A CONFERENCE DESIGNED for educators of all levels, health and human service counselors and personnel, criminal justice professionals, business and community leaders, volunteer service providers, social workers, preventionists, and anyone interested in the well-being of youth.

March 2 - 5

Hyatt Regency Hotel
On The Historic Riverfront in Savannah, GA

HOSTED BY
The College of Education,
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, GA

Sponsored by
Solution Tree
formerly National Educational Service

HOSTED BY
The College of Education,
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, GA

Sponsored by
Solution Tree
formerly National Educational Service

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
KEITH L. BROWN
"Motivator of the Millennium"
Professional Speaker and Trainer
Fayetteville, GA

RON CLARK
Disney 2000 Teacher of the Year
Author & Speaker
Founder of the Ron Clark Academy
Atlanta, GA

LYNETTE M. ELIZALDE-ROBINSON
Project Development Coordinator
15th Judicial Court of Louisiana
ZAIP
(Zoned Area Intervention Program)
Lafayette, LA

WELCOME TO ALL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Dear Conference Participants,

On behalf of the Planning Council and our sponsors, we welcome you to the 19th Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference! This year the conference will bring together over 1,200 diverse participants united by the common purpose of effectively serving youth. Certainly, all young people— to varying extents and at various times—are at risk of failure when exposed to harmful conditions that hinder personal development and academic achievement. Hence, all youth need the protective assistance of well-trained concerned adults like you. In support of your dedicated service, the conference annually provides comprehensive professional training as over 125 experienced presenters—many of whom are nationally and internationally recognized—share successful programs and strategies for creating safe, healthy, caring, and intellectually empowering environments for all young people. We hope you find the conference presentations both useful and enjoyable and that you will have several opportunities to network with like-minded professionals. Thank you for helping make the conference a resounding success again this 19th year!

Best Regards,

Dan Rea, Jayth Parks, and Susan Trimble
Georgia Southern University, College of Education
Co-Chairs of the Conference Planning Council

Successful Programs For Empowering Youth: Overcoming Poverty, Violence, and Failure
Parking

The Hyatt Regency charges a daily parking fee for registered and non-registered guests. For additional parking the following is available. Information/rates are subject to change.

Liberty Street Garage will be available on a first come first serve basis. Parking fees are $1/hr for the first hour then $0.75/hr after the first hour.

Lunch Options

Lunch can be found at the Hyatt or on exciting River Street and City Market areas where Savannah boasts a variety of well-known gourmet restaurants, shops, and bistros.
Successful Programs For Empowering Youth: Overcoming Poverty, Violence, And Failure

NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE
March 2 - 5, 2008

Visit The Exhibitors

Exhibits are located on the MEZZANIE LEVEL. Exhibitors will begin to set up on Sunday at 3 pm. You are urged to visit these areas to gather information and to examine materials, which may be of benefit to your programs.

- American Book Company
- Championship Chess
- Diane’s Etc.
- Dodge Learning Resources
- Educational Strategies Plus
- Family Nurturing Center of Georgia
- Hamilton Bookstore
- MANA Group, LLC
- Mountain Education Center High School
- National Creative Society
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service
- National Geographic School Publishing
- National Guard Counterdrug Programs
- National Runaway Switchboard
- Princeton Health Press
- Saxx Fine Art
- Solution Tree
- Teach Boys and Girls Success
- University Behavioral Center
- Youthlight, Inc.

Visit the Conference Take One Table Materials 2008

- Georgia Outdoor Therapeutic Program
- National League of Cities’ Institute for Youth, Education, and Families

OUR THANKS TO THE 19TH ANNUAL NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Ron Alt — ALTeratives
- Bernadette Ball-Oliver — Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools
- Joyce Baker — Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools
- Deanne Bergen — Division of Public Health, Office of Prevention Services & Programs
- Lou Caputo — Family Connection Partnership, Inc.
- Deborah Champion — Georgia Southern University, Continuing Education Department
- Lucindia Chance — Georgia Southern University, College of Education
- Brielle Clarkson & Laura Felder — Southeast Prevention Services
- Ernest Daily — Savannah Youth Futures Authority
- Evelyn Baker Dandy — Retired
- Irene Denmark — First District RESA Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities
- Jane Ford-Brocato — White Bluff Elementary School
- John H. Finney — Economic Opportunity Authority
- Michele Spurgeon-Hartzell — Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools
- Charlene Jones — Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools
- Verdell LaCount — Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools
- Lois Landy — Retired
- Charlotte Mallard — Bulloch County School System
- Karen Manahan — Bulloch County School System
- Irish McCormick — Bethesda Home for Boys
- Khani Morgan — Savannah State University
- Travis NeSmith — Effingham County Board of Education
- Michael O’Neal — Parent University
- Fayth Parks — Georgia Southern University, College of Education
- Dan Rea — Georgia Southern University, College of Education
- Dee Ann Roesel — First District RESA Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities
- Sherry Smith — Georgia Southern University
- Joyce Stubbs — Bulloch Alcohol & Drug Council
- Susan Trimble — Georgia Southern University, College of Education
- Jody Woodrum — Bulloch County Board of Education
- Marian Zeigler — Safe Haven Domestic Violence Shelter
Participants of the 19th Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference who hold a valid Georgia Teaching Certificate or Paraprofessional License or who are working towards a Paraprofessional License, will be eligible for one (1) PLU credit hour. One (1) Professional Development Unit (PLU) credit is available for participants who attend 10 hours of the conference. Recipients must successfully complete a short written examination of the material covered at the end of the conference. Successful PLU candidates will receive their PLU credit forms within 4-8 weeks following the conclusion of the conference. These forms may be submitted to employing GA public school systems for 1 credit toward certification renewal. PLU credit is used by employees of Georgia public school systems who currently hold certificates in an approved field (certified teachers, school counselors, administrators, etc.) as credit toward RENEWING their existing certificates.

Please Note: All professional development forms are available at the Professional Development Table in the Registration Area. These forms must be completed and returned to the Professional Development Table by the specified time. You, the participant, are responsible for signing, completing, and returning all forms in order to receive these credits. You must turn in your Prior Approval Form no later than 10 AM on Monday, March 3. Those who have turned in a completed PLU Prior Approval Form will then be given a copy of the conference’s objectives to review while attending the conference. The Mastery Test will be given on Tuesday, March 4 at 4:30 PM for those who have already attended 10 hours of the conference. Report to the conference registration desk for directions to the testing room. Please allow at least 30 minutes to take the test. The test will also be given on Wednesday, but only during times when presentations are not in session. Information about the Wednesday testing times and locations will be available at the conference registration area.

THE FOLLOWING CREDITS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR THIS CONFERENCE:
PLU, CEU’S, POST, LPCA, PCCG, GAMFT, GNA AND NAWSW CREDITS

All Participants
Conference participants will be awarded 1.50 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for 15 hours of participation through the Continuing Education Center at Georgia Southern University.

Counselors
This program has been approved by the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCA).

Marriage and Family Therapists
This program has been approved by the Georgia Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (GAMFT) to offer continuing education units for Marriage and Family Therapists desiring state licensing renewal.

Peace Officers
If you are required to be registered or certified by Council you may wish to apply for Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) credits. Peace officers must attest that he/she has attained a minimum of (90%) percent of the training course. You may pick up a Course Completion Report from the registration desk to be completed and signed BEFORE you leave the conference. You may sign the Course Completion Report at the Professional Development Table in the registration area BEFORE you leave the conference.

Preventionists
This program has been approved by the Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia (PCCG). Please be sure to sign the PCCG sign-in sheet at the Professional Development Table in the registration area.

Social Workers
This program has been approved by the Georgia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). Please be sure to sign the NASW sign in sheet at the Professional Development Table in the registration area.

Teachers
One (1) Professional Learning Unit (PLU) credit is available for participants who attends 10 hours of the conference. Recipients must sign in at the beginning of the conference and successfully complete a short written examination of the material covered at the conference. The Mastery Test must be turned in at the registration desk BEFORE you leave the conference. Mastery Tests cannot be accepted after the conference is over. Successful PLU candidates will receive their PLU credit forms within 4-8 weeks following the conclusion of the conference. These forms may be submitted to employing GA public school systems for 1 credit toward certification renewal. PLU credit is used by employees of Georgia public school systems who currently hold certificates in an approved field (certified teachers, school counselors, administrators, etc.) as credit toward RENEWING their existing certificates.
Welcome to the conference! This year’s conference provides an array of learning opportunities.

The Concurrent Sessions will be conducted in the following formats.

**LARGE GROUPS** are presentations of successful practices, programs or issues with our featured and highlighted speakers.

