

## **Thursday, December 5**

### **9:15– 10:30 am - Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Ready, Test, Score! Essential Tools for Common Core Writing Success from Chauncey Davis Elementary**

Kresta Byington, Principal, South Bend, Washington

**Peninsula B-C**

*Are writing scores always the lowest in your building? Writing scores are typically the lowest scores for many schools because teachers struggle with instruction, and there is poor accountability for the curriculum content and the time dedicated to this under-served subject. With the upcoming 2014/2015 Common Core testing, principals need to ensure effective writing instruction in their schools. Attendees will learn about the progress experienced at Chauncey Davis Elementary in South Bend, Washington using the WriteSteps program.*

#### **Administrator Support for Teacher Growth in Common Core Implementation**

Stephanie Miller, Ed.S, Principal, Troy Schools  
Molly Funk, Consultant, Core School Solutions

**Peninsula A**

*This session will provide school and district administrators opportunities to learn about, discuss, and take away tools to support teachers in the implementation of the Common Core State Standards. Participants will be engaged in learning about specific tools to support teachers and be able to share their experiences and tools with others.*

#### **Finding the Time: How Skillful Principals Control Their Schedules to Support Priorities**

Debbie McFalone, Ph.D, Educational Consultant  
McFalone Consulting

**Tower B**

*Exemplary leaders must maintain a laser-like focus on their core work: monitoring and supporting student learning. In order to do that, principals must vigorously guard their time for classroom visits, and have the time to offer frequent, focused feedback. This session will offer practical strategies about prioritizing, about communicating priorities, and about the importance of the principal's commitment to do their most important work: lead the learning in their school.*

#### **Putting It All Together: Positive Behavior Supports, Character Education, Anti-Bullying, etc.**

Michelle Carter & Troy Reehl, Principals  
Grandville Public Schools

**Tower C**

*Schools are inundated with many programs, materials, and strategies that support improving students' behavior. Spend time hearing about what a couple of Grandville K-6 elementary buildings have done to connect all of these important components. They have created a systematic plan that students, parents, and staff enjoy! It is motivating and manageable. You will walk away with many resources that can be adapted to fit your school's needs!*

**PD: Framework for Success**

Shanna Spickard, Principal, Manchester Middle School  
Manchester Community Schools

**Mackinac A**

*This interactive session will focus on successful PD implementation. The three systems of quality PD are explained to structure professional learning so it is meaningful and focuses on shifting teacher practices to student-centered instructional practices. Whether districts are working on CCSS, reading, technology integration, or various other topics, these three systems are powerful in giving teachers the framework and support to shift their practice. Participants will leave with PD approaches for their own staff.*

**Transforming Learning in a 1:1 iPad School**

Schools

Fred Sitkins, Executive Director, Inland Seas Educational Association

Rebecca Wildman, Teacher, Boyne City Public

**Tower A**

*This presentation explains how the introduction of the iPad has completely transformed BOTH student and staff learning at Boyne City Elementary School. Participants will learn about the educational benefits of using iPads in a 1:1 environment and will see many examples of the impact on both student and staff learning. Participants will gain knowledge of the best apps for fostering student learning with special attention paid to the use of iTunes U.*

**Success with i-Ready® Diagnostic & Instruction**

Michelle Downs, Principal, Kentwood Public Schools  
Sue Ritchie, Sr. Ed Consultant, Curriculum Associates

**Mackinac B-C**

*Built from the Common Core, the 2013 CODIE Award winning i-Ready® Diagnostic & Instruction combines a valid and reliable student growth measure and personalized instruction in a single online platform that saves teachers time. An adaptive diagnostic assessment pinpoints students' strengths and areas of instructional need down to the sub-skill level and provides a single growth measure for Reading and Mathematics across grades K–12. Monitoring at the class, grade, school, and district levels helps students learn more and learn faster. Also featured will be the Ready Common Core program—a print based supplemental instructional program built from Common Core—which was first implemented in grades 2-5 at Meadowlawn Elementary.*

**10:45 am – 12:00 pm - Concurrent Sessions****Multi-tiered System of Supports & School Improvement: Synergistic Implementation**

Amy Henry, School Improvement Consultant  
Michigan Department of Education

**Peninsula B-C**

*Many schools and districts are discovering the power of implementing a multi-tiered system of instruction and interventions for their students; however, few are making the connection between School Improvement and the work of installing a MTSS framework. This session will focus on 3 main objectives: gaining a common understanding of MTSS in the state of Michigan, identifying the components that schools and districts already have in place, and understanding how school improvement and MTSS work together in a powerful way.*

