

SECS Teachers' Convention
September 27 – 29, 2023
Myrtle Beach, SC
Child Care Workshops

Workshop 1—Wednesday, 7:00 – 7:50 p.m.

Leadership Requires Partnership

Jeff Walton

Program Administration

"The player who puts the ball through the hoop has ten hands." (John Wooden) A leader who recognizes the importance of partnerships expands his ministry far beyond what he might accomplish by his own energies and charisma. Nehemiah illustrates the principles, price, and potential of partnerships. This workshop will remind the leader in Christian education of the significance of partnerships and challenge him to develop partnerships for success in Christian education.

Afraid of Fear: Understanding Those Mysterious Panic Attacks

Bruce Meyer

Professional Development

The list of fears in this world is growing every day, it seems. For some, fear can become a dominant force in a person's life, enslaving the person in a prison of terror. How can we help such broken people? This workshop provides an overview of fear, panic attacks, and Biblical/practical solutions.

A Teacher of Habits

Lynlee Burns

Professional Development

From the classroom to our families, the life of a teacher has many facets to balance, but we have only twenty-four hours each day in which to accomplish our tasks. In this session, take time to consider habits that will help you maximize your time inside and outside of the classroom, along with habits that will help you more effectively prepare, deliver, and communicate your lessons.

Running Records: Assessing and Improving the Reading Skills of Your Students

Dana Davis

Professional Development

This workshop explains early warning signs of bullying and presents ways to help children and teens overcome negative social patterns. Prevention and response will both be discussed.

SAFE: Comprehensive School Crisis Planning

Jim Boyte

Health & Safety

In an era where school safety has become a paramount concern, understanding how to effectively plan and respond to crises is essential. Our nationally recognized seminar, SAFE (Security Understanding - Active Hardening - Flexible Approach - Effective Collaboration), provides an effective framework to address and secure the unique challenges associated with your campus. This program is tailored to greatly benefit school administrators, security staff, and members of your dedicated crisis response team. By the end of the seminar, attendees will have gained a solid understanding of the SAFE framework and will be better equipped to handle school crisis scenarios.

Grammar Games and Lively Literacy

Becky Teruel

Curriculum Activities

Is grammar one of your least favorite subjects to teach because you can't find a way to make it exciting? Is spelling just another time slot to make it through and check the box that you've completed it? If so, come to this session and learn ways to make all of ELA fun and engaging. Your students can look forward to these subjects every day! We will be "playing" a lot of games and activities as well as sharing ideas with each other.

Do We Need to Take This Outside? (Yes, We Do!)

Katie Klipp

Curriculum Activities

How much of your learning happens in your classroom? No, not how MUCH learning...how much OF your learning happens there? In this day of so many students being immersed in their devices and spending their outdoor playtime after school sitting still instead, it is VITAL that we get students up and moving to keep them engaged and learning at their FULL POTENTIAL! So, let's take this learning outside! Taking learning outdoors doesn't have to take lots of extra planning, need amazing outdoor learning areas, or require years of experience. Use the lessons you already teach but watch students come alive, get engaged, and take their learning deeper when they are on their feet and outside their normal environment. Scared of losing control? Wondering how to incorporate the outdoors? Lacking ideas? Be brave! Take risks and try something new! Come join the fun and let's "take learning outside"!

ADHD and the Christian School Teacher: Myth or Reality?

Christina Miller

Special Needs

ADHD is considered the most common chronic condition in children in the United States, and yet it is sometimes overlooked or even belittled in Christian circles. In this workshop, Mrs. Miller will discuss the common misconceptions about ADHD, characteristics of ADHD pertaining to the classroom, and teaching strategies to effectively support students with attention issues.

TikTok: Just Passing Time, or a Ticking Time Bomb?

Cathy Dotson

Child Guidance

Our students spend countless time on TikTok. Isn't it just a harmless pastime? Or is there more going on behind the scenes? How can we prepare our students for the madness they encounter on social media even at a young age? From a Biblical basis for entertainment to productive parent sessions, we need to equip ourselves, parents, and our students for the incredible risk that can result from indulging too deeply in what our students experience online. Doing right online when no one is watching begins with informed instruction. We are on the front line in this battle.

