

2015 MEMSPA Conference Breakout Sessions

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

<p>1:15 - 2:30 pm</p>	<p>Rebecca Viedlinger</p>	<p>When Bullying Becomes Sexual Harassment</p> <p>When does childhood bullying and teasing cross the line into sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX? While much of the national public focus has been on Title IX in the higher education context, Title IX's prohibition on sex discrimination in education applies to K-12 institutions as well. This means that K-12 institutions must take action to prevent, investigate, and remedy sexual harassment that impacts their educational community—even harassment that occurs off school property. The kinds of bullying behavior common among K-12 students—cyberbullying, spreading rumors related to sexual activity, sexual assault, and sexting—may fall within Title IX's definition of sexual harassment and may therefore require school response. This presentation will explain what Title IX requires of schools with respect to the content of their sexual harassment policy, investigative procedures, and the manner in which schools must address sexual harassment if they have found it to have occurred in their community.</p>
	<p>David Hornak Melissa Usiak</p>	<p>Building Trust in a Volatile Environment</p> <p>Building leaders across the State of Michigan have been grappling with the reduction of resources for the past seven years. As a result of the resource reductions, the transition to Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, teacher evaluations, and the stress of ensuring that all children improve achievement levels, trust has eroded in some cases. This session will acknowledge the outside forces pressing on school leaders, discuss ideas, and collaboratively create plans to help grow an understanding on how to lead during a time of uncertainty. The facilitators will provide proven methods to rebuild trust, but will also facilitate a discussion on how other leaders across the State are handling similar issues.</p>

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	Meghan Daniel	<p>It's Not Just Docs Anymore</p> <p>Google Apps for Education has grown exponentially. No longer is Google Drive all that exists to help promote collaboration and engagement. Apps, add-ons, and extensions have vastly expanded the capabilities of what Google can do for educators and students! However, with new tools popping up everyday, it's hard to know what is worth our time. In this session, principals will explore (and play with!) multiple Google tools that can help us do everything from organize to formatively assess students. Be ready to walk away with a toolbox full of items to share all the way from the office to the classroom!</p>
	David Simpson	<p>Making Thinking Visible</p> <p>This session will look at how Ron Ritchhart's <i>Making Thinking Visible</i> can be the catalyst in creating a culture of thinking in your school. We will learn about thinking routines and the eight cultural forces that drive the creation of a culture of thinking. We are starting our 3rd year in creating a culture of thinking, and I have never seen a staff so passionate and together around a singular focus in a school!</p>
	Carolyn Carter	<p>Missing Ingredient in School Reform (CCSS-ELA)</p> <p>Michigan 6-12 curriculum standards and correlating assessments (M-STEP, MME, SAT, and Work-Keys) all call for or measure student competence in reading, writing and in recognizing sentence errors; however, a focus on improving these is seldom dominant in school reform initiatives. Yet, if schools riveted attention on teacher and student competence in ELA standards, student engagement and achievement would improve. A likely reform model for teachers and students provides an avenue for school reform seldom pursued.</p>
	Jamie DeWitt (MVU)	<p>Leading for Blended Learning</p> <p>Dive into a discussion about what leaders need to consider when implanting effective blended learning strategies. This session will highlight emerging standards for blended instruction, lessons from recent blended learning research, and what state-level policies are needed to move Michigan forward. Participants will also learn what blended learning looks like in classrooms throughout the state and what type of supports are available for school leaders as they begin to implement blended learning.</p>

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2:45 - 4:00 pm	Beth Carr	<p>Leading the Shift to Rigor</p> <p>Are your teachers prepared to instruct students in the cognitively complex skills necessary to meet new Learning Standards or College and Career Readiness Standards? Raising the bar for rigorous instruction to enhance student achievement requires creating the conditions to prepare for second order change, solid leadership, and a committed faculty. Educators must master new knowledge, practices, or approaches to implement change and an action plan must be developed to support and maintain the vision. Based on nearly 2 million data points generated by classroom observations and analyzed by Learning Sciences Marzano Center that document the pedagogical strategies teachers are currently using in their classrooms.</p>
	Derek Wheaton	<p>Optimize! Automate! Outsource!</p> <p>Want to clear your mind of menial tasks and thoughts that don't allow you to maximize your creativity and thinking? This hands-on interactive session will have you learn about and explore technology tools and sites that will help you automate and organize your digital work. Learn to delegate it, dump it, do it, or digitize it so you can optimize your digital work life!</p>
	Michael Klavon Kate Fanelli	<p>Addressing Learner Variability in the Mathematics Classroom: A Statewide Initiative</p> <p>Michigan's Integrated Mathematics Initiative (Mi)² supports and provides professional learning opportunities, research-based interventions, and technical assistance to assist educators in improving mathematics outcomes for ALL students. This session highlights (Mi)² opportunities (Foundations of Math, implementing math RtI using Delta Math resources, and Enhancing Mathematics Instruction for Students with Learning Difficulties), demonstrate strategies and frameworks used to meet the needs of diverse learners, and how administrators can support the successful implementation of effective practices.</p>

