preschool Teachers, Grades K-2 Teachers, Grades 3-5 Teachers, Grades 6-8 Teachers, Grades 9-12 Teachers, Administrators

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based

OCFS Areas: 3

1K: Crowdfunding for Your School: How to Add This Essential Tool to Your School's Fundraising Mix

Facilitator(s): Dana Ostomel

Crowdfunding is quickly become a new tool in the school toolbox to tap into your network to raise money, faster, from a larger audience. This workshop is designed to give participants an overview of crowdfunding, as well as step-by-step direction for how you can take advantage of what a crowdfunding platform has to offer and integrate it into your school's fundraising initiatives.

What You'll Learn:

- Why crowdfunding is important for your school community
- How to incorporate crowdfunding into your existing fundraising mix
- How crowdfunding can be a tool to help the school, as well as individual students and teachers
- What types of campaigns crowdfunding can be most effective for
- What other objectives can it help you achieve beyond just making the thermometer rise
- Best practices for setting up and marketing your campaign
- Strategies to energize your community and galvanize an even wider audience
- Q & A / Open Discussion About Projects You Have In Mind

Audience: Infant-Grade 12 Teachers, Administrators, Pastors, Administrative Assistants, Board Members

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive

OCFS Areas: n/a

1L: Crowdfunding 101: Tips and Strategies for Raising Funds Online

Facilitator(s): Abigail Miller

Wondering what the "crowdfunding" buzz is all about? Come learn about WeRaise.us, a Christian crowdfunding platform hosted by Wheat Ridge Ministries. In this fun workshop we'll explain crowdfunding, show you how to build a project, and share tips and strategies for success. PLUS, you'll learn how WeRaise could lead to additional funding for your organization! Whether you're updating your playground, creating an afterschool program, or sending students on a mission trip, find out how to use crowdfunding to raise funds and expand your donor base. Everyone is welcome – teachers to administrators to board members!

Audience: All

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive

OCFS Areas: n/a

1M: Global Lutheran Education: Engaging the World Through Mission

Facilitator(s): Dr. Jonathan Laabs

Schools are an integral part of mission around the world, including your own community! Learn how Lutherans are using education ministry to spread God's Word and connect people in several continents. Discover ways in which you and your school can be involved through a variety of partnerships. Bring your own experiences to share with others!

Audience: Grades K-12 Teachers, Administrators, Pastors, Board Members

Format: Interactive

OCFS Areas: n/a

1N: Sharing Jesus with Parents

Facilitator(s): Deaconess Tiffany Manor

Sharing Jesus with those we come into contact with may seem scary and yet we know that people need to hear about the love and grace of our heavenly Father for them shown in Christ. Come learn more about your personality and how to uniquely share Jesus with the parents and families you serve in your school.

Audience: All

Format: Discussion-based, Interactive, Tangible Take-Away

OCFS Areas: 4

1O: Let It Go: How to Unfreeze Your Instruction (Part I)

Facilitator(s): Sashemani Elliott, Veronica Almedina, Danielle Pena, & Mia Montes

As a school we have been continuing work on teaching versus learning and student led versus teacher led classrooms. This workshop will be structure in two parts:

Part I: Identifying the tendencies and assumptions that lead teachers to feeling the need to control their classrooms.

Part II: A collaborative discussion that will give instructors and administrators the opportunity to implement these shifts the next day in their classrooms.

Audience: K-12 Teachers, Administrators

Format: Discussion-based, Interactive, Hands-On, Tangible Take-Away

OCFS Areas: n/a

1P: Beyond Playdough: The Importance of Sensory Play in Early Childhood

Facilitator(s): Heather Pinedo-Burns

We all know children love playdough--and understandably so! Playdough engages children's senses and allows them to create, explore, and hypothesize about their world. There is so much more than playdough that we as educators can offer children--goop, silly putty, squish bags, sand dough, and cloud dough, to name a few. This hands on workshop will focus on the importance of sensory play in early childhood. Sensory play encourages children's holistic development, engaging children in cognitive exercises supporting early literacy, mathematics,, and scientific reasoning often through tactile explorations. Using everyday & easily accessible materials, this workshop will include sample homemade sensory play materials and demonstrations on how to make materials such as silly putty, squish bags, and foam dough. The workshop participants will leave the session with recipe cards to support sensory play in the classroom.