Teacher Hacks—You Know You Want Them

Rebekah Rulapaugh

Professional Development

We've all heard the saying, "work smarter not harder." What does that mean in the classroom? Get ready for a fast-paced workshop packed with some of the best-loved teacher hacks gathered from teachers just like you! This session covers everything from ways to clean, to classroom management, to technology tips and beyond. You'll leave with inspiration to work smarter, not harder.

Developing an Organized Life (Part 1)

Cary Schmidt

Professional Development

Discover biblical time-management and productivity tips from 34 years of ministry and family life.

Workshop 2—Thursday, 8:00 – 8:50 a.m.

Elevating the Teaching Profession

Brian Carruthers

Program Administration

What is the future of the teaching profession? Join us for a collaborative discussion on the recruitment, retention, and the professional development of Christian school teachers. Participants will also be introduced to Instructus: BJU's new Center of Teaching, Learning & Leadership.

Dealing with Angry Students

Bruce Meyer

Professional Development

Anger is a universal problem that can consume an individual and destroy those that the anger is directed towards. This workshop includes Biblical strategies for confronting the angry student with his personal idols.

Kahoot, Quizizz, Socrative, and MORE! Using Online Assessment Tools to Engage Student Achievement

Joseph Craft

Professional Development

Are you looking for creative, fun, and engaging ways to motivate students to learn? Running out of formative assessment ideas? Well, this is the presentation for you! This workshop will include tips and tricks for effective online assessment. This session will address 15+ techniques for engaging your students in using technology, both in and out of the classroom. Come with your devices and let's have some fun learning and playing together.

School Safety Preparedness: An Intro to the Standard Response Protocol

Kris Pfaehler

Health and Safety

This workshop will provide an introduction to the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) developed by the "iloveguys" foundation. A uniform plan and practiced response to any incident is the foundation of a safe school, business, and community. The SRP is action-based, flexible, and easy to learn. It rationally organizes tactics for response to weather events, fires, accidents, intruders, and other threats to personal safety.

Writing Tips and Tricks for Success in the Elementary Classroom

Becky Teruel

Curriculum Activities

Are your students eager to write or do you hear some moans when you mention writing? In this session, teachers will learn ways to make writing exciting and a subject students will look forward to in the elementary classroom. Participants will collaborate on ideas and complete a writing assignment in groups demonstrating how writing can be taught and modeled in the classroom.

It's Better Together: Fantastic Ways to Use Technology in Classroom Collaboration

Jenny Copeland

Professional Development

Our days are filled with collaboration, from hallway chats and classroom discussions to student group projects and conference room sessions. Why not take that collaboration digital? Come learn about digital tools that will bring variety, engagement, organization, and creativity to your collaboration. These tools are easy to access, use, and share and can be used in a variety of settings and with a variety of devices and availability.

Broken Windows Theory and Classroom Management: How Disorder Invites Chaos

Christina Miller

Professional Development

Discussions about classroom management are often aimed at how to curb students' negative behavior in the classroom. What if effective classroom management should actually begin with eliminating the teacher's negative behaviors? In this workshop, Mrs. Miller will discuss how certain teacher misbehaviors lend themselves toward chaos in the classroom, and what an effective teacher can do to maintain appropriate and strategic control of his or her classroom.

2, 4, 6, 8—Let's Make Numbers Really Great!

Rachel Cuendet

Curriculum Activities

Counting by twos is just one of many skills that students will acquire after learning the basics in numbers class. In this session, you will learn ways to make learning numbers, combinations, and even coins enjoyable for both you and your students.

Developing an Organized Life (Part 2)

Cary Schmidt

Professional Development

Discover more biblical time-management and productivity tips from 34 years of ministry and family life.

Workshop 3—Thursday, 9:05 – 9:55 a.m.

Memorization: The Concrete Foundation for Learning

Travis Moots

Professional Development

Although memorization is the lowest form of cognitive learning, it is foundational. Critical thinking cannot take place with knowledge students don't remember. Therefore, teachers need to understand how the memory works and which methods will help students achieve mastery.

Leading Your Students with Love and Logic

Joseph Craft

Child Guidance

Love and Logic is an effective classroom management philosophy by Jim and Charles Fay that couples effective management and discipline techniques with grace and student ownership. The principles of Love and Logic: Mutual dignity and respect, sincere empathy, shared thinking, shared control within limits, and healthy relationships are foundational to a teacher's success in the classroom. This session will explore the benefits of the listed principles while providing meaningful applicational practice, Biblical truth, and modeling. Join Dr. Joseph Craft, Associate Professor of Education at Columbia International University and instructor of management and behavior, as he shares the real truths of managing a class and how you too can be effective in the classroom. This session is perfect for all teachers, regardless of the grade. New and seasoned teachers are encouraged to attend.