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	Debbie McFalone	<p>The Ending is the Beginning: Managing Transitions with Resilience and Positivity</p> <p>Courageous leaders today are deeply involved with leading change---and need to model a positive, resilient mindset as they do so. This session will help leaders understand transition, will offer specific strategies for cultivating an effort-based "growth mindset", and will offer practical ideas for maintaining resilience and positivity amid the challenges. Ideas based on "The Happiness Advantage" will be adapted by the presenter to support the principal in the leadership role.</p>
	Chuck McMillan	<p>New Science! Michigan and Next Generation Science Standards</p> <p><i>What do the NGSS mean for Michigan's students and teachers? In this session you will be introduced to the NGSS and several resources for both teachers and students aligned to the standards.</i></p>
	Arlin Peebles	<p>8 Ways to Use Ed Leaders Network for Personal and Staff Development</p> <p>Professional development has long been the key to having high performing staff and high achieving students. Today, however, it is getting harder and harder to find the time and resources necessary to provide high-quality professional development to those in need. This is why MEMSPA has partnered with the Illinois Principals Association and eight additional states to develop the Ed Leaders Network (ELN), an online, on-demand professional development tool for educators. This session will give you an in-depth look into ELN and explore 8 ideas for using it for professional growth.</p>

2015 MEMSPA Conference Breakout Sessions

Thursday, December 3, 2015

<p>9:15 - 10:30am</p>	<p>Cheryl Philips Gretchen Nachazel</p>	<p>Drugs 101</p> <p>Contents of a backpack with obvious and not-so-obvious drug paraphernalia is the highlight of this presentation that empowers adults working in schools with the indicators and current trends associated with drug use among teens and pre-teens. We will discuss the drugs of choice among late elementary and middle school students as well as trends in the high schools. This presentation includes demonstrations to open up conversations with youth as well as behavioral indicators.</p>
	<p>Reginald Kirkland</p>	<p>Leading with Culture</p> <p>Transforming school policies and practices to integrate the cultural capital of African American, Latino and other minority children into the curriculum and teaching methods is perhaps today's most promising approach for a school as well as entire school systems to communicate a commitment to address the persistent disparities, or "gaps," in educational outcomes. An effective approach to provide an equal and equitable educational opportunity to all children must establish a set of standards for the development of a culturally proficient K-12 education curriculum. It is time for public school systems in Michigan to increase cultural proficiency in order to improve academic achievement for all of its students.</p>
	<p>Dawn Kenaugh Tim Lyman</p>	<p>Starting from Scratch</p> <p>Come hear how two current principals built supportive, collaborative cultures in their schools despite challenges that were presented because of change happening in their districts. Participants will learn strategies they used to build relationships, create environments that minimized fear, and leverage or establish building leaders. In order to succeed, both principals had to start from scratch and create the culture.</p>

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	Antoinette Pearson	<p>Truth Transforms Education</p> <p>Truth Transforms Education is a honest conversation around the foundational framework new building leaders need to create to develop schools of success. The conversation will focus on 4 pillars; personal values and motivation, positive relationships, system of instructional accountability and building teacher capacity. Although there can be a deep dive into all pillars, this workshop will provide key points and areas to consider will establishing this framework for your organization.</p>
	<p>George Couros Gary Abud, Jr Michele Corbat Ben Gilpin Brad Gustafson Theresa Stager</p>	<p>Connected Pedagogy</p> <p>Our diverse panel of connected educators will discuss specific stories with regard to how learning has been inspired via a connected pedagogy. This will include practical ideas for implementation, approaching your administrator, communicating to families, general examples (AKA a "path"), and some great tips on how to get started.</p>
	Rich Williams (W & Co.)	<p>Educating and Informing Staff about Retirement Plans</p> <p>Retirement issues are more challenging than ever. School employees today are faced with higher retirement cost, confusing choices, lack of savings, and paralyzing fear. Find out how you can implement education programs to assist you and your employees in making good decisions regarding retirement. You will also learn how effective retirement education can help schools save money.</p>
10:45 - 12:00	Retiree Committee	<p>Retirement: Are You Ready?</p> <p>Explore some of the important decisions around retirement planning while enjoying the many doors and careers opening to already retired principals. Learn about recent legislative changes that will impact Michigan Public Schools Employees Retirement System (MPERS) and how these changes impact your future.</p>