**Google Docs: A Tool for Efficiency and Engagement** Meghan Daniel, Educational Consultant,  
McFalone Consulting

**Tower B**

*Leaders of 21st century schools skillfully employ technology both as a leadership tool and learning tool for faculty and students. In this session, principals will examine how Google Docs can enable them to increase their efficiency and model relevant and rigorous instructional strategies to engage students. Principals will learn strategies for faculty collaboration and will also examine how Google Docs can assist with issues such as surveys and conference scheduling.*

**What Educators Can Do to Reduce Cruel Behavior in School: Interventions that Work**

Dr. Marcia McEvoy,  
McEvoy Consulting

**Tower C**

*In this session, classroom-based and school-wide efforts to reduce mean behavior, including bullying and harassment, will be discussed. Research-based prevention and intervention techniques will be highlighted through the use of live demonstrations, role-play, and video clips. Strategies for enhancing pro-social behaviors such as altruism, empathy, and tolerance will also be shared.*

**“I Time”—A Purposeful Time to Reteach**

Jennifer Goethals & Sarah Manzo, Principals  
Lake Orion Community Schools

**Mackinac A**

*Want to find a way to organize a purposeful time to reteach and meet student needs? We have two different schedules that both meet that goal. Intervention Time is a systematic process to reteach subject matter that was not mastered, work on academic/emotional gap areas, and allow academically high students to work on pushing themselves further. Progress is monitored every two weeks, and data is used to create grade level and individual student plans. Learn more about these two all-school approaches to closing the gap!*

**PowerLearning: 1-to-1 iPad Program for K-6**

Kevin Schmutzler & Jason Traviss, Principals  
Manistee Area Public Schools

**Tower A**

*Participants will learn about MAPS 1-to-1 technology initiative for K-12, with specifics to our K-6th 1:1 iPad program. We will share our planning, research, and results. We will share our plans to provide your school with direction to also become a 1-to-1 school.*

**Life After Retirement**

MEMSPA Retiree Committee

**Mackinac B-C**

*Explore some of the important decisions around retirement planning while enjoying the many doors and careers opening to already retired principals.*

## **Oral Language Makes a Difference! How to Close the Achievement Gap**

Mike Shembarger, Principal, Berrien Springs  
Deonna Montei, CEO, Literacy Consulting Services

**Peninsula A**

*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. Using the same principles by which a child naturally learns his/her first language, both districts are making a difference for their students. The repetition of common functional / conversational language patterns across many mediums helps reinforce language in a comprehensive and effective manner. Students who were previously falling behind are not just succeeding, but accelerating.*

## **3:00 – 4:15 pm Concurrent Sessions**

### **To Blog or Not to Blog**

Ben Gilpin and Sue Haney, Principals  
Western School District

**Tower A**

*This session is designed to inform, educate and empower educational leaders to begin blogging to staff, parents, or simply for themselves. Blogging has the ability to enhance culture and climate in an ever-changing educational world. This session will share popular educational blogs from across Michigan and the United States. We will also live Skype with a fellow educational blogger during the session to show the power of blogging, communicating and a strong PLN!*

### **Writing Strong Improvement Plans**

Nancy Colflesh, Ph.D  
MSU College of Education

**Tower B**

*Working with a teacher with "Low Will & Low Skill" or "Low Will & High Skill", in Robyn Jackson's words, can be very challenging for beginning and experienced principals. During this highly interactive session, we will focus on two kinds of Improvement Plans: a plan which helps to improve a teacher's performance, and, a plan which encourages a teacher's exit from the profession. Examples will be provided and modeling will be offered for key phrases in these types of hard conversations.*

### **Elementary School Implements Framework to Improve Teaching Practice Across Grade Levels and Subjects**

Rodney Hetheron, Principal, Swartz Creek  
Adam Hartly, Assistant Superintendent, Swartz Creek  
Nick Mohny, Teachscape

**Tower C**

*Participants will: Understand Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching and the benefits of establishing a common language of effective teaching among all stakeholders; Learn how the Framework is used as foundation for teacher evaluation and ongoing professional learning; Learn how conducting fair and reliable evaluations can create a collaborative professional learning environment that ultimately leads to increased student outcomes. Participants will witness sample lessons, conduct sample observations, and collaboratively discuss their findings.*

### **Job Embedded Professional Development**

David Hornak, Principal  
Holt Public Schools

**Peninsula B-C**

*Educational institutions across Michigan are grappling with why we do school the way we do school. Education Yes!, No Child Left Behind, and Response to Intervention are among three reasons for change. The objective of this session includes laying out a framework of how job embedded professional development can make the difference and better meet the needs of our children. A working model and a step by step change process will be described and discussed.*