Honoring Differences, Celebrating Unity

Lynn Hoekstra

Professional Development

Our schools are becoming more diverse, and diversity can be both a blessing and a challenge. In Galatians 3:28, we are reminded that although very different, we "are all one in Christ Jesus." During this session, attendees will consider the biblical basis for honoring differences and discover practical strategies for strengthening student and family partnerships in early childhood and elementary education.

Creating a Positive Classroom Environment (Part 1)

Dalila McCrum

Child Guidance

In many cases, children in school spend more time with their teacher and peers than with their own families. In this workshop, we will look at creating a positive classroom environment. Participants will explore strategies for sharing rules, expectations, encouraging routines, praise, and student engagement.

Maintaining a God-Centered Focus in the Busyness of Ministry

Julie Washburn

Professional Development

As a mother, wife, teacher, and so many other roles within the church and school, it is sometimes difficult to find time to maintain a personal relationship with God. If we are not careful, we become task driven rather than servant-leader driven. To be most effective in ministry, we must keep our priorities right: God first in all things.

Reading Group Vs. Whole Class Instruction: Does It Really Matter?

Becky Teruel

Curriculum Activities

Shouldn't it be up to the teacher whether group or whole-class instruction is used to teach reading? Isn't the outcome the same for students no matter which way reading is taught? Up-to-date reading-group research will be discussed. An interactive reading lesson will be conducted with participants. After discussing how to implement groups, time will be given for ideas to be shared on how to occupy students during reading group time to make the classroom flow smoothly.

Teacher Toy Box

Katie Klipp

Curriculum Activities

Ever been to a conference or observed in someone's classroom and thought "that teaching tool they're using is so cool!"? We have! From amazing presentation clickers to funny noise boxes that keep everyone giggling, teacher tools don't have to be boring! Teachers of all levels, come jump into the teacher toy box with us and learn about some of our favorite teacher tools that will make your job easier, more efficient, and WAAAAY more fun! And yes.... there will be teacher toy prizes!

Asking the Right Questions

Lydia Callahan

Curriculum Activities

Are your students engaged in discussions? Do you feel like you receive only basic responses to questions? Come discuss a variety of strategies to build critical thinking through specific questioning strategies.

True Grit: Teaching Perseverance in the Classroom

Cathy Dotson

Child Guidance

It's human nature to try to "get by" with the least amount of effort to finish the task. Why are we surprised when students do just that with their schoolwork? We want students to go the extra mile to do their best instead of their least, but how do we teach this level of initiative? Some students are intrinsically motivated, but most students' "grit level" can be increased when challenged to rise to their full potential.

STEAMing through the School Year

Rebekah Rulapaugh

Curriculum Activities

Have you ever wished you could have someone hand you a list of STEAM activities for each holiday and season so that you didn't have to hunt them down and gather them yourself? If so, your wish is granted! We all know the importance of incorporating STEAM activities in our teaching, but it can be tricky to plan ahead and get the supplies together. In this workshop you'll receive plans you can adapt to STEAM through your school year and make science, technology, engineering, art, and math come alive for your students without stressing yourself out.

Workshop 4—Thursday, 10:05 – 10:55 a.m.

Marks of a Thriving School

Jeff Walton

Program Administration

Based on observations at more than 250 Christian schools and structured around seven principles from the book, *Good to Great*, this workshop explores traits common to thriving schools today. If you want to transparently evaluate whether your school has a healthy bone structure and is positioned for success, here's a measuring rod.

What We Need Now Are Lions, Not Lemmings

Nathan Street, Simone Adams

Program Administration

It happens far too often. School administrators and pastors experience the slightest resistance and they cave. Let's be honest about it! Generally speaking, we would rather give in and avoid confrontation. Unless one is a sociopath, no one enjoys confrontation. Dr. Street endured a year and a half of blatant attacks on his personal religious freedom and freedom of speech as a public school district administrator in a major urban school district. Confrontation found him. With threats of punishment and imprisonment, Dr. Street stood firm...eventually. This is the time and this is the season when our faith will be tested. In this session, learn about the unbelievable, but true story, of persistence in the face of evil and how we as a body of believers and Christian educators must be prepared to hold up the standard when the enemy comes in like a flood.