Audience: Infant, Toddler, Nursery, and Pre-K Teachers

Format: Interactive, Hands-On

OCFS Areas: 3

1Q: Setting Boundaries and Avoiding Power Struggles in the Classroom

Facilitator(s): Susan Blayer

This interactive, positive-oriented seminar will begin with an overview of the issues involved in identifying inappropriate behaviors of students, setting a plan to correct, and following through with setting boundaries in the classroom. Participants will be invited to give examples of specific examples of classroom situations and receive advice for handling them. Input and feedback will be welcomed and encouraged by all participants.

Audience: Preschool through Grade 2 Teachers

Format: Discussion-based, Interactive, Tangible Take-Away

OCFS Areas: 1,3

1R: Is This A Mental Health Emergency? Making the Best Decision for Your Student and Your School

Facilitator(s): Molly Blancke

In this interactive seminar, the focus will be on discerning what type of referral is needed for various school incidents and behavioral issues of students. When is the situation an emergency and when does a regular referral for mental health counseling apply? Case studies will be presented along with guidelines your school may want to adopt for dealing with similar issues.

Audience: All Teachers, Administrators, Pastors, Board Members

Format: Discussion-based, Interactive

OCFS Areas: 1,4

1S: Unpacking the Common Core Standards for Parents and Effective Test Readiness (resource session)

Facilitator(s): Yayun Chang-Cahill

Have you ever wondered how to discuss the Common core Learning Standards with concerned parents? This presentation is to help parents unpack the Common Core with tangible tools and how to help with study skills. We will also provide theoretical background that shows teachers how best to use their test readiness lessons for student benefit.

Audience: Grades 3-12 Teachers, Administrators, Board Members

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Tangible Take-Away

OCFS Areas: n/a

1T: Conquering the Essay Pile: Exploring Approaches to Meaningful and Timely Feedback in the Language Arts Classroom

Facilitator(s): Michelle Caruso Walker

One important key to student engagement and growth is meaningful and timely feedback. Students need to receive feedback on a regular basis in order to grow and improve. Researchers in the fields of motivation (Csikszentmihalyi, 1990, 2008; Smith & Wilhem, 2002, 2006) and in the field of instruction and feedback (Pollock, 2012; Brookhart, 2008) agree that immediate feedback leads to student engagement in literacy activities. As English teachers, we are regularly faced with a daunting pile of essays that despite our best intentions linger on our kitchen tables for weeks. What is the best way to provide timely feedback, enhance instruction and maintain staff morale? This presentation aims to present some answers to these questions.

Audience: Grades 6-12 Teachers

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive

OCFS Areas: n/a

1U: Sharing the Faith with Toddlers and Children

Facilitator(s): Karla McKenzie

This workshop is designed for teachers from early childhood through elementary on faith development. The session will provide information on age level development relative to spiritual growth, as well as, practical resources for use with children. Participants will be invited to participate in interactive learning with the goal of increasing confidence levels in sharing their own faith stories, as well as, the faith of the church.

Audience: Toddler, Nursery, Pre-K teachers and assistants, K-5 teachers and assistants

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive, Hands-On, Tangible Take-Away

OCFS Areas: n/a

1V: Marketing and Admissions Development in Parochial Schools

Facilitator(s): Kate Lloyd

Please join me in a workshop that will help your school learn how to hone its marketing and admissions activities, events and practices to help with overall recruitment and retention.