**PANELS** feature a group of experts chosen to discuss an important topic and allow for an audience question and answer period. This year's panel topics are: Education for Peace, Rural Education, High Flying Schools and Ensuring Youth Cyber Safety, Stopping Obesity, Educating “Mean Girls”, Dropout Prevention and a panel in recognition of Asa Hilliard and his accomplishments.

**TOWN HALL MEETINGS** include how to Reach African American Males, fourth in this annual series of discussions will be a double session with ample time for audience participation.

**POSTER SESSIONS** provide an opportunity for interaction and consultation with highly respected professionals with expertise in specific areas. These sessions will feature visual aids and handouts.

All sessions will be first-come, first-served.

### Name Badges Must Be Worn

To be admitted to the reception on Sunday, March 2 and the breakfasts each day you must wear your name badge, which will indicate that you are registered for these events.

### Cell Phones

Please turn off Cell Phones during each presentation. Thank you!

### Conference Evaluation Forms

Evaluation forms are in your conference bags. Additional evaluation forms are available in the Registration area. Please leave your complete evaluation in the registration area.

### Professional Learning Unit (PLU) Mastery Test

Georgia educators who will be earning a PLU at the conference should report to the registration area on Tuesday at 4:30 to take the short essay Mastery Test. Please allow 30 minutes to complete your test.

### Entertainment Opportunities in Savannah

Plan to extend your visit to Savannah, the Hostess City of the South! Savannah boasts a variety of well-known gourmet restaurants and a number of dance and musical clubs. Boat tours are available as well as horse drawn carriage, bus, and walking tours of the historic downtown areas and the exciting River Street and City Market areas of shops, bistros and galleries.
Children need a supportive stage for success

“All the world’s a stage.” As performers, children and adolescents need a supportive stage in their individual theater of life. Learn to recognize, empower, and better direct their personal plays, while equipping them to act out, act upon, and better achieve their most inspiring scripts. Learn how to create a supportive educational team that builds a healthy production crew/staff in the classroom. Remember, one child in his/her lifetime plays many parts, direct them all towards success!

Monday, March 3, 2008

Welcome to the Conference!

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM

ATRIUM LOBBY
REGENCY BALLROOM PREFUNCTION
SECOND FLOOR BALCONY
REGISTRATION, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, EXHIBITS

8:45 AM – 10:00 AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS — REGENCY BALLROOM
Teaching Through Adversity: Facing Challenges and Making a Difference

Ron Clark will share his journey from teaching in a low-wealth rural area in North Carolina to the inner-city streets of Harlem in New York City. Along the way, Mr. Clark will share inspirational stories of how his students made outstanding growth in test scores, conducted projects that garnered worldwide attention, and were invited to the White House three separate years to be honored by the President. Mr. Clark was the 2000 Disney American Teacher of the Year, and he has been featured on the Rosie O’Donnell Show and also the Oprah Winfrey Show where Oprah dubbed him her first “Phenomenal Man.” Mr. Clark has written two books about his teaching practices, “The 55 Essentials: Life Lessons for Teachers, Parents, Students and the Rest of Us” and “The Excellent Eleven,” which outline qualities and characteristics parents and teachers should have to instill success in their children and students.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Ron Clark, Motivational Speaker/Author, Atlanta, GA

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

BREAK — EXHIBITS

10:30 AM – 11:45 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

BALLROOM A
Cyber Town at the Woodrow Wilson Center

Participants in this workshop will learn how to develop youth leadership teams, community asset maps, and build holistic after-school programs through the use of technology based education methods. Cyber Town was accepted as a National Program of Distinction by the United States Department of Agriculture in 2005 and is the 2007 Annie E. Casey national award winner.

Lisa Dennis, County Extension Director/4-H Youth Development Educator, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, Princess Anne, MD

BALLROOM B
Panel: ensuring youth Cyber Safety

This panel will discuss problems and solutions associated with youth cyber safety.
Moderator: Ron Alt, Panel Members: Carolyn Walpole, i-SAFE, Inc.; Jennifer Wilson, Clay County Extension Service; Aundria Cheever, Aucheev & Associates, Inc.; Cheryl Varnadoe, University of Georgia

BALLROOM D
Teaching Through Adversity: Facing Challenges and Making a Difference - Question and Answer Session

Ron Clark, Motivational Speaker/Author, Atlanta, GA

SCARBROUGH 1
The Kids Left Behind: Catching Up the Underachieving Children of Poverty (This presentation repeats today at 1:15 pm)

Teaching underachieving children of poverty presents a daunting challenge for educators, schools, and districts. A recent synthesis of 18 state and national studies on high-poverty/high-performing schools clearly documents that with appropriate school and classroom intervention, dramatic achievement gain for these students will occur. This session will provide participants with compelling research, program and policy recommendations, and effective classroom strategies. K-12 high-achieving schools with significant populations of low SES students will be featured.
FEATURED SPEAKERS: Bill Parrett, Director, Center for School Improvement and Policy Studies, Boise State University, Boise, ID; and Robert “Bob” D. Barr, College of Education, Boise State University, Boise, ID

SCARBROUGH 2
The Research-Based Classroom: Developing the Whole Child by Providing Real World Experiences

Academic achievement is only one component of student learning. This presentation will identify the role of progressive educators and their commitment to bringing the world into the classroom. By involving students and parents in the learning process, teachers address the multicultural needs of students in today’s classrooms while promoting a balanced curriculum. As teachers, we want to foster student inquiry while responding to not only students’ intellectual needs, but also their emotional and social needs. Our goal as educators is to prepare our students for the world beyond their own borders.
FEATURED SPEAKER: Emily Jennette, 2008 Georgia State Teacher of the Year, Marietta, GA
Reinventing In-School Suspension: Helping Students Achieve, Stay in School, and Graduate
(This presentation repeats today at 1:15 pm)

Student achievement in a safe, structured learning environment should be the mission of all ISS personnel in America's schools. The purpose of this presentation is to teach school administrators, counselors, ISS program administrators and other persons of influence, the effective strategies the presenter has developed and implemented at schools throughout the United States. When implemented, these strategies have significantly increased student achievement, reduced out-of-school suspension rates, and improved graduation rates. The model, which features a behavioral rubric as the evaluation tool, creates a safe, structured learning environment where the ISS student is taught through methods of self-empowerment and responsibility. Handouts included.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Jim Lawson, Public School Teacher, Bay District Schools, A. Crawford Mosley High School, Panama City, FL

Change from Being on the Bench to Getting in the Game (This presentation repeats today at 1:15 pm)

When it comes to playing sports, for the most part, the only people that can really affect the outcome of the game are the people that are actually playing in the game itself. It's amazing, but the same concept applies to life. People in the stands can shout and scream, Cheerleaders can cheer, but the bottom line is: If you are not in the game, you are just making a lot of noise. Get in the game!!!

FEATURED SPEAKER: Fred Stokes, Director, Fred Stokes Group, Tarrytown, GA

Panel: Educating "Mean Girls"

This featured panel will discuss the incidence and prevalence of female juvenile violence, the life pathways that lead girls to violence, the factors associated with desistance from violent behavior, and implications for families, schools, and communities for ending violent school-girl crime.

Moderator: Khani Morgan; Panel Members: Barbie Reed, Nurturing Self Seminars; (see program addendum for additional panel members)

Mentoring Across Generations Through School Partnerships

Kristene Ruddle, Director of Community-based Mentoring, and Rachael Bennett, High School Senior at Metropolitan High School in Indianapolis, Indiana, will demonstrate the positive impact of mentoring by high school students on elementary students. Rachael is in her 2nd year as an intern with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana. She is mentored in her internship by staff and in turn has been inspired to mentor a child. Engaging youth in mentoring through internships and community involvement is demonstrated through practical application.

Kristene Ruddle, Director, Community-Based Mentoring; and Rachael Bennett, Intern, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana, Indianapolis, IN

Obesity and Physical Activity: A Nation of Youth-At-Risk

This presentation targets educators at all levels. National and state data on obesity and physical activity will be presented. Intervention and prevention program strategies to address this epidemic will be discussed.

Starla McCollum, Associate Professor, Department of Health & Kinesiology, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Tony Pritchard, Assistant Professor, Department of Health & Kinesiology, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Before You Go, Let's Talk: Runaway Prevention Curriculum

National Runaway Switchboard will showcase its new research-based and field-tested program, Let's Talk: Runaway Prevention Curriculum, which equips youth with social, emotional, and cognitive skills necessary to reduce the prevalence of runaway situations. Participants will walk away with knowledge of the 24/7 hotline for youth and their families (1-800-RUNAWAY) and an overview and free copy of the curriculum.

Lee Osipchak, Prevention Specialist, National Runaway Switchboard, Chicago, IL

Navigator of Life: A Decision-Making Tool Used to Process Issues Faced By Youth

The Navigator of Life is a tool developed by Dr. Nathaniel J. Williams to educate people about how to interpret problems that they face, as well as the day-to-day decisions they have to make.