Go into All the World . . . and Teach! Why Machines Will Never Replace the Teacher

Michael Arnold

Professional Development

In the face of ever-expanding technology, including AI applications like ChatGPT, teachers can sometimes wonder if their profession will be overtaken by apps, programs, and machines. In addition to connecting teaching to the Great Commission, this session will explore the current educational research that suggests learning will always require teachers. Machines can be helpful but will never replace a mission-minded teacher.

SAFE: Comprehensive School Crisis Planning

Jim Boyte

Health and Safety

In an era where school safety has become a paramount concern, understanding how to effectively plan and respond to crises is essential. Our nationally recognized seminar, SAFE (Security Understanding - Active Hardening - Flexible Approach - Effective Collaboration), provides an effective framework to address and secure the unique challenges associated with your campus. This program is tailored to greatly benefit school administrators, security staff, and members of your dedicated crisis response team.

Healthy Teachers in a Happy Classroom

Travis Moots

Professional Development

Burned out teachers cannot effectively fulfill their calling. Poor management, persistent stress, and unrealistic expectations will result in an emotional crash. However, healthy decision-making, planning, and life habits will make the school day more enjoyable, and they will make the teacher more successful.

We Need to Talk about Tik Tok

Matthew Davis

Professional Development

TikTok is now the #1 website/app in the world, with more than one billion videos viewed daily. One hundred million American users spend an average of over an hour every day watching videos. Most users are 13–16 years old! Is TikTok dangerous for teens? Do you understand the risks? We need to have an honest talk about what the research shows and how Christian schools can protect their students and families.

Creating a Positive Classroom Environment (Part 2)

Dalila McCrum

Child Guidance

In many cases, children in school spend more time with their teacher and peers than with their own families. In this workshop, we will look at creating a positive classroom environment. Participants will explore more strategies for sharing rules, expectations, encouraging routines, praise, and student engagement.

Building a Sustainable Financial Model

Brandon Allen

Program Administration

This workshop explores the current financial trends in Christian education. What facilitates the majority of Christian schools' operating costs? Is fundraising necessary? Will schools be able to pay their bills AND will families be able to afford Christian education in the future?

Help! Where Do We Start? Addressing the Needs of All Learners, All Levels

Sara Reid

Special Needs

There are students within each school's influence with existing needs that require specialized instruction. How do you begin a resource and intervention program that serves students with diagnosed learning disabilities and provides intervention support to students on the path to formal evaluation? You can meet the needs of these students in a private school setting. Join us as we discuss the simple steps to developing an intervention program at your school.

AI Tools for Teachers

Andrea Baer

Professional Development

Explore the transformative impact of AI on teachers' weekly tasks. Learn to leverage cutting-edge tools like ChatGPT, Google Bard, Quizlet Q-Chat, Khanmigo, and other sites to create personalized lesson plans, rubrics, and more, while fostering interactive and effective learning experiences for students.

Understanding Trauma in the Classroom: Compassion and Care for Students Who Are Hurting

Christina Miller

Child Guidance

Childhood trauma occurs more than we would maybe care to think about. In fact, by the age of 16, over two-thirds of children will have experienced at least one traumatic event in their lifetime. As educators, it is important to recognize the signs of traumatic stress and its short- and long-term impact on children, especially as it relates to their learning. In this workshop, Mrs. Miller will discuss the spectrum of trauma, adverse childhood experiences and their impact on overall physical, mental, emotional, and social health of children, and common trauma triggers. Additionally, she will address how the effective educator can respond to such students with compassion, care, and concern for their students' spiritual, academic, and mental well-being.

Teaching Critical Thinking through a Biblical Worldview 1.0

Amy Yohe

Professional Development

Can I teach critical thinking skills while instilling a Biblical worldview? Let's look at incorporating critical thinking skills into our daily lessons without compromising a Biblical worldview. This first session will focus on the what and the why.

Constructive Parent-Teacher Communication

Rachel Cuendet

Professional Development

Creating productive relationships with parents is a key function as a teacher. How do we as teachers build those relationships with confidence? This session will provide practical communication tips to foster collaborative parent-teacher efforts with our students' education.