### **What do PLC Behaviors Teach Your Teacher?**

Sheryl Kennedy, Principal  
Walled Lake Consolidated School District

**Mackinac A**

*Based on current research, this session will look at the relationship between PLC organizational behaviors and adult learning. Sources of individual and organizational efficacy will be explored to help administrators recognize that different approaches to PLCs can either increase or decrease outcomes, depending on the approach. A practical application of the research will then be applied to individual participant concerns in a round-table approach.*

### **Online and Blended Learning: What Do You Want to Know?**

Jay Bennett, Michigan Virtual University

**Peninsula A**

*Online and blended learning are here to stay. Come and talk to Grand Ledge Community Schools school board President and online education expert, Jay Bennett, about the different types of technologies, methods, and curriculum involved in this ever-growing field of education. Whether you want to set up your own blended teaching program or just have questions about how online learning works or the new online learning legislation, this session is for you.*

### **Solution Room**

**Mackinac B-C**

*The Solution Room is an innovative framework for sharing that provides participants with a brief but powerful personal consulting session on an issue/topic of their choosing. Participants will leave the session with strategies to resolve a challenge of their own choosing and the templates to use the Solution Room with their faculties and/or colleagues. **Your colleagues are counting on you to be here to share your solutions!** (Repeated Friday at 10:00am)*

## **Friday, December 6**

### **8:30 – 11:15 am LAB Session**

#### **Outrageous and Contagious Data-Driven Strategies to Move Students from Boredom to Stardom All Aligned to the Common Core Standards**

Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, Distinguished Professor, EMU

Kathy Walsh, President, Extreme Teaching for Extreme Times

**Tower A**

*Given the endless pedagogical demands alongside the increased social, emotional and behavioral challenges of our students, how can we meet and EXCEED every Common Core Standards and slam the door shut on the achievement gap across all demographics subsets? This WILD and INNOVATIVE workshop also focuses on learners with seemingly endless and insurmountable challenges. The HIGHLY-INTERACTIVE . . . WONDERFULLY-ENGAGING . . . IMMEDIATELY-APPLICABLE session models transformative strategies/interventions ALL aligned to the CCSS guaranteeing EXEMPLARY learning and achievement!*

### **8:30 – 9:45 am - Concurrent Sessions**

#### **The Transition to Kindergarten**

Pat Cavanaugh, Principal

Warren Consolidated School District

**Peninsula A**

*This presentation will focus on the Kindergarten Transition Program that Susick Elementary has implemented over the past three years. Participants will receive a calendar of transition activities, such as Kindergarten Preview, Kindergarten Assessment program, and Kindergarten Camp. In addition, student data results will be provided along with staff and parent surveys.*

#### **A Positive Approach to Communicating Teacher Evaluations**

Mark and Karen Wagnon

Teaching Our Youth

**Tower C**

*Teacher evaluations are a tool to assist in providing continuous teacher improvement and professional learning. Some teachers may perceive the process as potential criticism. How can we use a more positive approach to present teacher evaluations where both you and the teacher are encouraged by the outcome? There is an art to communicating a way that affirms strengths and encourages improvement. When we understand our differences in motivation and needs, we as leaders, can communicate more effectively the strategies needed to empower teachers towards greater success in the classroom. In this workshop we will discuss ways to value and encourage team members.*

### **The Leader in Me**

Mary Cooper, Principal, Dexter Community Schools  
Jenifer Michos, Principal, Novi Community Schools

#### **Tower B**

Jen Michos and Mary Cooper serve as principals in two different school districts, and both are implementing Dr. Stephen Covey's work, *The Leader in Me*. These two leaders have observed and witnessed change in their learning environments because of the implementation of *The Leader in Me* and its principles. Participants in the session will gain an overview of *The Leader in Me*, hear of ways to implement the work, and begin to contemplate how they may be able to incorporate the principles into their own school environment.