Nathaniel Williams, President/CEO, Human Works Affiliates, Inc., Bethlehem, PA
### POSTER SESSIONS

**Monday, March 3, 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM - 11:45 AM</td>
<td>A Unique Approach to Dropout Prevention&lt;br&gt;The purpose of this poster session is to introduce the audience to a successful drop-out prevention program that has helped at-risk youth stay in school and graduate. Our intent is to educate and motivate members of the audience to take decisive action to implement an idea that works.&lt;br&gt;Sheila Spaulding-Wingard, Principal, Glynn County School System and Communities in Schools of Georgia, Brunswick, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sixth Grade Academy: A Transition to Middle School&lt;br&gt;Students entering middle school find themselves at a crossroads. It is here they decide if they will continue to enjoy school and even if they will graduate. The Sixth Grade Academy is a complete academic program to aid the transition into middle school. The goals, discipline procedures, assessments, and class organization of the academy are designed to meet this objective.&lt;br&gt;Stephanie Flock, Lead Teacher, and Alice Birney Middle School, North Charleston, SC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What is Positive Youth Development?&lt;br&gt;In this poster session, participants will learn the core concepts of positive youth development. Participants will also learn to create at least one strategy to implement positive youth development into their youth-care setting&lt;br&gt;Andrea Sharpe, Consultant, Wise for You Consulting, Fairburn, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cultural Competency: Moving From Diversity to Proficiency&lt;br&gt;This poster session allows participants, regardless of profession, to acquire knowledge of the continued need for diversity awareness and how to move from awareness to competency, and eventually to cultural proficiency through a basic continuum model of growth. Participants will learn to manage the ABC’s of diversity awareness and effective communication as a tool in becoming culturally proficient.&lt;br&gt;Joe Troope, DD Case Expediter, Georgia Department of Human Resources Division of MHDDAD, Thomasville, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PASS (Positive Adolescent Sexuality Services): A Community-Based Approach to Juvenile Sex Offender (JSO) Treatment&lt;br&gt;This poster session will provide a dynamic discussion on juvenile sex offenders by highlighting aspects of PASS services and treatment philosophy. Participants will leave with fundamental information on population characteristics, program interventions with families, and more to help them make informed responses to this national issue. The presentation would benefit mental health professionals, criminal justice professionals, and individuals interested in learning more about this dynamic population.&lt;br&gt;Suzette Gadson, Program Director, National Youth Advocate Program, Atlanta, GA; and Petruska Bryant, Treatment Coordinator, National Youth Advocate Program, Atlanta, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kids Know: A School-Based Approach to Preventing Diabetes and Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles for Youth&lt;br&gt;“Kids Know” is a nine-week program for primary children and their parents that facilitates the development of healthy lifestyles in regards to nutrition and activity. It was developed as the result of a partnership between an education professor and a pediatrician. Partnership formation and maintenance, curriculum development, and the results of a pilot study of the program will be presented.&lt;br&gt;Cherry O. Steffen, Assistant Professor, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA; and Anita VanBrackle, Professor, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Creating Healthy and Effective Partnerships with Youth&lt;br&gt;A true partnership is one in which each party has the opportunity to make suggestions, decisions, and the contribution of each is recognized and valued. Too often, the attitudes of well-intentioned adults undermine effective youth involvement. This poster session will discuss the theories behind the importance of Youth-Adult Partnerships, share model examples, and examine benefits, barriers, and strategies that you can use to successfully implement into your own work.&lt;br&gt;Trina Scott, Program Manager, Young Women of Color Initiatives, Advocates for Youth, Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**JOIN US IN PERCIVAL FOR A HIGH FLYING SCHOOLS POSTER SESSION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lunch on Your Own</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:45 AM – 1:15 PM</td>
<td>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MONDAY

Monday, March 3, 2008

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

BALLROOM A

Helping Students Graduate: Tools and Strategies to Help Students Stay in School (This presentation repeats today at 3 pm)

Today, almost one-third of our K-12 students never graduate—increasing the likelihood of their imprisonment, single parenthood, poverty, and the use of alcohol and drugs. Using the 15 effective strategies developed by the National Dropout Prevention Center and tools developed as “best practices” by some of America’s outstanding schools and programs, workshop participants will not only learn what to do but how to aid at-risk youth to graduate.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Frank Schargel, President, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM

BALLROOM B

Can Schools Significantly Change? (This presentation repeats today at 3:00 pm)

Using portraits of schools that have been nationally recognized for dramatic improvement, this session will explore why most schools cannot or do not significantly change. Participants will interact with the principal of a school that won the National School Change Award and with the director of the awards program, whose seven years of research addresses the operating variables in school success stories.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Lew Smith, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Educational Research and Leadership, Fordham University, Bronx, NY; and Michele Hancock, Chief of Professional Development and Diversity, Rochester City School District, NY

BALLROOM D

I Can Write! A Writing Intervention for At-Risk Middle School Students

This presentation introduces the I Can Write program. This program has increased both the quality and length of middle school students’ essay writing, and is currently part of a national research project. The target audience of teachers and school administrators will understand the rationale behind the program, how to begin with implementation, and how to structure lessons and activities.

Allen Murray, Director of Intervention Services, National Research Center on Rural Education Support, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Carrboro, NC

BALLROOM E

Closing the Achievement Gap Through Gender-Specific Teaching Strategies

This session is intended for classroom teachers and administrators interested in gender-specific strategies to use in classrooms. Participants will learn the neuro-science behind the strategies used and will be provided with gender-specific classroom procedures, management techniques, and lesson plans appropriate for K-12 classrooms. Specific achievement gap data highlighting strong student success will also be provided.

Kathy Piechura-Couture, Associate Professor; Elizabeth D. Heins; Mercedes Tichenor; and Candace Lankford, all from Nina B. Hollis Institute, Stetson University, Deland, FL

BALLROOM F

Panel: Stopping Our Children’s Obesity Epidemic

Panel members will discuss the causes of our children’s obesity epidemic and propose solutions for stopping it.

Moderator, Michelle Hartzell
Panel Members: Starla McCollum, Georgia Southern University; Cherry Steffen, Kennesaw State University; Kyla Williams, Aunt Martha’s Youth Service

SCARBROUGH 1

The Kids Left Behind: Catching Up the Underachieving Children of Poverty

Teaching underachieving children of poverty presents a daunting challenge for educators, schools, and districts. A recent synthesis of 18 state and national studies on high-poverty/high-performing schools clearly documents that with appropriate school and classroom intervention, dramatic achievement gain for these students will occur. This session will provide participants with compelling research, program and policy recommendations, and effective classroom strategies. K-12 high-achieving schools with significant populations of low SES students will be featured.

Bill Parrett, Director, Center for School Improvement and Policy Studies, Boise State University, Boise, ID; and Robert “Bob” D. Barr, College of Education, Boise State University, Boise, ID

SCARBROUGH 2

Leadership That Works: Relentlessly Doing Whatever It Takes to Improve Achievement (This presentation repeats today at 3:00 pm)

To have a lasting impact, leaders must be directed by leadership principles that have a proven record of moving organizations to higher productivity. Participants will examine two change initiatives: 1) ensuring fidelity of implementation of all interventions programs and 2) developing the context of excellence in the school—a context that supports the achievement of all students.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Steven W. Edwards, President and CEO, Edward’s Educational Services, Inc
1:15 PM – 2:30 PM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS CONTINUED

SCARBROUGH 3

Reinventing In-School Suspension: Helping Students Achieve, Stay in School, and Graduate

Student achievement in a safe, structured learning environment should be the mission of all ISS personnel in America's schools. The purpose of this presentation is to teach school administrators, counselors, ISS program administrators and other persons of influence, the effective strategies the presenter has developed and implemented at schools throughout the U.S. When implemented, these strategies have significantly increased student achievement, reduced out-of-school suspension rates, and improved graduation rates. The model, which features a behavioral rubric as the evaluation tool, creates a safe, structured learning environment where the ISS student is taught through methods of self-empowerment and responsibility. Handouts included.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Jim Lawson, Public School Teacher, Bay District Schools, A. Crawford Mosley High School, Panama City, FL

SCARBROUGH 4

Change from Being on the Bench to Getting in the Game

When it comes to playing sports, for the most part, the only people that can really affect the outcome of the game are the people that are actually playing in the game itself. It's amazing, but the same concept applies to life. People in the stands can shout and scream, cheerleaders can cheer, but the bottom line is: If you are not in the game, you are just making a lot of noise. Get in the game!!!