Audience: Administrators, Administrative Assistants

Format: Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive

OCFS Areas: 3

1W: Developing A Manageable Fundraising Plan with Limited or No Dedicated Staff

Facilitator(s): *Jane Lottes*

There are only a few essential pieces to running a successful fundraising campaign. First, is your “house” in order? Then, let’s talk about mission and strategic plan. These aren’t as scary or time-consuming as they sound. Next, let’s review the opportunities within your school family –current fundraising, review of your events, connections, and potential to grow donors. And then, let’s create a game plan with goals, leaders, and a doable calendar. Simply put, you can do this very simply!

Audience: **Administrators, Administrative Assistants, Pastors, Board Members**

Format: **Lecture (Sit and Get), Interactive, Tangible Take-Away**

OCFS Areas: n/a

1X: Africa is Not a Country - Tips for Teaching About a Diverse Continent

Facilitator(s): *Bethany Wilinski*

As educators, we are increasingly encouraged to make our curriculum and instruction more global. We are asked to prepare our students for global citizenship and to cultivate a global consciousness. In this session we consider strategies and considerations for educators at all levels teaching about Africa. As we bring the world into our classroom (and, perhaps, make connections across the globe), how can we move beyond discussions of food and festivals and, instead, provide our students with opportunities to think critically about diversities within and across African nations? In this session, participants will be invited to reflect on strategies for teaching about Africa that challenge, rather than reinforce, stereotypes about the continent. Participants will be able to view examples of books and other materials that can assist them in planning units or lessons related to Africa, and will be provided with a variety of resources for further engagement with the topic. While the session is focused on Africa as a particular context for discussion, information will be applicable to teachers at any grade level thinking about ways to incorporate a global focus into their curriculum.

Audience: **Pre-K Teachers, Grades K-2 Teachers, Grades 3-5 Teachers, Grades 6-8 Teachers, Grades 9-12 Teachers, Teachers of English Language Arts/Reading, Teachers of Social Studies, Teachers of Music, Arts, etc.**

Format: **Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive**

OCFS Areas: n/a

1Y: Write on Track...Hop Aboard the ABC Express!

Facilitator(s): *Dr. Emilia Solinto, OTD, OTR/L*

The workshop "Write on Track" will teach educators a fun, hands-on approach to teach pre-writing skills and handwriting. The workshop focuses on teaching age appropriate techniques and activities to help pre-school children (3-5 years old) prepare for kindergarten and the new Core Curriculum. This workshop will review how to hold a crayon and pencil efficiently, grasp and cut with scissors; copy shapes and lastly how to teach writing letters using a developmental approach.

Audience: **Toddler Teachers, Nursery Teachers, Pre-K Teachers, Teachers of Physical Education, Preschool Teaching Assistants**

Format: **Lecture (Sit and Get), Hands-On**

OCFS Areas: 3

1Z: Breaking the Bell - Interdisciplinary Teaching

Facilitator(s): *Laura Callahan & Amber Browning*

Fortunately (or unfortunately), life is not cleanly divided into topic specific increments of time. Join the discussion about interdisciplinary and vertical teaching. Help your students make connections between disciplines and create relevant meaningful lessons that employ higher level thinking skills. Bring a colleague and plan a lesson that you can implement on Monday. Although Laura and Amber will facilitate the seminar, participants are encouraged to share prior experiences, celebrate successes, and pose questions to their peers. Group members will have access to an online platform showcasing our collective ideas from the day.

Audience: **All**

Format: **Lecture (Sit and Get), Discussion-based, Interactive, Tangible Take-Away**

OCFS Areas: n/a

1AA: Language Modeling - Building Communication, Vocabulary, and Verbal Clarity

Facilitator(s): *Monica Levy*

This workshop will help teachers learn how to achieve high-range language modeling in their classroom. The focus of Language Modeling (LM) is for teachers to model more complex language and to increase the amount of talking kids do. In this workshop teachers will: (1) learn techniques to foster frequent and extended conversations (adult-child and peer conversations). (2) Extend children's language and communication (3) Use teacher talk productively, and build new vocabulary.

Audience: **Preschool Teachers and Assistants**

Format: **Discussion-based, Interactive, Hands-On, Tangible Take-Away**

OCFS Areas: **1, 3**