

Virginia School-University Partnership
Professional Development Conferences
2015-2016

GENERAL ENGAGEMENT

Thursday, August 27 * **Crash Course for New(er) Teachers (Grades K-12)** - Mark Ingerson (Charlottesville)

Tuesday, September 29 * **Going Beyond the Content: Creating Inspirational Schools (Grades K-12)** - Scott Habeeb (Charlottesville)

Thursday, October 1 * **Seatwork to Feetwork: Engaging Students in Their Own Learning (Grades K-12)** - Ron Nash (Charlottesville)

Tuesday, December 1 * **Making Hattie's Research Come Alive in Your Classroom (Grades K-12)** - Duvall and Angelo (Charlottesville)

Tuesday, March 15 * **The PRINCIPAL Difference Maker In Schools (K-12 Administrators)** - Scott Habeeb (Charlottesville)

SCIENCE and SOCIAL STUDIES

Thursday, October 22 * **Captivate, Activate, & Invigorate the Student Brain Using Scientific Inquiry (K-5)** - Ann Miller (Roanoke)

Thursday, November 5 * **Critical Thinking Skills for New SOLs for Social Studies (Grades 6-12)** - Stephanie Van Hover (C'ville)

MATHEMATICS

Wednesday, October 21 * **Fractions: Understanding Beyond Algorithms (Grades 3-8)** - Kyle Schultz (Charlottesville)

Thursday, October 29 * **Tasks to Foster Secondary Students' Mathematical Reasoning (Grades 9-12)** - Garofalo & Corum (Roanoke)

Thursday, Nov 19 * **Twisted Math Questions (Grades 3-8)** - Michael J. Bossé (Charlottesville)

Friday, November 20 * **The Mathematics Diet: A Framework for Effective Instruction (PreK-5)** – Thunder & Demchak (C'ville)

Thursday, March 10 * **Integrating Literacy and Math in Early Childhood Classrooms (PreSchool-K)** -Thunder & Demchak (C'ville)

READING and LITERACY

Monday, September 28 * **Supporting Word ID Skills for Struggling Readers (Grades K-3, sped K-5)** - Thacker-Gwaltney (C'ville)

Wednesday, September 30 * **Building an Effective Literacy Program in Schools w/o Reading Coaches (Grades 6-12)** - Lupo (C'ville)

Thursday, October 8 * **Building Vocabulary for Adolescent Readers (Grades 6-12)** -Sarah Lupo (Charlottesville)

Tuesday, October 27 * **Writing Strategies to Promote Content Area Learning (Grades 6-12)** - Natasha Heny (Charlottesville)

Wednesday, October 28 * **Fluency for Struggling Readers (Grades 1-4)** - Colleen Spano (Charlottesville)

Tuesday, November 17 * **Developing Early Literacy Skills in Pre-K and Kindergarten (PreK-K)** - Colleen Spano (Charlottesville)

Tuesday, March 8 * **Using Children's Literature for Comprehension Instruction (Grades K-5)** - Thacker-Gwaltney (Charlottesville)

ASSESSMENTS

Wednesday, August 26 * **Interactive Achievement Product Training for New and Experienced Users** – IA Trainers (Charlottesville)

Monday, October 5 and Tuesday, October 6 * **Alternative Assessment Summit** – McTighe, Gareis, Leaders of SCALE (Roanoke)

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On-Line Registration and More Information Available on the VSUP website – www.vsup.org

Conferences (by Date) with Details

Interactive Achievement Product Training for New and Experienced Users (Grades K-12)

Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: August 7, 2015

Presenters: Interactive Achievement Trainers

Audience: Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and Central Office and School Administrators (Grades K-12)