FEATURED SPEAKER: Fred Stokes, Director, Fred Stokes Group, Tarrytown, GA

HARBORSIDE CENTER EAST

Alive and Free: Engaging Youth Around Issues Related to Interpersonal Violence
(This presentation repeats today at 3:00 pm)

This presentation is an exciting workshop for youth-serving organizations addressing community-based violence. The workshop is based on Urban Leadership Institute’s new and exciting curriculum, Hand’s Off, written by LaMarr Darnell Shields and Sara Hassan (Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health). The workshop will provide professionals with a model designed to address bullying, school-based violence, teen dating violence, and gang violence.

FEATURED SPEAKER: David Miller, Chief Visionary Officer; and LaMarr Darnell Shields, President and Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD

VERNON

Empowering Families with Proactive Solutions to Youth Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

Parents are the first line of defense when it comes to a teen’s choices about drug use. Learn about how FACE IT (Families Acting Collaboratively to Educate and Involve Teens) empowers families in this interactive, life skills educational program. Sample an assortment of this Best Practices Program’s interactive, creative activities.

Linda Salzman, FACE IT Project Specialist, Prevention Center, School District of Palm Beach County, West Palm Beach, FL

VERELST

Utilizing Community Networks to Prevent HIV Transmission

AID Atlanta’s Youth Program reaches over 40,000 youth each year with almost no budget for the program. This presentation is geared towards programs that would like to learn methods for effectively collaborating with other community groups as well as highlighting the impact of personal experienced speakers in HIV prevention.

Cicely Richard, Program Coordinator; and Ainka C. Gonzalez, AID Atlanta, Inc., Atlanta, GA

SAVANNAH

Keeping Children Safe From Adult Pedophiles

With an ever-increasing number of child molesters at-large in our communities, children’s safety should be the concern of all adults involved with children. This presentation will assist adults in recognizing potential and/or active child molesters, explain why children are so susceptible to them, and give participants tools and resources to stop child molestation.

William Crew, Consultant/Program Development, University Behavioral Center, Orlando, FL

SLOAN

A “C.A.R.E.S. Package” (Connecting, Accepting, Respecting, and Engaging Students)

The C.A.R.E.S. Package is an interactive session that teaches counselors, teachers, and youth workers how to use practical development-based activities with students in a classroom or small group setting. Activities will focus on connecting character, accepting differences, respecting oneself and others through engagement and support. Excellent activity handouts and Character Rocks will be provided through this humorous and entertaining session.

Duane Hodgin, Assistant Superintendent, MSD of Lawrence Township, Indianapolis, IN; and Gina Apple, Administrative Assistant, MSD of Lawrence Township, Indianapolis, IN
### 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM — POSTER SESSIONS

All poster sessions are in HARBORSIDE CENTER WEST unless otherwise indicated.

#### Increasing Reading Comprehension for Students in Grades 3 to 12 Through Note-taking and Essay Writing

This poster session will demonstrate one method for increasing students’ comprehension when reading content-area materials through note-taking and essay writing. Participants will learn how to help students pull out information from selections and then answer essay questions based upon their notes. This poster session is intended for classroom teachers, instructional leaders, resource teachers and tutors.

*Sharon M. Brooks, Assistant Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA*

---

#### So Many Words, So Little Time to Learn Them!

The objective of this poster session is to provide a tool that you can walk away with and use in your classroom tomorrow. The Vocabulary LINCing Routine uses auditory and visual memory devices to help students learn and remember the meaning of complex terms. The LINCing steps guide the teacher through the routine. This session is appropriate for fourth grade and beyond.

*Kara Krohn, Education Program Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Bureau of Teaching and Learning, Des Moines, IA*

---

#### Decoding Strategies to Improve Literacy for Struggling Readers

This poster presentation discusses a practical approach to teaching reading, writing, spelling, and phonemic awareness building skills. By applying the phonetic decoding strategies learned through interactive reading activities and research, participants take with them practical ideas for equipping their struggling readers with the necessary skills to improve spelling, reading fluency, and literacy.

*Gen Michelsen, HEC Reading Horizons, North Salt Lake, UT*

---

#### It Works: Teaching the Expository Essay

This poster session will engage middle school teachers in grades 6-8 in mini-simulations to demonstrate how to teach and implement a meaningful and cognitively stimulating method for essay writing. This method will build not only an understanding of the major components of an effective essay, but it can also aid in student retention.

*Brenda E. Logan, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Middle and Secondary Education Department, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA*

---

#### The Lack of Literacy Epidemic: Promoting Emergent Literacy Programs in Preschools

Our goal is to promote emergent literacy in preschool children by informing educators about different programs that will ignite reading. Literacy education can be implemented to make reading interactive and enjoyable to children at a younger age. Making reading interactive for young children will entice them to want to learn to read and to make reading a more enjoyable everyday experience.

*Lauren Lesso, Susan Hulteen, Chris Newberry, and Alex Carson: Undergraduate Students, Georgia College & State University; and Tsu-Ming Chiang, Professor, Department of Psychology, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA*

---

#### Media Matinee: Teaching Youth through Entertainment

Media Matinee presents popular culture, pertinent life skills, and popcorn to participants in a fun and entertaining manner. Presenters provide opportunities to develop a media library development, a rubric for teaching and a guide for experiential learning using television, movies and music as teaching tools. From viewing movies to lively discussion, participants will leave with tools to incorporate media into learning environments.

*Jenny Jordan, Extension 4-H Specialist; and Casey D. Mull, Extension 4-H Military Coordinator, University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service/Georgia 4-H, Athens, GA*

---

#### The Purpose Driven Youth: Purpose! Passion! Planning! Perseverance! People!

The presentation is designed to challenge and encourage youth to make positive changes that will help them move towards living their lives in such a way that they will know their PURPOSE (VISION), Live with PASSION (LEADERSHIP), Develop a written PLAN (GOAL SETTING), Overcome through PERSEVERANCE (COMMITMENT), and Partner with PEOPLE for success (TEAMWORK).

*Jerry Ervin, President, Sire Services LLC, Morristown, NJ*

---

#### Searching for Help: Online Services and Safety for Today’s Youth

We invite teachers, counselors, health and human services professionals and all others to explore resources and strategies for staying safe online; and, to learn about the National Sexual Assault Online Hotline, a groundbreaking new service for young victims of sexual violence, and other online resources for youth.

*Penelope Hughes, Vice President, Online Services, Rape Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN), Washington, D.C.*

---

#### A Holistic Approach to Influencing the Sexual Health Behaviors of Students at the CCJDC

It’s Up to Me (IUTM) in collaboration with CCJDC has integrated a sexual health education program into existing curriculum given to detainees. IUTM’s objective in this setting was to educate students and develop skills necessary to prevent unplanned pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections/disease (STI/STD). Topics include effective communication, positive relationship building, decision-making, and goal setting.

*Brandon J. Cole, Graduate Assistant of School Programs, It’s Up To Me, The Citadel, Charleston, SC; and Janet Pinckney, Graduate Assistant of School Programs, It’s Up To Me, The Citadel, Charleston, SC*

---

#### Heart Beats: An Exercise Intervention for At-Risk Youth

This workshop will present a model of exercise intervention for at-risk youth who are challenged emotionally and/or behaviorally. It helps their notes. This poster session is intended for classroom teachers, instructional leaders, resource teachers and tutors.

*Kyla Williams, Division Manager, Aunt Martha’s Youth Service Center, Inc., Oak Forest, IL*

---

#### Orange County F.A.C.T. (Facing Adolescent Challenges Together) Program and Substance Abuse

FACT works with children of all ages as they struggle with addictions and other issues in a world of unknown challenges. FACT works with educators, treatment facilities, counselors, courts, and probation officers to help guide youth through the trials they face with the stairways of emotions.

*Denny Followell, President of Orange County F.A.C.T. Program and Substance Abuse, LLC, Paoli, IN*

---

#### Appropriate Boundaries for Families

Ever hear complaints about a home being chaotic and possibly out of control? This fun and interactive workshop helps build a peaceful and nurturing environment by turning potential or existing chaos into confidence.

*Sue Laney, Executive Director, Family Nurturing Center of Georgia, Inc., Snellville, GA*
### All poster sessions are in HARBORSIDE CENTER WEST unless otherwise indicated.

#### Creating Lasting Family Connections; Preventing Substance Abuse, HIV and Hepatitis in High-Risk Families

Based on over 25 years of experience in implementing family enhancement programs and building effective, community collaborations to reduce substance abuse, HIV, Hepatitis and other high risk behaviors, the presenters will discuss their recent experience with three federally funded projects designed to reduce substance abuse, HIV and Hepatitis among high risk populations. Included in the presentation will be how to develop an effective coalition, working with high-risk and minority populations, effective strategies, approaches to mentoring and positive parenting and strategies for developing communication and refusal skills. This presentation is especially designed for those working with minority, reentry, and high-risk and recovery populations.