Workshop 5—Thursday, 11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Building Bridges: Teachers Helping Teachers

Brian Carruthers

Program Administration

An exciting path to a school's improvement is the willingness for its teachers to invest in their fellow colleagues. Unfortunately, the teaching profession has often been conducted in isolation and teachers have felt inadequate to contribute beyond their individual classroom responsibilities. This workshop explores ways to tear down the walls of isolation and develop ways for teachers to reach out and help their colleagues to collaboratively make school improvements.

Healthcare for Non-Profits: A Paradigm Shift

Clay Peek

Program Administration

Since March of 2021, much has changed in the world of health insurance for Christian schools. We have opportunities for schools with no plans in place for employees. We can help the school with fewer than 50 full-time equivalent employees to save thousands of dollars (often more than \$100,000 a year), and most of your employees will save significant dollars as well. For those schools who are mandated, let us show you how to save the school and your employees significant dollars on spouse and dependent insurance. We will help you improve your benefit program and be better stewards of the dollars you have for ministry.

How the Brain Thinks and Learns

Dana Davis

Professional Development

Connect new research about the brain and learning to classroom practices that are proven to be effective.

Emotions: Helping Students Sanctify Their Feelings

Bruce Meyer

Professional Development

Post-modernity has placed a heavy emphasis upon feelings; as a result, we have become a nation of feelings rather than principle. However, God's Word deals with emotions, providing a theology of our emotions as we relate to truth. This workshop helps us understand the proper role of emotions and how to connect our emotions to theology for principled and Biblical living.

Twenty Ways to Defuse Anger and Calm People Down

Huey Mills

Professional Development

Someone erupts and others are left speechless. Disputes bring things almost to a halt; classroom performance suffers; morale is low, and teamwork evaporates. The good news is that you can manage other people's anger and turn it into a catalyst for positive change. This workshop will give you 20 specific techniques you will find priceless!

Creating a Sensory-Friendly Classroom Environment

Christina Miller

Child Guidance

Overstimulation is a large contributor of learning and behavioral issues in the classroom. Sometimes, students just need a sensory break to allow their brains to better activate in the learning cycle. In this workshop, Mrs. Miller will discuss how a teacher can implement manageable sensory-friendly practices to create an inclusive learning environment for all students, particularly those with sensory issues.

Give Backstage Prep a Break: Technology Tools with Minimal Prep

Jenny Copeland

Professional Development

Incorporating technology into your classroom should take your instruction to the next level, not hijack your preparation time! Come meet some amazing tools that will help you manage and motivate in your classroom without tons of work behind the scenes.

Workshop 6—Friday, 9:05 – 9:55 a.m.

All of Us Are Smarter than Any of Us

Gavin Lockaby

Professional Development

An interactive session in which common problems and creative ideas are presented and discussed by both the presenter and audience members. The goal of the session is to glean wisdom and practical solutions from fellow educators.

Trauma Informed Teaching

Dana Davis

Child Guidance

Scientific research has found that the link between childhood trauma and trouble at school is strong. Learn skills to better manage traumatized students in your classroom.

Effective Questioning and Discussion in the Classroom

Joseph Craft

Professional Development

Chip Bell, author and innovator, said, "Effective questioning brings insight, which fuels curiosity, which cultivates wisdom." Within the classroom, we know the necessity for asking questions and engaging students in meaningful discussion. Effective questioning ignites a child's mind and encourages a love for inquiry and discovery. What techniques can I learn and apply apart from Bloom's Taxonomy or Higher Order Thinking? Well, I'm glad you asked! Join Dr. Joseph Craft, Associate Professor of Education from Columbia International University as he shares over 15 different techniques for engaging students through meaningful, thought-provoking discussion. His techniques go beyond call and response to actively engage the whole child (body and mind). Each technique will be modeled, and valuable resources will be provided. Still have questions? Let's keep the discussion going as we share together the power and effectiveness of questioning in the classroom.

Let's Move: Using Movement to Improve Comprehension and Retention

Lynn Hoekstra

Curriculum Activities

Movement and learning are linked. Brain research has revealed the power of movement to focus attention, enhance memory, and reduce stress. Teachers have begun using brain breaks with movement to provide that much-needed release of endorphins to help their students learn. But does movement involve only giving them a break? This session will allow participants to experience strategies and dramatic activities which can be used to teach content in all subjects and grade levels. We will examine the purpose of integrating these activities as well as procedures which will minimize behavioral challenges while we maximize learning potential.