Description: Trainers from Interactive Achievement will lead four different product training sessions intended to instruct users of IA in the functionality of onTRAC and guide users in how to execute those functions. Participants will choose the two sessions in which they wish to participate from the following three options: (1) **Basic onTRAC AMS User Training** is intended to provide a basic working knowledge of all aspects of the AMS user interface, including Assessment Library, Testing Center, iTest, Reporting, Classroom Manager, and Help. This session is recommended for new users of IA software (including new hires in divisions which have been using onTRAC, as well as members of divisions which are just beginning to use IA's platform), but it is also recommended for any IA users who are interested in a refresher course. (2) **Advanced Focus on Reporting Training** will provide a deep-dive into AMS Reporting with a hands-on tour of onTRAC reporting features and their application for the classroom. In the first part of the training we'll take a look at division, school, classroom, and student level reports and offer guidance for using data to inform instruction throughout the year. In the second, we'll introduce the newest reporting feature in onTRAC - SLO Reporting – which provides an easy and convenient way to track student growth and achievement over the course of the year. (3) **Item Creation Workshop** will provide participants with an in-depth look at all of the different types of item formats available in onTRAC. Participants will spend most of the workshop creating multiple choice items, Technology Enhanced Items, and Constructed Response Items with a variety of hands-on exercises on the specifics of adding images, identifying Blooms and Webbs DOK, and how to troubleshoot item development.

Crash Course for New(er) Teachers (Grades K-12)

Date: Thursday, August 27, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: August 7, 2015

Presenter: Mark Ingerson (Milken Educator)

Audience: New(er) Teachers for grades K-12 who want to refine their instructional skills

Description: Wouldn't it be nice if every new teacher came into the classroom already knowing the "tricks of the trade"? While these tricks take a lifetime to learn, there is no doubt that the proper guidance can speed up the learning curve considerably. Great teachers aren't born - they're made. This hands-on, highly participatory workshop is an opportunity to make sure the new and newer teachers in your division get a jump start on the best research-based practices our profession has to offer. This session will focus on three aspects of highly effective classrooms. The first part of the session focuses on how to effectively manage and organize a classroom to maximize learning time and increase achievement. Attendees will leave with strategies they can immediately implement in their classroom. Part two will concentrate on "Creating an Interactive Classroom" with a focus on wait time, choral responses and cold call. Many teachers really struggle with effective questioning and interaction during a lesson and this section will help develop and practice these skills. Lastly, teachers will learn tricks to help their students master content and remember it over the long-term. After being exposed to information on how the brain actually remembers and learns new material, teachers will leave with a better understanding of why their students often forget what was previously taught and how to remedy this problem!

Supporting Word Identification Skills for Struggling Readers in Primary Grades (Grades K-3, sped K-5)

Date: Monday, September 28, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Opens: August 3, 2015

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2015

Presenter: Susan Thacker-Gwaltney (Reading@Curry)

Audience: Elementary teachers (K-3, and sped K-5) and Instructional Leaders

Description: This training focuses on how to select and implement word identification strategies to support struggling readers in the primary grades. Participants will learn to recognize the warning signs for reading difficulties and practice interactive activities that can be used during small group reading instruction. Activities will focus on ways to support students with decoding, self-monitoring, and repairing mistakes that may impair comprehension. At the end of the day, elementary teachers and instructional leaders (K-3, and sped K-5) will walk away with practical activities and ideas to promote word attack skills, to build sight word vocabularies, and to teach word reading strategies to struggling learners.

Going Beyond the Content: Creating Inspirational Schools (Grades K-12)

Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Opens: August 3, 2015

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2015

Presenter: Scott Habeeb (Salem City Schools)

Audience: K-12 Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: You love teaching content, but you also came into this profession to change lives. However, the demands of the classroom and the profession have made you wonder if that is possible. Well, it is. In fact, the more you appropriately focus on changing lives, the better you'll also be at teaching content. It's a win-win! Be rejuvenated as you learn practical and fun ways to Go Beyond the Content, to serve as a "compass" in your students' lives, and to inspire young people to live great stories! The goal of Going Beyond the Content is to inspire educators to inspire students. The workshop motivates participants to serve as "compasses" in the lives of young people and provides them with practical strategies to implement in their classrooms and schools. With all the pressure educators face trying to get students to master content, this workshop provides the refreshing reminder that the teachers who intentionally go beyond content end up being the best at teaching content as well. While educators desire to be known for shaping the lives of young people and providing direction and recognize that this aspect of education is ultimately as, if not more, important in life than content, most of their professional development efforts end up focusing on how to better teach content. Those efforts are vitally important, but there is also a need for practical and inspirational workshops that encourage and equip educators to focus on what they believe matters most - changing lives.