Ted N. Strader, Executive Director, COPES, Inc., Louisville, KY; and Teresa Boyd Strader, Associate Director, COPES, Inc., Louisville, KY

#### Advisement: The Key to Student Success

This poster session will provide participants with the framework needed to implement, sustain and evaluate a comprehensive middle and high school advisement program. Participants will receive practical tools to create a culture that focuses on reducing at-risk behaviors using the 3 R’s – with an emphasis on relationships – resulting in improved student achievement.

Dianne Thompson, Director of Advisement and Counseling, Gwinnett County Public Schools, Lawrenceville, GA; Galen Reavis, Lead Counselor, Gwinnett County Public Schools, Lawrenceville, GA; and James Appleton, Coordinator of Research and Evaluation, Gwinnett County Public Schools, Suwanee, GA

#### “NetSmartz”: Internet and Social Networking Safety

As youth educators, we have the responsibility of teaching teens and adults about internet and social networking safety. However, we need quality educational materials to assist us in this effort since for many of us, it falls outside of our instructional “comfort zone.” Participants of this poster session will learn about curriculums and materials that can be used to educate teens and families about this important issue.

Cheryl Varnadoe, Extension 4-H Specialist, Georgia 4-H, Athens, GA

### 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM

#### BREAK — EXHIBITS

### 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM

#### BALLROOM A

**Helping Students Graduate: Tools and Strategies to Help Students Stay in School**

Today, almost one-third of our K-12 students never graduate – increasing the likelihood of their imprisonment, single parenthood, poverty and the use of alcohol and drugs. Using the 15 effective strategies developed by the National Dropout Prevention Center and tools developed as “best practices” by some of America’s outstanding schools and programs, workshop participants will not only learn what to do but how to aid at-risk youth to graduate.

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Frank Schargel, President, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM

#### BALLROOM B

**Can Schools Significantly Change?**

Using portraits of schools that have been nationally recognized for dramatic improvement, this session will explore why most schools cannot or do not significantly change. Participants will interact with the principal of a school that won the National School Change Award and with the director of the awards program, whose seven years of research addresses the operating variables in school success stories.

**FEATURED SPEAKERS:** Lew Smith, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Educational Research and Leadership, Fordham University, Bronx, NY; and Michele Hancock, Chief of Professional Development and Diversity, Rochester City School District, NY

#### BALLROOM D

**High Flying Schools Panel Discussion**

High Flying Schools’ representatives from award-winning elementary, middle, and high schools will share their success stories. The audience is invited to participate and to ask questions. High Flying Schools are selected by a NYArC panel of judges in collaboration with the National Network for Educational Renewal. A High Flying School ranks in its state at the 67th percentile or higher in at least one academic subject or at least one grade level; the school’s student population is comprised of at least 50% of students living at or below poverty level; the school's student population is comprised of 50% or more minority students; the school demonstrates high levels of collaboration with community and/or university in addressing youth-at-risk issues within the school and community; the school provides extra-curricular opportunities for students to develop citizenship skills; and the school curriculum includes objectives and activities related to the growth of students as individuals who are successful members of a democratic society.

#### BALLROOM E

**Understanding and Healing the Wounded Student**

The presenter will describe methods to motivate students and keep them in the classroom. Participants will learn how to develop a “No Failure School” by implementing strategies and programs to help “emotionally wounded” students achieve success.

Joe Hendershot, Director of Field & Clinical Experiences, College of Education, Ashland University, Ashland, OH

#### BALLROOM F

**Graduation Coaches: The Best Job in Georgia Schools**

The presenters will share program DO's and DON'Ts based on last year's experience in high schools along with this year's inclusion of middle schools. This poster session focuses on creating impactful intervention programs in all schools. Presenters will share specific activities, tools and best practices. Participants will leave with lots of ideas to try in their own schools.

Steve N. Bennett, Graduation Coach Coordinator and Galen Reavis, Lead Counselor, all from Gwinnett County Public Schools, Lawrenceville, GA

---

All poster sessions are in HARBORSIDE CENTER WEST unless otherwise indicated.
SCARBROUGH 1

Parent University: Still Going Strong 9 Years Later

This presentation would explain the history and continued success of the Parent University program in Savannah, GA. For nearly a decade, this program has been successful in getting hundreds of parents to come out, on several Saturdays throughout the year, to various schools and other places in the community to learn and get training on scores of subjects. This approach proves that parents can be very engaged in learning to find better ways to do things.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Michael O’Neal, President, Parent University, Savannah, GA

SCARBROUGH 2

Leadership That Works: Relentlessly Doing Whatever It Takes to Improve Achievement

To have a lasting impact, leaders must be directed by leadership principles that have a proven record of moving organizations to higher productivity. Participants will examine two change initiatives: 1) ensuring fidelity of implementation of all interventional programs and 2) developing the context of excellence in the school—a context that supports the achievement of all students.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Steven W. Edwards, President and CEO, Edwards Educational Services, Inc., Alexandria, VA

SCARBROUGH 3

Panel: Under the Guidance of a Master Teacher: The Research and Teaching of Dr. Asa G. Hilliard III

Moderator: Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson, College of Education, Georgia Southern University
Panel Members: Joycelyn Wilson, Morehouse College; Laurn Jordan, Georgia Perimeter College; Anthony E. Outler, Miller Grove Middle School and founder of Epic Empowerment Enterprises, LLC.

SCARBROUGH 4

Sexually Abused Children: Treatment, Healing, and Redirection

Abused children have a great capacity to heal from abuse, albeit extensive work by concerned adults is necessary to assist them in this process. This poster session is intended to help the clinician, parent, and other concerned adults understand the variety of issues in a child’s life as a result of sexual abuse. We will explore treatment strategies and methodologies for treating abused children to assist in the process of healing.

William E. Crew, Consultant, University Behavioral Center, and CEO of the Institute for Healthy Adolescent Sexual Behavior, LLC, Orlando, FL

HARBORSIDE CENTER EAST

Alive & Free: Engaging Youth Around Issues Related to Interpersonal Violence

This presentation is an exciting workshop for youth-serving organizations addressing community-based violence. The workshop is based on the Urban Leadership Institute’s new and exciting curriculum, Hand’s Off, written by LaMarr Darnell Shields and Sara Hassan (Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health). The workshop will provide professionals with a model designed to address bullying, school-based violence, teen dating violence, and gang violence.

FEATURED SPEAKER: David Miller, Chief Visionary Officer; and LaMarr Darnell Shields, President and Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD

PERCIVAL

Reaching At-Risk Students in the Juvenile Justice System Through Service Projects

Those attending this session will be shown examples of successful service projects that were used with middle grade students in Georgia in the Youth Development Center, Department of Juvenile Justice. Target audience will be teachers of middle graders who are at-risk.

Audie Holmes, Assistant Professor, Paine College, Augusta, GA; and Paulette Harris, Augusta State University, Augusta, GA

VERNON

Learning with the Enemy: Helping Students Benefit from a System They Don’t Trust

Discover how students who self-identify as alienated and/or marginalized describe their experience in school. These students participated in a qualitative study on the experience of alienated youth in public schools. From their voices, participants will cultivate an understanding of the experience and generate interventions to advocate for this population in terms of their academic achievement and social/emotional well-being.

Lisa L. Schulz, Assistant Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

VERELST

Virtual Challenges We Can’t Ignore: Strategies for Cyber Safety Risk Management

Session participants will examine the complex challenges of implementing effective measures to reduce online risk-taking, and explore ways in which they can be a part of the solution in integrating research-supported, best practice solutions to achieve positive behavior in Cyberspace. Participation is appropriate for anyone involved in the care, education, and/or protection of youth.

Carolyn E. Walpole, Director of Education and Curriculum Development, i-SAFE, Inc., Carlsbad, CA
SLOANE

The Evolution of a Summer Literacy Program to Ameliorate Reading Deficits Among Economically Disadvantaged

The development and implementation of a summer program to provide additional intervention for specifically targeted students from a low socio-economic neighborhood will be examined. Target audience includes teachers, principals, assistant principals, district and university faculty and administrators. The information given will enable districts and higher education partnerships in creating an intervention for reading that is based on evidence and provides appropriate instruction in an environment that promotes the enjoyment of reading.

Elizabeth D. Heins, Professor & Director of Hollis Institute for Educational Reform, Stetson University, DeLand, FL; Mercedes Tichenor, Associate Professor of Education, Stetson University, DeLand, FL; Kathy Pechura-Couture, Associate Professor of Education, Stetson University, DeLand, FL; and Glenda Taylor, Adjunct Instructor, Stetson University, DeLand, FL

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM — POSTER SESSIONS

Helping Students At-Risk Through Contextually Applied Mathematics

Students at risk for failing or dropping out of high school often struggle in basic skill areas, such as mathematics. This poster session will provide ideas for implementing mathematics concepts in middle and secondary classrooms using real-world, contextual connections. Come gather ideas for creative lesson plans.