Learning That Sticks

Rachel Cruice

Professional Development

"What's a verb again?" Every teacher has inwardly groaned when our students forget concepts that we just taught them or have been repeated throughout their educational career. We struggle to figure out why their learning doesn't seem to "stick." In this workshop, we will look at some practical, easily utilized "power tools" that will help your students remember what they have learned this week, last week, last semester, and maybe even last year!

Cliques, Clowns, Toughies, and Tattletales

Katie Klipp

Child Guidance

Doesn't it seem like just when you think you've mastered dealing with a certain type of difficult student, a new breed arrives to challenge your strategies? Sometimes it seems teachers have to spend more time in character training than in actual academic instruction! If that is the case, teachers need to step back and determine how to manage these types of students effectively. What do you say to a class clown, a perpetual tattler, a disinterested kid, or a competitive bragger? Come gain a new understanding of difficult students and then gather new and creative ways to include them, reach them, and teach them.

When Parents and Teachers Meet: A View from Both Sides of the Desk

Becky Teruel

Professional Development

Have you ever heard, or said, "I would love teaching if it weren't for the parents"? Parents should be viewed as a positive part of our teaching—helping our students to become more successful. I have taught for many years in the classroom and believe that parents can be partners. As a parent of four children, I've learned to see and value both sides of communication. Come learn ways to include parents in your students' learning to make your year the best it can be!

Tik Tok: Just Passing Time or a Ticking Time Bomb

Cathy Dotson

Child Guidance

Our students spend countless time on TikTok. Isn't it just a harmless pastime? Or is there more going on behind the scenes? How can we prepare our students for the madness they encounter on social media even at a young age? From a Biblical basis for entertainment to productive parent sessions, we need to equip ourselves, parents, and our students for the incredible risk that can result from indulging too deeply in what our students experience online. Doing right online when no one is watching begins with informed instruction. We are on the front line in this battle.

Creating Your Dream Classroom

Rachel Cuendet

Professional Development

An adaptable, fun environment and attentive students—these are qualities that teachers dream of having in their classrooms. But they do not just have to be a dream; you can have these qualities in your classroom! This session will focus on the importance of establishing habits and procedures to create consistency in the classroom so you feel empowered to successfully manage your class.

Workshop 7—Friday, 10:05 – 10:55 a.m.

So, What Is Curriculum, Really?

Nathan Street

Professional Development

Educators have a misunderstanding of curriculum, and it actually impedes their ability to deliver it. When asked, most teachers refer to curriculum as their "standards," and others think of lesson plans or unit plans. Still, others may think of it as the textbook they utilize in the class. To execute the best curriculum delivery, one's pedagogy must be scientifically sound and inclusive of the correct developmental processes. To that end, the education team at Southern Wesleyan University is developing a fundamental, Christian, conservative curriculum that is based on the science of learning, Christian values, Americanism, and the Fruit of the Spirit. This workshop will help teachers, administrators, and parents understand the fundamentals of creating and delivering an appropriate curriculum based on science.

Why Curriculum Mapping Is Critical to School Culture

Michael Arnold

Program Administration

Curriculum mapping is a widely accepted educational practice often required as part of the accreditation initiative and a necessary process for school improvement plans. Can curriculum guides impact the culture of your school? In this session, the basic practices surrounding curriculum mapping will be explored and connections made to your ultimate school outcomes.

Active Defender: Enhancing School Safety Through Integrated Communication and Advanced Technology

Jim Boyte

Health and Safety

In today's educational environment, proactive safety measures have become a necessity. Our workshop, "Active Defender: Enhancing School Safety through Integrated Communication and Advanced Technology," offers a deep dive into the functionalities of Active Defender, a comprehensive solution for your school's safety needs. This immersive workshop will guide attendees through the multi-faceted Active Defender system, demonstrating its capabilities to revolutionize and strengthen your school's emergency preparedness and response.

The School Leader's Teaching Role

Brian Carruthers

Program Administration

Every good school leader must also be a great teacher; effectively working to implement research-based changes in the school's instructional program. This workshop will explore the opportunities the lead teacher will need in order to transform the organization by coaching teachers to be more effective in the classroom.