Building an Effective Literacy Program in Secondary Schools without Reading Coaches (Grades 6-12)

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Opens: August 3, 2015

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2015

Presenter: Sarah Lupo (Reading@Curry)

Audience: Middle/High School Administrators, Instructional Leaders, and English/Reading/Language Arts Teachers

Description: This workshop will focus on how to develop an effective literacy program that will meet the needs of all students in secondary schools, especially those that do not have reading coaches. The presenter will share practical procedures for developing a school-wide assessment protocol, managing assessment data, determining the literacy needs of students, and supporting teachers to develop best practices for literacy instruction for all students. The presenter will share ideas on how to best approach first literacy instruction as well as how to intervene and provide supports to help struggling readers catch up. Participants will have opportunities to practice assessments and learn how to group students by need so that interventions are not a "one size fits all" approach but are aimed to address students' specific literacy needs. This workshop will help participants develop an effective plan for how to best meet the literacy needs of teachers and the students they serve at the secondary level.

Seatwork to Feetwork: Engaging Students in Their Own Learning (Grades K-12)

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Opens: August 3, 2015

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2015

Presenter: Ron Nash

Audience: K-12 Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: Telling is not teaching; to learn, *students* must do the talking. Talking is thinking, and Ron Nash will model communication, collaboration, and critical-thinking strategies that can be used at any grade level and in any subject area. So lace up your sneakers, grab a pen, and join Ron Nash for a high-energy workshop that will give you tons of practical strategies for engaging students in any classroom. You'll be standing, moving, sharing, laughing and learning during this instructive and enjoyable workshop. Ron will model think-write-pair-share, paired verbal fluency, priming, elaborative rehearsal, distributive practice, convergent/divergent thinking, give one/get one, along with tons of physical and mental state changes. He will also model ways to use movement, music, and humor in this fast-paced day of fun and learning.

The Virginia Alternative Assessment Summit (Grades K-12)

Jointly sponsored by VSUP, VDOE, VASCD, and VASS

Dates: Monday, October 5 and/or Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Location: The Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA

Registration Fee: \$175 (one day) or \$300 (both days)

Registration Opens: August 3, 2015

Registration Deadline: September 25, 2015

Presenters: Jay McTighe, Chris Gareis, Leaders of SCALE, and Numerous School Division Representatives

Audience: K-12 Teachers, Instructional Leaders, School Administrators, and Division Leadership Teams

Descriptions: This one OR two day workshop will provide education practitioners and policy-makers with information and resources that will enhance their understanding of alternative assessments. Topics covered will include: the fundamentals of alternative assessment development, effective classroom application for deeper understanding and more informative instructional feedback, the development and use of exemplary scoring rubrics, leadership for the development of division-wide initiatives, the use of alternative assessments for accountability purposes, and observations on Virginia's progress, next steps, and resources that will become available. Nationally known experts Jay McTighe, Chris Gareis, and Leaders from SCALE (Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning, and Equity) will be the main presenters. In a number of different Break-Out Sessions, representatives from regions that received State Alternative Assessment grants will discuss their accomplishments and experiences, as well as their future plans, and educators with established track records for successfully developing and using alternative assessments in classrooms, schools, and divisions will describe their experiences and results. For more information on the schedule for each day or to register for one OR both days of the Summit, visit the VASS website: vassonline.org.

Building Vocabulary for Adolescent Readers (Grades 6-12)

Date: Thursday, October 8, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Opens: August 3, 2015

Registration Deadline: September 18, 2015

Presenter: Sarah Lupo (Reading@Curry)

Audience: Middle School and High School Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: This workshop will focus on the addressing the vocabulary development needs of adolescents, including building important academic vocabulary skills. Word knowledge is a key component to improving reading skills for adolescents in all content areas. This workshop will present both theory and good instructional practices for promoting vocabulary growth for all adolescents in content areas so that they can be successful in all subjects during the school day. In this workshop, participants will have an opportunity to learn how to differentiate vocabulary instruction and meet students' developmental needs. Participants will plan several weeks of instruction and discuss the management of differentiated vocabulary instruction in all secondary school content classrooms.