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	<p>Michelle Carter Lisa Wells Katie Huizenga Jennifer Merkel</p>	<p>Unlocking the Reading Code: One School's Journey</p> <p>Come join members of Central Elementary's team as we share the amazing story of success we have experienced with students in young fives through 6th grade implementing URC! Teachers are 'rewiring their brains' to accelerate learning while explicitly teaching the Common Core Standards. You will be amazed as you see video clips of students as young as four reading words! We will also share our experiences as we are in Year 2 of implementation which focuses on Grammar.</p>
	<p>Adrienne Crocket Eric Hipple, Tarah Hipple</p>	<p>Healthy Minds</p> <p>This interactive presentation strives to enhance learning and academic achievement by changing the culture of stigma surrounding mental health. Building on the characteristics that exist in a "healthy mind", the presentation provides strategies, resources, and materials for staff, students, and parents to use to encourage positive behaviors. Attendees will learn strategies to identify depression in children, as well as strategies to promote healthy behaviors.</p>
	<p>Michael Domagalski</p>	<p>Twitter for PD</p> <p>Think Twitter is just about selfies, celebrities, and cat videos? Think again! It can be used to find some of the best professional learning out there. Bring your device, and learn how to connect with educators all over the world and right in your own back yard— including the weekly #MEMSPAchat.</p>
	<p>Ben Gilpin and Team Nicole Kelly Suzanne Gibbs DeAnna Struck Breanna Davey Julie Oliver</p>	<p>Developing and Atmosphere Where Students Love to Learn</p> <p>Warner Elementary focuses it's energy on building strong relationships with all students and personalize the learning as often as possible. In this session, we will talk about steps that have been taken to shift the culture and put the focus where it belongs...on the students. Join us to hear about Student Blogging, Genius Hour, Choice learning, Growth Mindset and more!</p>

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	Mark Morawski Pauline Roberts	<p>Interdisciplinary Teaching and Learning</p> <p>Explore an interdisciplinary approach to learning that engages students while promoting student initiative, autonomy and creativity. Participants will learn how to facilitate critical thinking, questioning, interaction and collaboration among students. Explore the solutions developed by students to solve real world problems and examine products created by students that were diverse in both purpose and content for specific audiences.</p>
3:00 - 4:15pm	George Couros	<p>Your Digital Footprint</p> <p>We all have a digital footprint, as do our schools and organizations. "Googling" ourselves makes this apparent whether we have had any say in it or not. As individuals and as organizations, what can we do to actually shape this footprint? With open sharing of our learning, a digital footprint can easily be developed for either an individual, school or organization. This is not about branding as much as it is about modeling for our students that we are learners along with them.</p>
	Elizabeth Johnson Kathy Walsh	<p>Engagement + Effect Size + Effective Teaching = Optimal Performance</p> <p>This 3-step equation and methodology will transform how robust learning can be created and perfectly aligned to your teacher evaluation model. You will learn how to exponentially increase student achievement across all demographics, see how every teacher can meet and exceed a "highly effective" rating, and motivate students to be self-directed and proficient in 21st century learning competencies. Bring your "Principal Swagg" to this session and experience the HOW, WHAT, and WHY of profoundly changing the lives of those who grace your school.</p>
	Nick Angel Marcus Kemming	<p>The Principal's Role in 1:1</p> <p>We have had tremendous success improving many aspects of our school experience for students and stakeholders utilizing our 1-1 iPads. Session would focus on the Principal's role, potential pitfalls, professional development follow ups to include structure and models.</p>