Karen H. Jones, Professor, University of Georgia, Athens, GA; and Deanna Cozart, Graduate Assistant, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Mathematics Instruction and Behavior Problems: Getting Rid of Math Anxiety

Children with math anxiety and deficits often engage in behavior problems to escape mathematics instruction. The purpose of this poster session is to provide practitioners with instructional modifications that may address these behavior problems and math deficits in the math class.

G. Richmond Mancil, Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida, Winter Springs, FL

Closing the Achievement Gap: Teaching At-Risk Students Assessment Literacy to Support Academic Achievement

Often, high-stakes assessments give advantage to test takers from specific cultural or linguistic backgrounds. By teaching at-risk students the language and principles of assessment, teachers can minimize the effects of cultural bias in testing. This session aims to provide middle and high school teachers with practical models, methods and strategies for teaching assessment literacy to students, and methods for assessing at-risk students in a way that is responsive to their particular needs.

Julie Warner, Teacher, Marietta High School, Marietta, GA; Tracy Brooking, Teacher, Marietta High School, Marietta, GA; and David Mead, Teacher, Marietta High School, Marietta, GA

Arts-Inspired Test-Taking Skills

Dr. Reichel presents highlights of his test-prep skill-building course “How to High-Five the SAT and Other High-Stakes Tests.” In this poster session, participants will learn the connection between his “purpose-propelled” approach and the arts. Research reports will be shared. Attendees should gain a new perspective on testing days and the ability to help students to see them as “happenin’,” rather than harassing days. This approach helps students to gain a greater sense of personal power and purpose and other assets. Both students and school systems should see desired increased grades and scores through application of these workshop strategies.

Charles Reichel, Executive Director, National Creative Society, Rome, GA

Teaching Classroom Expectations and Increasing Student Motivation to Follow Them!

When your expectations for student behavior are crystal clear, students never have to guess how you expect them to behave, and motivation to succeed is increased. This session will provide strategies from Module 3 and 5 of CHAMPS: A Proactive and Positive Approach to Classroom Management by Randy Sprick, Mickey Garrison, and Lisa Howard. Strategies will include the following: 1) developing and teaching CHAMPS expectations for student behavior for all classroom activities; 2) developing and teaching CHAMPS expectations for student behavior for transitions; 3) effective strategies for establishing and maintaining high levels of student motivation in the classroom.

Donna T. Meers, Behavior Consultant and Trainer, Safe and Civil Schools, Lexington, KY; and Linda Phillips, Educational Consultant and Trainer, Intersections, Inc., Myrtle Beach, SC

THE UMATTER PROJECT: Utilizing Media and Technology to Encourage Resiliency and Recovery

A presentation in demand across the country, the UMATTER project is a hands-on experience which awaits participants seeking creative and effective approaches targeting at-risk youth! UMATTER is a music and video production project that encourages the expression of feelings and experiences through creation of video journals, spoken word and public service announcements while providing youth with the opportunity to learn and utilize a variety of skills in a safe environment.

Jamie Allison, Child and Adolescent Community Supports Program Manager, Cobb County Community Services Board, Marietta, GA; and David White, Child and Adolescent Community Supports Worker and Media Center Director, Cobb County Community Services Board, Marietta, GA
Monday, March 3, 2008

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM — POSTER SESSIONS CONTINUED

All poster sessions are in HARBORSIDE CENTER WEST unless otherwise indicated.

The Impact of Gangs in Suburban and Rural Community Schools

Attention is usually directed to the “inner cities” gang problems, while smaller communities have been largely ignored. The belief that outside of metropolis, youth are simply “wannabes” and not REAL gang members persists. Yet, the rate of criminal activities by gang youth in less populated areas continues to escalate and permeates the schools in these communities. How can we change the focus and address the problem?

Sharon Tracy, Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The Preventive Alcohol Education Program: “Nonverbal” Peer Pressure Reduction Strategies

The PAEP has been used by schools around the United States for more than a decade. Its use of psychosocial immunization theory to build resilient and independent youth has been documented in numerous professional journals. The audience (teachers of grades 5-11) will be taken systematically through the program, learning 1) how the various training/learning components [role play simulations, risky shifts, resistance vignettes] help enable students to effectively negotiate the wide array of today’s pressures; and 2) learn how to give students both verbal as well as nonverbal resistance strategies.

Elias J. Duryea, Professor and Coordinator of the Health Education Program, Department of Health, Exercise & Sports Sciences, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

Team Building

This poster session aspires to motivate people (youth, adults, parents, teachers, and community leaders) into collaborating and working together as a team. It will provide motivational and teambuilding components that will ensure people come together for a common goal, regardless of race, gender or economic status.

Fonda Strong, Executive Director, Open Arms, Inc., Albany, GA

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

MEET AND GREET RECEPTION
HARBORSIDE CENTER EAST
(SCHUMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE)

We’ll make you the expert.

Does your community need a professional children’s etiquette consultant? Attend our next 5-day training program and The Etiquette & Leadership Institute* will equip you to transform the lives of young people through etiquette, leadership skills and social dance. We provide you with curriculum for children through young adults that builds confidence & character in tomorrow’s leaders... along with the complete marketing materials that have made our program so successful for more than 20 years.

Etiquette & Leadership Institute is the authorized school for the nationally acclaimed Children’s Etiquette Certification developed by the Protocol School of Washington® since 1987. Call us or visit our website for complete information.

*Toll Free 888-769-5150
www.etiquetteleadership.com

*Our staff are trained and certified by the Protocol School of Washington®
Tuesday, March 4, 2008

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM  REGENCY BALLROOM PREFUNCTION SECOND FLOOR BALCONY — LOBBY REGISTRATION, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, EXHIBITS

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

---

**BALLROOM A**

**East Coast Gangs** *(This presentation repeats today at 10:15 am)*

This is a gang awareness program that focuses on East Coast Gang Culture. East coast gangs differ in many ways from gangs in the Midwest and West although events and the influences of California and Chicago gangs shaped the modern philosophy of East Coast Gangs. This presentation shows the impact that east coast gangs have on pop culture and how they have dominated much of the media and accomplished what the other organized crime groups have not. They have made it socially acceptable to be “gangsters.” It also focuses on the current East Coast Gang trends, dress, signs, codes, and symbols associated with these unique gang cultures. It provides participants with a good understanding of the East Coast Gang culture and provides officials with information, suggestions, effective programs and initiatives for identifying and dealing with any gang member.

*FEATURED SPEAKER: Daryl Macaluso, Durham Police Department, Durham, NC*

---

**BALLROOM B**

**Motivating Unmotivated Students** *(This presentation repeats today at 10:15 am)*

Powerful and hard-hitting, this compelling presentation goes beyond the classroom, and provides the audience a unique opportunity to see the world through the eyes of kids who have been labeled as uninterested, unenthusiastic, and just plain unmotivated. Ron offers a fresh, new perspective on how to effectively connect with unmotivated students, and encourage and inspire them to take charge of their learning and their lives. He identifies the issues, and provides practical solutions to the issues confronting and hindering students from doing their very best to succeed.

*FEATURED SPEAKER: Ron Glodoski, Speaker/Author, Turn Around Publishing, Inc., Milwaukee, WI*

---

**BALLROOM D**

**Student Transition and Recovery (STAR)**

The presentation utilizes PowerPoint to describe program aspects and effective methods in which to take the chronic disruptive-behavior problem student and assist them in becoming productive individuals in the classroom and in the community. The target audience is anyone affiliated with schools and/or juvenile justice system that have a desire to provide an alternative to expulsions, suspensions, and incarcerations to youth between the ages of 9 and 15.

*Craig Mims, Regional Director, Chatham County Schools, Moultrie, GA; and Diana Clark, Assistant State Director, Student Transition and Recovery Programs, GA*

---

**BALLROOM E**

**Panel: Meeting the Challenges of Rural Education**

Schools in rural areas and small towns face difficult challenges in serving the needs of children and public education. This panel presentation will discuss how best to serve the special needs of rural youth and schools. Panel members will share successful programs, strategies, and tools for meeting the challenges of rural education.

*Moderator: Dan Rea, Georgia Southern University, GA*

*Panel Members: Dennis Carpenter, Appling County School System; Allen Murray, National Research Ctr. on Rural Education Support*

---

**BALLROOM F**

**Parents with Potential**

The missing link to true educational reform often lies within the home. Teachers in the classroom have only a small portion of the 168 hour week to train a child; yet, educators often receive the blame for inadequate yearly progress. What can be done to unlock the potential that parents have to help children succeed in school? Join this workshop to receive a true PASSport to Success to learn how to implement strategies that will positively impact parental support from the home. Together, we can make a difference!