Fractions: Understanding Beyond Algorithms (Grades 3-8)

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: September 25, 2015

Presenter: Kyle Schultz (JMU)

Audience: Mathematics Teachers (Grades 3-8), Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: Fractions can be a confusing topic for elementary and middle school students. Even students who routinely perform the four basic operations with fractions well can struggle when applying this knowledge to a variety of new contexts. In order to help our students develop a deep understanding of and ability to reason with fractions, teachers need to further develop their own understanding. This problem-based workshop will enable participants to examine and further develop their own understanding of fractions. We will examine other meanings of fractions (going beyond “a part of a whole”), investigate *why* standard algorithms (such as the invert-and-multiply rule for division) calculate the correct answer, and learn the best ways to represent fractions in different problems situations. In doing so, participants will improve their ability to explain important concepts and make connections between them.

Captivate, Activate, and Invigorate the Student Brain using Scientific Inquiry (Grades K-5)

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2015

Location: The Sheraton, Roanoke, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: September 25, 2015

Presenter: Ann Miller (Waynesboro City Schools)

Audience: Science Teachers (Grades K-5), Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: What do you really want going on in the minds of your learners as they step into the world of scientific investigation? In the book that John Almarode and Ann Miller co-authored, Captivate, Activate and Invigorate the Student Brain, they offer a recipe for increasing student engagement in your classroom. This conference will focus on exploring how to captivate students’ attention, activate covert as well as overt critical thinking, and invigorate students’ willingness to put forth effort toward successful learning. Together the participants will examine their own understanding of the skills needed to cultivate scientific inquiry and then move forward to discuss how to develop these skills in their students. Science is about a journey of exploration, observation, and inquiry driven by questions that trigger student curiosity. Participants will learn the importance of stimulating curiosity in order to trigger the desire to investigate, predict, and collect evidence. We all know that inquiry can take many different paths. So, please join Ann Miller for a great conversation about ways to ignite a sense of wonder, create an environment of simultaneous interaction, and hold students individually accountable for learning during science exploration.

Writing. Not Just for English Anymore: Writing Strategies to Promote Content Area Learning (Grades 6-12)

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: October 2, 2015

Presenter: Natasha Heny (Reading@Curry)

Audience: All Content Area Teachers (Grades 6-12), and Instructional Leaders

Description: Classroom instruction that incorporates writing and the writing process not only engages students in critical thinking, but also provides a rich learning environment where diverse perspectives are honored. However, establishing and maintaining a curriculum that incorporates authentic writing opportunities while enhancing content learning can be a challenge for any middle and high school teacher. In this workshop, participants will learn strategies and techniques for integrating writing into their curriculum in both formal and informal ways. The workshop will also address issues surrounding assessment, grading, and feedback for student writing. The presenter will share resources and ideas for classroom teachers in all content areas who wish to enhance their instruction by providing opportunities for students to write for real purposes and audiences.

Fluency for Struggling Readers (Grades 1-4)

Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: October 2, 2015

Presenter: Colleen Spano (Reading@Curry)

Audience: Elementary teachers (Grades 1-4) and Instructional Leaders

Description: This hands-on workshop is designed for teachers in grades 1-4 who have students that struggle with fluency. Many struggling readers lack accurate and automatic word recognition, read in a monotone voice and have difficulties reading in smooth phrases. What are the best practices to support students struggling with fluency? This workshop will address the current research on fluency and best practices for instruction. Participants will learn the three key components of fluency and examine the relationship between automatic word recognition, fluency and comprehension. In addition, participants will discuss ways to assess and monitor fluency and learn how to use the assessment results to differentiate fluency instruction for struggling readers. Throughout the workshop, specific strategies to develop accurate and automatic word recognition as well as smooth and expressive reading will be shared. Each participant will leave with a fluency toolbox that will include a variety of materials and strategies to support fluency instruction for struggling readers.

Tasks to Foster Secondary Students' Mathematical Thinking, Reasoning, and Connections (Grades 9-12)

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2015

Location: Sheraton, Roanoke, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: October 2, 2015

Presenters: Joe Garofalo and Kim Corum (UVA)

Audience: Mathematics Teachers (Grades 9-12), Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: In this session Joe Garofalo and Kim Corum will present a collection of tasks that they have used with secondary students and pre-service teachers. The tasks are largely non-routine and require more than procedural mathematical knowledge. Some of the tasks are purely mathematical, while others involve applications of secondary mathematics. A few of them are counter-intuitive. Most of these tasks can be explored through both algebraic and graphical representations and hence most can be solved with multiple methods of solution. The session will engage participants in working through tasks, sharing solution ideas, and discussing curricular and pedagogical issues.