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	<p>Len Morrow Kelly Jensenius</p>	<p>Accelerating & Personalizing K-3 Literacy Achievement: Using a Blended Learning Model</p> <p>Join two innovative principals who will share case studies on their implementation of web-based research proven methods & tools. Discussion topics will include the importance of: rigorous criteria for selecting research proven tools, real-time performance data to personalize literacy instruction, adaptive digital content, and selecting the right blended learning model for your school.</p>
	<p>Vicki Boase</p>	<p>Strategies for Increased Instructional Time & Decreased Behavioral Disruptions</p> <p>Principals: Is it your mission to establish a positive learning climate in your school? Would you like to see fewer students in your office so you can spend more time as an instructional leader and motivator in your halls and classrooms? The purpose of this presentation is to provide research based, practical strategies to decrease low level behavior disruptions and increase instructional time. No gimmicks or reward systems...just techniques to start using immediately!</p>
	<p>Molly Funk</p>	<p>Leading Learning Communities: What Principals Should Know and be Able to Do</p> <p>We use standards to guide both our curriculum and instruction. We use standards to guide our professional learning and school improvement. In this collaborative session, participants will learn the standards for principals as they lead learning communities, understand and learn from colleagues as they identify best practices for principals within those standards. If you are looking for a way to calibrate and orient your practice in the ever-changing role as a principal or if you are new to the profession, this session will help you succeed.</p>

2015 MEMSPA Conference Breakout Sessions

Friday, December 4, 2015		
8:45 - 9:45am	#MEMSPAchat LIVE	Topic: Walk Throughs, Observations, and Student Growth
	Facilitated and focused roundtable discussions	Topic: Developing Teacher Leaders
		Topic: Interventions for Ineffective Classroom Management
		Topic: Promoting Student Leadership
		Topic: Communicating Your School Vision
		Topic: School and Community Partnerships
10:00 - 11:15am	Colleen Conway Phil Hash	<p>Evaluation of Music Teachers</p> <p>This session will examine the challenges and issues associated with the evaluation of music teachers. Topics will include (a) strategies for identifying effective standards- based music instruction, (b) evaluating music teachers within the Danielson and Marzano frameworks, (c) assessment tools for measuring student growth in the music classroom, and (d) individual versus group assessment in performance-based music courses. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their experiences with presenters and peers, and apply what they learn through brief mock evaluation exercises.</p>
	Amy Henry	<p>Establishing a Positive School Climate through a Multi-tiered Behavioral Framework</p> <p>Schools and districts across the nation are discovering the transformational effects of implementing a multi-tiered behavioral framework to support and promote positive school climate and culture. This session will focus on the critical role of the district and school systems in establishing and supporting a sustainable, scalable, efficient, effective, and equitable positive behavior support framework. Participants will engage in group discussions, interactive activities, and individualized assessment and planning.</p>

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	<p>Terri Slesinski Laurie Boone</p>	<p>Performance Management for Educators</p> <p>Discover how new trends in managing staff performance complement Educator Effectiveness initiatives. Learn how TowerMetriX is being used to facilitate communication, manage license and certification requirements, and automate the classroom observation.</p>
	<p>Darla Campbell Jennifer McDonald</p>	<p>Increasing Student Achievement with Oral Language</p> <p>Two Schools, very different locations, very different problems... one similar solution. Oral Language is making a difference for English Second Language students (ESL) and students with under-developed Standard English due to Cultural and Community Backgrounds (LEP). Come hear the principal's stories, learn about the research and the oral language program that is making a difference in student achievement.</p>
	<p>Rodney Hetherton, Michele Corbat Adam Hartley,</p>	<p>Creating a Culture of Learning through the Power of Social Media</p> <p>Come learn about #COLchat's twelve components of a culture of learning. Whether you use social media or not, it is vital to connect and collaborate with your staff, parents, and students. #COLchat to Action focuses on the components of a true culture of learning where the entire school community embraces changes, collaborates to climb over barriers, and establishes a system where everyone knows they have a purpose.</p>
	<p>Danielle Daniels</p>	<p>Digital Leadership</p> <p>Digital Leadership Leading in education becomes exponentially powerful when using technology to your advantage. Join Dr. Daniels as she shares how she leads her school, students, staff and parents, using technology. She will also share about the critical need to "brand" your school with digital footprints, which can increase student, parent and community satisfaction with our schools. She will also share how being a part of PLN's (professional learning networks) has helped her sharpen her leadership skills and grow in her role as an administrator.</p>