Enhancing Faculty Performance & Satisfaction: Elements of the Christian Professional Learning Community

Bill Simmer

Program Administration

What constitutes a "healthy faculty culture" and why should I care? This workshop moves past the all-too-familiar "Kumbaya" talk to what research and experience tells us about high-performing faculty. We will also discuss strategies to enhance your faculty culture resulting in strong student outcomes and organizational sustainability. Topics to be considered will be induction and evaluation, professional and pedagogical enhancement, compensation, scheduling, and other topics.

Read-Alouds for Social and Emotional Development

Dalila McCrum

Curriculum Activities

In this workshop, we will discuss how to help children understand and manage what they are feeling using literature. We will explore opportunities that can be embedded at home and in the classroom to nurture healthy behaviors in children. Participants will be able to see and touch some picture books appropriate for all ages of children.

Wonderfully Made

Sara Reid

Special Needs

Many parents of children with intellectual and physical disabilities feel that a Christian education is beyond their reach. Learn how God has allowed us to create a self-contained exceptional children's classroom in our Christian school. We will share our journey of ministering to children and families of varying needs within our community. How do you begin? How does the classroom function? How can your church and school minister to these "wonderfully made" children?

When Snowflake, Helicopter, and Mama Bear Parents Coalesce on the School Campus

Travis Moots

Professional Development

School enrollment continues to climb due to dissatisfaction with public schools and increasing government vouchers, but it has also required teachers and administrators to manage people who do not have traditionally Biblical parenting styles. How do we deal with these people?

Teaching Critical Thinking through a Biblical Worldview 2.0

Amy Yohe

Professional Development

Can I teach critical thinking skills while instilling a Biblical worldview? Let's look at incorporating critical thinking skills into our daily lessons without compromising a Biblical worldview. This second session will focus on the where, the when, and the how.

It Starts with A B C

Rachel Cuendet

Curriculum Activities

In his introduction to the dictionary, Noah Webster writes, "Language, as well as the faculty of speech, is the immediate gift of God." Teaching our students about the language that God has given us begins with phonics. Starting with the basics of phonics, this session will provide you with helpful and engaging strategies for teaching sounds, words, and beginning reading skills.

Workshop 8—Friday, 11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Using Peer Observers

Jeff Walton

Program Administration

A review of current educational literature identifies two important tools for providing direct classroom assistance to teachers: peer observers and clinical supervision cycles. A representative survey conducted in AACPS schools indicates that these are not commonly used in our schools. This workshop surveys current literature, examines survey results, and proposes a model for using peer observers.

Ten Principles of High-Performing Organizations

Matthew Davis

Program Administration

What characteristics define an organization that is effective in fulfilling its mission? These ten principles, presented by Maranatha's CEO, Dr. Matt Davis, provide the basis for continuous improvement to the glory of God.

Reflective Teaching

Brian Carruthers

Professional Development

A quality of the effective teacher is one of being able to reflect. Typically, the busy teacher finds it difficult to spend much time reviewing his or her effectiveness in the classroom. This workshop explores the role of the reflective teacher and how this quality will actually improve future instruction.

Bring Out the Best in People

Huey Mills

Program Administration

Few people ever achieve their full potential. Have you ever marveled at the way certain people bring out the best in others? In this workshop, you will learn their proven strategies. In the process, you will experience one of life's greatest joys! Moreover, you may see your school rise to a level of excellence that will amaze even you. Help your people grow and flourish, and they will love you forever.

Parent-Teacher Communication: THRIVE instead of Survive

Christina Miller

Professional Development

Parent-teacher relationships can be daunting and stressful for educators. How can the Christian educator effectively communicate with parents for the ultimate benefit of students? In this workshop, Mrs. Miller will address some of the issues impeding effective communication between parents and teachers, as well as some effective strategies to create and sustain positive relationships between school and home.

Leadership Skills Every Teacher Needs

Travis Moots

Professional Development

Teachers are leaders. The fact that their followers are children and teenagers makes them no less of a leader than a pastor, administrator, corporate CEO, or government official. Following key leadership practices will assist teachers with their instruction, problem solving, and relationships.

Becoming a Master Teacher

Amy Yohe

Professional Development

Want to be an average teacher? If so, this session is not for you! If you desire to improve your skills, deepen your knowledge, and broaden your influence, let's explore together practical and achievable ways to become a master teacher!