

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES THAT WORK!

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 5 – 7, 2025

HERSHEY LODGE & CONVENTION CENTER
325 UNIVERSITY DR, HERSHEY, PA 17033



Session Room Locations

(Subject to change. Please check the conference app for the most up-to-date locations.)

Wednesday – February 5, 2025

	Room Assignment
1:00 pm -1:30 pm Welcoming Remarks Dr. Daniel Currie and Dr. Carole Clancy	Great American Hall
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm Opening Keynote: <i>What Students Wish We Knew</i> Kyle Schwartz	Great American Hall
2:50 pm – 3:50 pm Concurrent Sessions	
01. <i>A Soft Place to Land: Creating Classrooms Where Kids Feel Safe, Cared About, and Valued</i> Kyle Schartz	Great American Hall (White)
02. <i>Designing Learning First Steps: WHO and WHAT</i> Jason Kennedy	Empire AB
03. <i>Every Interaction Counts: Accelerating Language Development in Early Childhood Education</i> Jill Gilkerson, Ph.D.	Wild Rose B
04. <i>Evidence-Based Customized Professional Development and Technical Assistance</i> Angela Kirby, Ed.D. and Chris Cherny	Great American Hall (Red)
05. <i>Exploring the Connection of Executive Function and Increased Success in Mathematics</i> Beatrice Luchin, Ph.D.	Cocoa 2 - 5
06. <i>Meeting Immigrant Families Where They Are: Survivors to Leaders</i> Young-chan Han	Wild Rose A
07. <i>Using the Metacognitive Cycle to Improve Executive Functioning</i> Emily Kircher-Morris, LPC	Great American Hall (Blue)
4:10 pm – 5:10 pm Concurrent Sessions	
08. <i>Beyond Boundaries: Building Inclusive Schools with Include Me</i> Nicole Emery	Great American Hall (White)
09. <i>Creating Successful Productive Opportunities for Students Through Scaffolding</i> Beatrice Luchin, Ph.D.	Cocoa 2 - 5
10. <i>Designing Learning Next Steps: HOW</i> Jason Kennedy	Empire AB
11. <i>Empowering Future Educators: The Aspiring Educators Program at CWCTC</i>	CANCELLED
12. <i>Give Teachers the Data: Quantifying Interactions for Dual Language Learners in Child Care Settings</i> Jill Gilkerson, Ph.D.	Wild Rose B
13. <i>Leadership Program for Immigrant Parents: What, How, and Why</i> Young-chan Han	Wild Rose A

14. Neurodiversity-Affirming Learning Environments: Implementing Practical Support Strategies Emily Kircher-Morris, LPC	Great American Hall (Blue)
15. 1306: Educational Programs in Non-Educational Placements Roni Russell, M.Ed.	Great American Hall (Red)

Thursday – February 6, 2025

8:30 am – 9:30 am Morning Keynote	Room Assignment
Mental Health Starts with Me Ross Szabo	Great American Hall
9:50 am – 10:50 am Concurrent Sessions	
16. Behind Happy Faces Ross Szabo	Trinidad
17. Data and Your Needs Assessment: School Improvement Planning Support for A-TSI and TSI Kristen Lewald, Ed.D.	Wild Rose A
18. Instruct with Intention: Utilizing Small Group Instruction to Make a Difference Jess Surles, M.Ed.	Cocoa 2 - 5
19. Linguistic Justice: Nurturing the Linguistic Freedoms of Black Students in Language Development April Baker-Bell, Ph.D.	Wild Rose B
20. The Bilingual-Bicultural Experience: Bilinguals Are Not Two Monolinguals in One Head Samuel Ortiz, Ph.D.	Cocoa Terrace
21. The New ABCs: Agency, Belonging, and Connectedness a Roadmap for School Completion Laura Moran, Ph.D. and Amira Hill-Yancy, Ed.D.	Crystal A
22. The Synergy Between UDL, AEM, and AT Kelli Suding	Empire ABCD
11:10 am – 12:10 pm Concurrent Sessions	
23. Assistive Technology is Not Cheating! Kelli Suding	Empire ABCD
24. Explicit Instruction: Bypass the Guess, Plan for Success! Jess Surles, M.Ed.	Cocoa 2 - 5
25. How Are We Doing? Taking a Closer Look at the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report Barbara Mozina and John Cica	Crystal A
26. Intensive Interagency Processes: Responsibilities, Reporting and Resources Roni Russell, M.Ed.	Magnolia ABC
27. Linguistic Justice From Theory to Praxis: Nurturing the Linguistic Freedoms of Black Children April Baker-Bell, Ph.D.	Wild Rose B
28. Square Pegs in Round Holes: Challenges in Educating and Evaluating Multilingual Learners Samuel Ortiz, Ph.D.	Cocoa Terrace & Cocoa 1
29. The Impact of Unified Champion Schools Programming at Different Grade Levels Mike Bovino	Wild Rose A
12:10 pm – 1:20 pm Plated Luncheon w/presentation by Dr. Carole Clancy	Great American Hall
1:40 pm – 2:40 pm Concurrent Sessions	
30. Could Less be More? Results of PA's Annual Parent Survey for Special Education Accountability Batya Elbaum, Ph.D.	Wild Rose AB
31. Getting to Know You is More Than Just a Name Bob Sattler	Trinidad
32. Pennsylvania Disability Inclusive Pilot Grant Program: Implementation and Priorities Timothy Krushinski and Nichole Kopco	Empire ABCD