Developing Critical Thinking Skills for the New SOLs for US I – VA/US Government (Grades 6-12)

Date: Thursday, November 5, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: October 9, 2015

Presenter: Stephanie Van Hover (UVA)

Description: In this interactive session, the focus will be on how social studies instruction can best focus on teaching critical thinking and the skills of historical analysis, rather than on just the memorization of facts. Participants will review the revised SOLs in social studies at the secondary level and develop new ways of thinking about their curriculum, as well as consider how their unit and lesson plans can incorporate the new standards. Different teaching approaches will be explored, with an emphasis on how writing and discussion can be used most effectively in middle and high school classrooms. Other engaging approaches will also be shared!

Annual Student Leadership Conference (Grades 9-12)

Date: Thursday, November 12

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: FREE to participants from VSUP Member High Schools

Registration Deadline: October 9, 2015

Audience: Teams of Students (Grades 9-12) and Faculty Advisors from VSUP member high schools

Description: Information about this year's Annual Student Leadership Conference will be sent in early August to VSUP Steering Committee Representatives, who will be asked to share the information with all of the high school principals in their division. Each VSUP high school is invited to send a team of students with a Faculty Advisor to participate in the Student Leadership Conference, which is FREE to VSUP divisions as a benefit of membership. Faculty Advisors from high schools that wish to participate in this year's VSUP SLC will be asked to register their team of students. More information about the VSUP Student Leadership Conference, as well as the online registration form for Faculty Advisors to complete for their team of student leaders, will be available in early August on the VSUP website: www.vsup.org.

Developing Early Literacy Skills in Pre-K and Kindergarten (PreK-K)

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: October 23, 2015

Presenter: Colleen Spano (Reading@Curry)

Audience: Pre-K and Kindergarten Teachers, School Administrators, and Instructional Leaders

Description: This workshop will focus on developing early literacy skills in Pre-K and Kindergarten. Participants will examine best practices in instruction for emergent readers and writers and learn ways to differentiate instruction based on student needs. Topics covered will include phonological awareness, print awareness, concept of word, and alphabet knowledge. Writing instruction will be integrated into the session as well. The interactive hands-on approach of this workshop will allow the participants to see various strategies in action and provide opportunities for guided practice. Participants will walk away with a set of sample activities and materials to support early literacy skills in the classroom.

Twisted Math Questions (Grades 3-8)

Date: Thursday, November 19, 2015

Location: The Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: October 23, 2015

Presenter: Michael J. Bossé (Appalachian State)

Audience: Mathematics Teachers (Grades 3-8), Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: K-12 mathematics teachers face a number of concerns. First, time allocated to assessment diminishes time available for instruction. Second, while most assessments are designed to determine whether students can do particular mathematics, few assessments are designed to deeply assess student conceptual understanding or find specific gaps in student knowledge. Twisted Math Questions (TMQs) address both of these dimensions. TMQs are mathematical investigations that illuminate student conceptual understanding, misunderstandings, and gaps in knowledge and, simultaneously, provide students with engaging mathematical tasks through which they have an opportunity to learn concepts more deeply. Beginning with any Virginia Mathematics Standard of Learning, TMQs can be constructed to assess, or be part of the instruction of, any topic or concept. TMQs can often be developed to simultaneously address a number of interconnected Standards. Working with TMQs, teachers will also gain more insight into the content and structure of their state Standards of Learning. Thus, as assessment and instruction are intertwined, TMQs are an efficient use of classroom time in a manner which challenges and often captivates student interest. Moreover, as TMQs can be developed to address any state or national standards, they can also be used at every grade level (K-12 and beyond); they are not only for more advanced students. Nor are TMQs simply more difficult mathematical problems; they are purposefully created to deeply investigate student understanding of mathematical concepts in respect to Mathematics Standards of Learning. Through this workshop, teachers will experience TMQs, investigate the nature and characteristics of TMQs, consider a grade-appropriate variety of TMQs, see how TMQs connect to state and national standards, and work to develop their own TMQs for their classrooms.