*FEATURED SPEAKER: Vickie Burt, Ed.S., former Assistant Superintendent of Valdosta City Schools, Valdosta, GA*

---

**SCARBROUGH 1**

**Proactive School Security and Emergency Preparedness Planning: Trends, Strategies, and Best Practices** *(This presentation repeats today at 10:15)*

Many school and public safety officials are receiving inquiries about their school security and crisis plans following high-profile school violence incidents and terrorism alerts. The latest school of thought on practical risk-reduction measures to provide a physically and psychologically secure school setting while keeping balance and common sense will be highlighted. Topics include national trends in school deaths and violence, school responses and lessons learned from 9/11 and recent school shootings, practical “heightened security” strategies for schools, common gaps found in school security assessments, current trends and strategies in school emergency planning, and communicating safety issues to parents, media, and the school community, and more.

*FEATURED SPEAKER: Ken Trump, President, National School Safety and Security Services, Cleveland, OH*
SCARBROUGH 2

Building Respect, Responsibility, and Resiliency in At-Risk Adolescents (This presentation repeats today at 10:15 am)

Learn how to teach students who “don’t want to be told what to do” to want to be responsible and respectful, by using their need to feel “powerful” as the foundation for developing character, resiliency, and emotional intelligence. Vicki Phillips will share the philosophy from her one-semester curriculum, Personal Development, purchased by over 1450 secondary schools.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Vicki Phillips, Director, Personal Development, Carmel Valley, CA

SCARBROUGH 3

Beyond One Subject at a Time: Educating the Whole Child (This presentation repeats today at 10:15 am)

Cross-curricular teaching allows students to experience a connection with and see a relationship between core subjects, such as math and reading, and others, like the fine arts, that equally challenge their minds and hearts now and as adults. As a music teacher, Andrea Peterson, 2007 National Teacher of the Year, will outline how in her school she has connected student projects in core classes with what she emphasizes in her music curriculum, thus challenging her students' creativity, understanding of learning connections, and brain capacity.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Andrea Peterson, 2007 National Teacher of the Year, Music Teacher, Monte Crisco Elementary School, Granite Falls, WA

SCARBROUGH 4

Teaching for Transformational Change (This presentation repeats today at 10:15 am)

Rehabilitation means “to restore to a former state.” Transformation means “to become what one has never been.” This session presents several transformational change principles and best practice methods for working with at-risk youth based upon Scott Larson’s 20+ years experience and his latest book ’The Resilience Revolution.’

FEATURED SPEAKER: Scott Larson, Chairman, Reclaiming Youth International, Northboro, MA

HARBORSIDE CENTER EAST

Hope Starts Here: The “8 to Great” Process for Helping Students Help Themselves (This presentation repeats at 10:15 am)

‘Hope Starts Here: The 8 to Great Process for Helping Students Help Themselves’ is a powerfully practical session for grades 6-12 administrators, teachers and counselors. Learn the eight skills that successful adults have in common and how to teach them a proven formula for decision making, how to separate healthy risks from unhealthy ones and the world’s best positive attitude formula!

FEATURED SPEAKER: MK Mueller, Speaker/Trainer/Coach/Author, Insight, Inc., Omaha, NE

PERCIVAL

Thinking Outside of the Box: Families as Resources in Reducing the Expulsion Rate

Facing increasing numbers of students recommended for expulsion from the area high schools, this presentation will describe one district’s efforts to partner with the family, the university, and a multi-family program with a successful track record working with juvenile offenders. Utilizing professionals trained in family systems therapy and school counseling, the district has involved the family in both assessing the problem and seeking solutions to the maladaptive behavior of the adolescents headed for expulsion.

Karen Cooper-Haber, Coordinator of Intervention Services, Richland School District Two, Columbia, SC; Julie Martin, Intervention Specialist, Richland School District Two, Columbia, SC; Danielle McCormack, Intervention Specialist, Richland School District Two, Columbia, SC; and Natasha Jones, Graduate Intern, Marriage & Family Therapy Program, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

VERNON

Educating and Counseling High-Functioning Autistic Students

This presentation will address some of the challenges faced by high functioning autistic students. Educational strategies outlined by TEACH along with specific proven counseling interventions will be provided for all interested attendees.

Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor, Department of Counseling, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

VERELST

"Is It Justice or Injustice?" Working with Schools: A Collaborative Approach with Education and Juvenile Justice

The inadequacies of the public educational system, especially in area of the juvenile justice, have set students up to fail. Youth-serving agencies must be pro-active in the way they engage the educational arena. Developing collaborations with the public school system is a critical component to the success of juvenile justice participants. This session will provide strategies on how best to engage the school and juvenile justice as partners.

Larry Robinson, Director, Department of Juvenile Services, Newport News, VA; and Peggy Howard, Deputy Director, Department of Juvenile Services, Newport News, VA
### 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM — POSTER SESSIONS

**Motivating Young Teachers to Consider Working in the Inner City**

It is not uncommon for young college students enrolled in teacher education programs to start with highly optimistic expectations of their abilities to teach inner city children and then find themselves disheartened when they actually work with these children. This presentation describes an approach to provide a success experience in the inner city which builds realistic confidence in pre-service teachers.

*Edward B. Strauser, Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA; and Lyle C. Jensen, Retired Professor, Baldwin Wallace College, Berea, OH*

---

**A Collaborative University: School Induction Program to Increase Educator Retention**

We will share online and other components of the GSU Induction Program, collaboration with P-12 systems to assist their efforts to retain and support new educators in all fields. School and system administrators, teachers, counselors, and college faculty will learn research-based strategies for implementing comprehensive, systemic induction programs which are most effective in keeping high-quality educators in the field.

*Kelly Tharp, Induction Coordinator, College of Education, Beverly McKenna, Assistant Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education; and Beverly A. Strauser, Instructor, Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA*

---

**Getting to the Heart of the Matter: Gender Responsive Programming for Girls**

Gender Responsive Services are those services designed to meet the unique needs of girls, that value the female perspective, celebrate and honor the female experience, respect and take into account female development and empower young women to reach their full potential. This poster session will focus on a review of the six major life domains of female adolescent development: physical, emotional, intellectual, sexual, family and peers, and spiritual.

*Lynn Bertram, Executive Director, PACE Center for Girls of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL; and Debbie Moroney, Director of Public Partnerships, PACE Center for Girls, Tallahassee, FL*

---

**An Effective Approach to Prevent School Dropout: The DAPS**

This poster session will be used to present the Dropout Assessment and Prevention System (DAPS), a comprehensive evidenced-based approach designed to offer individualized accelerated learning modules for students in grades 8 through 12. ISER’s research team trains academic administrators, faculty and community resource personnel to compile baseline information on at-risk students along with a breakdown of the variables that must be addressed to build an individualized prevention program for your school setting and staff.

*John McEve, Executive Director, Institute for Social and Educational Research, Tuscaloosa, AL; and Susan P. McEve, Associate Director, Institute for Social and Educational Research, Tuscaloosa, AL*

---

**Gifted and Learning Disabled**

This poster session is designed to create an awareness of the area of twice exceptional students. Gifted learners with a learning disability often go without remediation because they are not identified. This poster session is to help educators, administrators and parents identify these students and teach various strategies that can be implemented in assisting these students in learning.

*Tasha Grier, Gifted Educator, Anita White Carson Middle School, Greensboro, GA*

---

**Protecting High Schoolers Against Stress: What Works and What Doesn’t**

The purpose of this poster session is to: (1) explore the types and frequency of stressors reported most commonly among high school students (2) report the types of coping skills most commonly utilized by this population, and (3) share empirical data that determines which of the coping skills are actual effective in protecting adolescents against stress.

*Helen Graf, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Paul Welle, Student, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA*
When Do I Have Time for Character Education?

Character education is required as part of the state educational curriculum, but often is not conducted due to time restraints. In this poster session, you will learn specific ways to incorporate character education into reading, writing, social studies, and technology instruction. Sample lesson plans will be provided, along with ways to teach character education at little to no extra cost. The incorporation of character education into the instructional day will result in a decrease in discipline referrals and increase in academic achievement.

Francie Livingston, Counselor, Pine Log Elementary School, Rydal, GA

Increasing Class-Wide Student Motivation

If some or many of your students are consistently not meeting behavioral expectations, your class may need a planned class-wide program to help motivate them to succeed. In this poster session, we will introduce Module 8 from the book CHAMPS: A Proactive and Positive Approach to Classroom Management by Randy Sprick, Mickey Garrison, and Lisa Howard. We will explore a variety of class-wide motivational systems to encourage appropriate student behavior. We'll talk about how incentives can be used effectively and how to plan for fading their use.