33. <i>Reimagining Approaches to Dismantling Disproportionality in Special Education and Beyond</i> David Lopez	Magnolia ABC
34. <i>Setting up Early Readers for Success: Three Implementation Journeys</i> Andra Bell, M.Ed.	Cocoa Terrace & Cocoa 1
35. <i>Tailoring Success: Advancing SDI From Principle to Practice</i> Nicole Barrion	Cocoa 2 - 5
36. <i>Translating the (Brain) Science of Reading to Instruction and Equity</i> Donald Bolger, Ph.D.	Crystal A
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Concurrent Sessions	
37. <i>Beyond the Numbers: Learning from Students and Families when Addressing Disproportionality</i> David Lopez	Magnolia ABC
38. <i>Evaluating Pennsylvania's Attract, Prepare, and Retain Initiatives: Year 3 Findings</i> Allison Gilmour, Marcy Stein, Ph.D., and Roddy Theobald, Ph.D.	Empire ABCD
39. <i>I Wish I Knew Then What I Know Now...How to View Behavior as Communication</i> Bob Sattler	Trinidad
40. <i>Inclusive Leadership Matters! Providing Meaningful Supports for Success</i> Nichole Barrion	Cocoa 2 - 5
41. <i>Navigating Educational Needs of Students Who Do Not Bounce Back After Mild Traumatic Brain Injury</i> Brenda Eagan-Johnson, Ed.D., CBIST-AP	Magnolia C
42. <i>The Role of Language, Reading, and Executive Function in Math Word Problems</i> Donald Bolger, Ph.D.	Crystal A
43. <i>Woman of Many Hats: Rebecca Fogle Talks with Us about the Roles of Parents in Special Education</i> Batya Elbaum, Ph.D. and Rebecca Fogle	Wild Rose AB
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm Poster Session Reception	Great American Hall (Blue)
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm F2MAX Network	Cocoa 1 and Terrace

Friday March 1, 2024

8:30 am – 9:30 am Concurrent Sessions	
44. <i>Anyone Can Self-Monitor! The Who, What, When, and Why of Effective Self-monitoring Interventions</i> Katharine Croce, Ed.D., BCBA-D and Jamie Salter, Ed.S., BCBA	Trinidad
45. <i>Beyond Tradition: Creative Solutions for Nurturing Special Education Talent</i> Jacquelyn Bartek, Gina Scala, Ph.D., and Ruth Auld, Ed.D.	Magnolia ABC
46. <i>Emotion Regulation for Gifted and Distractible Learners</i> Julie Skolnick, M.A., J.D.	Great American Hall (Blue)
47. <i>How and When to Plan with General Education</i> Scott Rhymer and Traci Hogan	Nigerian
48. <i>Integrating Reading, Self-Regulation, and Emotional Support for Students in Elementary Grades</i> Nathan Clemens	Great American Hall (Red)
49. <i>Learning Mathematics "By Example"</i> Julie Booth, Ph.D.	Wild Rose AB
50. <i>The Benefits of Mediation</i> Cindy Duch and Millicent Carvalho-Grevious	Aztec
9:50 am – 10:50 am Concurrent Sessions	
51. <i>Anyone Can Self-Monitor! How to Set up Systematic Self-monitoring Interventions</i> Katharine Croce, Ed.D., BCBA-D and Jamie Salter, Ed.S., BCBA	Trinidad
52. <i>Creating Worked Example Assignments</i> Julie Booth, Ph.D.	Wild Rose AB

53. <i>Integrating Reading, Self-Regulation, and Emotional Supports for Students in Secondary Grades</i> Nathan Clemens	Great American Hall (Red)
54. <i>Shared Ownership at the School Level-Where to Start and How to Get Buy-in by ALL for ALL</i> Scott Rhymer and Traci Hogan	Nigerian
55. <i>The Benefits of IEP Facilitation</i> Cindy Duch and Nancy Giacomini	Aztec
56. <i>The Science of Stress Resilience</i> Chase Mielke, M.Ed.	Great American Hall (White)
57. <i>The Uncanny Likeness between Giftedness and ADHD</i> Julie Skolnick, M.A., J.D.	Great American Hall (Blue)
11:10 am – 12:10 pm Closing Keynote	
<i>In This Together: Unify Your School Culture with Purpose, Perspective, and Positivity</i> Chase Mielke, M.Ed.	Great American Hall