The Mathematics Diet: An Instructional Framework for Effective Mathematics Instruction (Grades PreK-5)

Date: Friday, November 20, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: October 23, 2015

Presenters: Kateri Thunder (JMU) and Alisha Demchak (Charlottesville City Schools)

Audience: PreK and Elementary Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: The metaphor of a balanced diet is used in literacy to describe the vital components of literacy instruction to grow readers and writers. In a balanced diet, the components work in tandem to give students multiple contexts to practice and transfer their understanding, knowledge, and skills. Similarly, the mathematics diet provides an instructional framework to grow mathematicians. The mathematics diet includes five components: counting, subitizing, conceptual understanding, procedural knowledge, and computational fluency. In this workshop, participants will examine each component of the mathematics diet, why it is important for mathematical growth, and instructional strategies to implement the components in PreK-5 classrooms. A particular focus will be on the Standards of Learning for grades PreK-5 and how the mathematics diet serves as an instructional framework for addressing the standards. Participants will engage in these instructional strategies and will leave with the knowledge and materials to immediately implement them.

Making Hattie's Research Come Alive in Your Classroom (Grades K-12)

Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$109 (\$149 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: November 6, 2015

Presenters: Debbie Duvall and James Angelo (Frederick County Schools)

Audience: K-12 Teachers, School Administrators, and Instructional Leaders

Description: John Hattie identified teaching strategies that are effective in moving student learning forward. This session will present key teaching and learning strategies from Hattie's research such as goal setting; alignment of the written, taught and tested curriculum; and feedback and formative assessment that engage students in their learning. The session will include video of Virginia educators and students who have experienced success with these strategies. Join us for a hands-on, minds-on session that will provide practical ideas for implementing Hattie's research in your classrooms, schools, and divisions!

Choosing and Using Children's Literature for Comprehension Instruction in the Primary Grades (Grades K-5)

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: February 12, 2015

Presenter: Susan Thacker-Gwaltney (Reading@Curry)

Audience: Elementary teachers (K-5), Reading Specialists, Special Education Teachers, and Instructional Leaders

Description: This training focuses on how to select and use engaging children's literature in the K-5 classroom to build students' oral and written vocabulary and comprehension skills during whole group and small group instruction. Using a gradual release model, participants will practice using a variety of interactive read-alouds and follow-up guided practice to infuse vocabulary and comprehension strategies and skills into the classroom. Research-based principles of effective comprehension instruction will be fused with practical classroom activities as we explore fiction and nonfiction genres. Participants will leave with lists of titles and hands-on and practical strategies they can use to support the development of comprehension in the primary grades.

Integrating Literacy and Math in the Early Childhood Classroom (PreSchool, PreK, and K)

Date: Thursday, March 10, 2016

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: February 12, 2015

Presenters: Kateri Thunder (JMU) and Alisha Demchak (Charlottesville City Schools)

Audience: Early Childhood Teachers (PreSchool, PreK and K), Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators

Description: How can math and literacy be taught together in the early childhood classroom? In this workshop, we will answer this question by exploring the many ways literacy can be a context for mathematical problem solving. We will examine and experience ways to teach number sense, patterns, mathematical vocabulary, representations, and problem solving through reading, writing, oral language, phonics and phonemic awareness, and a print-rich environment. Participants will engage in and reflect on developmentally appropriate, integrated activities that can be used with PreSchool, PreKindergarten, and Kindergarten students to learn both literacy and math skills and concepts. Through purposeful play, read alouds, songs, games, writing, and drawing, participants will analyze opportunities to maximize instructional time using the essential components of early literacy and math instruction. Participants will leave with activities for whole group, small group, and centers that they can use immediately.

The PRINCIPAL Difference Maker In Schools

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA

Registration Fee: \$129 (\$169 for Non-Members)

Registration Deadline: February 12, 2015

Presenter: Scott Habeeb (Salem City Schools)

Audience: K-12 Assistant Principals and Principals, Instructional Leaders, and Central Office Administrators

Description: The principal cannot do everything. She can't be the all-knowing expert. He can't teach in class. In many cases, the principal can't know all students. And yet the principal is the PRINCIPAL Difference Maker in the school. This interactive and participatory conference will address philosophies and their practical applications that enable a school principal to effectively lead a school to excellence. The goal of the conference is for participants to gain a deeper understanding of how they can play the following roles: Insulator - protecting a faculty from unnecessary stresses; Vision-caster - always keeping the big picture in the forefront; Compass - guiding schools on a journey to what matters most; Culture Warrior - building, creating, and maintaining a school culture; and Empowerer - fostering creativity, buy-in, and teacher leadership.