### **Staff Meeting Cheats**

MacKenzie Feldpausch, MEMSPA  
Director of Learning and Communications

#### **Peninsula B-C**

*Ever wish you could improve the quality of your staff meetings and make them easier to plan? You can! Join your colleagues for an in-depth look at MEMSPA's tools for leaders of learning. Participants will work in groups to plan and share staff meeting agendas using MEMSPA's tools and leave the session with 'cheats' to make planning easier in the future.*

### **Transforming a Community from Collaboration to Collective Impact**

Kevin Oxley, Superintendent, Jackson County ISD  
Monica Moser, *President, Jackson Community Foundation*  
Kriss Giannetti, *Coordinator, Jackson Promise Zone*

#### **Mackinac B-C**

*The Jackson County Cradle to Career (C2C) is a growing, dynamic collective impact collaboration of individuals and organizations committed to building community-wide support for fundamental change in how well we educate our children now and future generations. The vision of C2C is to be a unifying force to ensure that all children in the county will be ready for school success, ready for post-secondary success, ready for career success and ready for the world. Our mission is to build, coordinate, and promote an educational path that prepares all students at all levels, from early childhood through post-secondary attainment that results in productive careers for all Jackson County residents.*

### **CREATING A SCHOOL CULTURE OF HIGH ENGAGEMENT AND SHARED LITERACY WITH ACHIEVE 3000: Successfully Embracing RTI, ELL, Common Core and Advanced Learners in the Same Classroom!**

John Spicko  
Achieve3000

#### **Mackinac A**

Due to new, more rigorous standards, now is the opportunity for school leaders to raise the collective capacity of all teachers to deliver high-quality instruction. This session will show how one program is impacting learning. Achieve3000's vision is to break down the barriers that prevent children from reading, writing and learning to their full potential through one- on-one differentiated instruction, one motivating and equalizing discussion topic for the entire class, and one click reporting and management tools for the teacher. From Grades 2-12, Achieve3000 solutions provide the first web-based, individualized learning solutions scientifically proven to accelerate reading

comprehension, vocabulary, writing proficiency and performance on high stakes tests. ONE high interest topic for the entire class, scientifically matched to each student's individual Lexile reading level ONE-ON-ONE support uses technology to help each student progress towards reading and writing proficiency ONE click reporting and management allow teachers to use performance data to inform instruction. Achieve3000 provides a connection among parents, teachers, and students to enhance learning and improve reading and writing among all types of students.

## **10:00 11:15 am - Concurrent Sessions**

### **Middle School Round Table**

William Patterson, Curriculum Dir., Jackson Public Schools

Matt Severin, Principal, Dowagiac Union Schools

### **Executive Board Room**

*Join other middle school principals from around the state for discussion and reflection on key issues unique to the middle level. Share concerns, get ideas, and network with colleagues in this special session. MEMSPA values your input and wants to hear from the middle years' principals to better serve you.*

### **Leverage Leadership—Strategies**

Dr. Debbie McFalone, Consultant

Dawn Bentley, Livingston ESA

### **Tower B**

*Participants will leave with information about the content and structure of the five Leverage Leadership sessions. They will also have the opportunity to hear practical examples of how practicing principals have employed Leverage Leadership strategies in their own leadership practice.*

### **Linking Academics and Social-Emotional Development**

Dina Rocheleau, Principal, Ferndale Public Schools

### **Tower C**

Creating a School Family starts with the adult learner who in turn makes a difference in the lives of the children he/she works with. As a school family there needs to be structures in place to support the entire school day/year and specific structures within each class family. Roosevelt encompasses the work of Dr. Becky Bailey and other leading researchers to focus on creating a relationship based environment designed with learning in mind. This session will share with adult learners an overview of school wide and classroom based structures in place to foster a safe learning environment designed to support elementary students social-emotional & cognitive development. The session will provide an in depth overview of Roosevelt's School Family Story.

### **Teaching Literacy to ELL Students**

Garth Cooper, Principal, Galesburg-Augusta Schools

Rui Niu-Cooper, Asst. Professor, Aquinas College

### **Mackinac A**

*The NRP decided instruction should occur in a linear sequential way - phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. However, in this session, the audience will learn that this decision does not exactly fit the learning needs of ELLs (English Language Learners). Building on a study that challenges this decision, the audience will learn some new, innovative and effective strategies for how to teach ELL students.*



### **New Principals Round Table**

Veteran Principal Panel

**Mackinac B-C**

*Participants will interact with experienced principals to hear and learn from those who have “been there” and survived and thrived. This forum will allow for exchange of ideas and possible solutions to issues that all principals experience.*

### **Solution Room**

**Peninsula B-C**

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### **Unlocking the Reading Code**

Trish Martin, Neuroplasticity & Education United

**Peninsula A**

*Increasing teacher knowledge improves scores! As technology advances, new brain mapping discoveries are helping researchers determine how students learn. In this session, we will explore the brain's plasticity to drive new pathways for reading and writing, learn to present neurologically correct lessons that explicitly teach the Common Core Foundational Skills, and much more. You can give your staff the knowledge necessary to provide educational equity for all students.*