Donna T. Meers, Behavior Consultant and Trainer, Safe and Civil Schools, Lexington, KY; and Linda Phillips, Educational Consultant and Trainer, Intersections, Inc., Myrtle Beach, SC

Using Classroom Social Dynamics to Promote Positive Peer Interactions

Difficult peer interactions are one of the core obstacles confronting practitioners and students in today's classrooms. The social worlds of students are often thought of as an intrusion into the academic life of the classroom. In this poster session, participants will learn how to make use of the classroom and peer group social dynamics to promote positive peer interactions. An informal tool to assess problematic behavior within the context of classroom and peers, the Brief Assessment of Social Support (BASS), will be presented. Strategies to help students improve their relationships with peers and teachers, based on BASS assessment results, will be provided.

Abigail Hoffman, Intervention Specialist and Research Assistant, Center for Developmental Science at UNC @ Chapel Hill, Carrboro, NC; and Allen Murray, Director of Intervention Services for the National Research Center on Rural Education Support, Carrboro, NC

CANEI (Constant and Never Ending Improvement): An Innovative Restorative Justice Program

CANEI is an innovative program for adolescents with histories of aggressive, defiant or violent behavior. Collectively, these young people pose a steep, escalating challenge to traditional models of care and represent a population for whom many have given up hope. CANEI proposes that youth violence is a learned behavior, a rationally linkable reaction to victimization caused by physical, sexual, and emotional traumas or social disenfranchisement. CANEI is a strength-based program that seeks to help adolescents restore confidence and control in their lives, and creating a brighter future for themselves. The target audience for this poster session is school administrators, teachers, counselors, social workers, parents, and law enforcement officials.

Suzette Gadson, Program Director, National Youth Advocate Program, Atlanta, GA; and Petruska Bryant, Treatment Coordinator, National Youth Advocate Program, Atlanta, GA

Adolescent Montagnard Immigrant Youth - Why They Do Not Participate in Physical Activity and Recreation

Though North Carolina has the largest numbers of Montagnard immigrant youth outside of Vietnam, they face critical lifestyle and systematic challenges that are juxtaposed during this immigration and adolescent stage. This coupled with other unknown pre- and post-immigration crises have made the adolescent immigrant youth to be very vulnerable to developing a physically inactive lifestyle among other undesirable lifestyles.

Jerono P. Rotich, Assistant Professor, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, Greensboro, NC

Therapeutic Adolescent Group Homes: They Still Work

The effectiveness of therapeutic group homes has been questioned as an effective form of treatment for at-risk youth. This poster session will examine the recidivism rates of at-risk youth who participated in an established residential group home program, and what the author found that works in this treatment modality.

David A. Scott, Community Counseling Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

Building a Successful At-Risk Program Bringing Together Communities, Schools, and Families

This poster session will show you how you can build a successful assessment and intervention program for at-risk students. We will give you the information needed to go home and begin to work with your schools, community agencies, and families to create a foundation for a collaborative process which will lead to the success of at-risk clientele. Tools and materials we have used will be provided. We will walk you through the process of how to pick and choose aspects of programs presented at this conference to create a program suited for your community and your students.

Target audience: Juvenile Justice, Educators, School Administrators, Community Agencies.

Jeff Pfingsten, Family Impact Team Coordinator, 25th Judicial District, Ulysses, KS; Jodi Pfingsten, Elementary School Principal, Ulysses, KS; and Brad Springfield, Alternative School Principal, Garden City, KS

SCRUBS: It's a Nursing Thing

SCRUBS is a collaborative project between Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center and Georgia Southern University School of Nursing. The program is designed to recruit minority students to a nursing career, support their academic achievement, develop knowledge of the nursing profession, and establish long-term mentoring relationships in the health care delivery system. The focus of the SCRUBS program is on pre-entry preparation of middle and high school students through mentoring, academic and financial assistance.

Katoya Bledsoe, SCRUBS Recruiter, Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Bela Kundu, Health Careers Coordinator, Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM BREAK — EXHIBITS

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING UNIT (PLU) MASTERY TEST

Georgia educators who will be earning a PLU at the conference should report to the registration area on Tuesday at 4:30 to take the short essay Mastery Test. Please allow 30 minutes to complete your test.
10:15 AM – 11:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

BALLROOM A
East Coast Gangs
This is a gang awareness program that focuses on East Coast Gang Culture. East coast gangs differ in many ways from gangs in the Midwest and West although events and the influences of California and Chicago gangs shaped the modern philosophy of East Coast Gangs. This presentation shows the impact that east coast gangs have on pop culture and how they have dominated much of the media and accomplished what the other organized crime groups have not. They have made it socially acceptable to be “gangsters.” It also focuses on the current East Coast Gang trends, dress, signs, codes, and symbols associated with these unique gang cultures. It provides participants with a good understanding of the East Coast Gang culture and provides officials with information, suggestions, effective programs, and initiatives for identifying and dealing with any gang member.
FEATURED SPEAKER: Daryl Macaluso, Durham Police Department, Durham, NC

BALLROOM B
Motivating Unmotivated Students
Powerful and hard-hitting, this compelling presentation goes beyond the classroom, and provides the audience a unique opportunity to see the world through the eyes of kids who have been labeled as uninterested, unenthusiastic, and just plain unmotivated. Ron offers a fresh, new perspective on how to effectively connect with unmotivated students, and encourage and inspire them to take charge of their learning and their lives. He identifies the issues, and provides practical solutions to the issues confronting and hindering students from doing their very best to succeed.
FEATUREED SPEAKER: Ron Glodoski, Speaker/Author, Turn Around Publishing, Inc., Milwaukee, WI

BALLROOM D
A Community Response to Truancy
In 1998 Juvenile Court identified Truancy as a major factor in delinquent behavior. Several years and community meetings later, the results are an Alternative School, Truancy Court, and a Diversion Program that combat the problems. This process brought diversity to the table, which included representatives from local government, the judiciary, probation, law enforcement, local school corporations, social providers, the community foundation and concerned citizens. Attendees will create successful programs for the community, legal community, and school corporations.
Doug Dodge, Assistant Principal, North Harrison High School, Ramsey, IN; H. Lloyd White, Judge, Harrison County Circuit Court, Corydon, IN; Elizabeth Day, Chief Probation Officer, Harrison County Circuit Court, Corydon, IN; and Debbie Heazlitt, Director of Alternative School, Harrison County, IN

BALLROOM E
Early Onset Bipolar Disorder (This presentation repeats today at 1:00 pm)
Children and adolescents with Early Onset Bipolar Disorder (EOBPD) tend to overwhelm parents and teachers with the persistence and intensity of their emotional reactivity, their aggressive outbursts, their behavioral noncompliance, and their resistance to intervention. This presentation provides an up-to-date explanation of EOBPD. Major areas of emphasis include: differentiating EOBPD from other emotional and behavioral disorders; selecting and managing drug interventions; and developing and implementing nondrug interventions at home and in school.
FEATUREED SPEAKER: Richard Marshall, Associate Professor, Psychological and Social Foundations University of South Florida at Lakeland, Lakeland, FL

BALLROOM F
Parents with Potential
The missing link to true educational reform often lies within the home. Teachers in the classroom have only a small portion of the 168 hour week to train a child; yet, educators often receive the blame for inadequate yearly progress. What can be done to unlock the potential that parents have to help children succeed in school? Join this workshop to receive a true PASSport to Success to learn how to implement strategies that will positively impact parental support from the home. Together, we can make a difference!
FEATUREED SPEAKER: Vickie Burt, Ed.S., former Assistant Superintendent of Valdosta City Schools, Valdosta, GA

SCARBROUGH 1
Many school and public safety officials are receiving inquiries about their school security and crisis plans following high-profile school violence incidents and terrorism alerts. The latest school of thought on practical risk-reduction measures to provide a physically and psychologically secure school setting while keeping balance and commonsense will be highlighted. Topics include national trends in school deaths and violence, school responses and lessons learned from 9/11 and recent school shootings, practical “heightened security” strategies for schools, common gaps found in school security assessments, current trends and strategies in school emergency planning, and communicating safety issues to parents, media, and the school community, and more.
FEATUREED SPEAKER: Ken Trump, President, National School Safety and Security Services, Cleveland, OH

SCARBROUGH 2
Building Respect, Responsibility, and Resiliency in At-Risk Adolescents
Learn how to teach students who “don’t want to be told what to do” to want to be responsible and respectful, by using their need to feel “powerful” as the foundation for developing character, resiliency, and emotional intelligence. Vicki Phillips will share the philosophy from her one-semester curriculum, Personal Development, purchased by over 1450 secondary schools.
FEATUREED SPEAKER: Vicki Phillips, Director, Personal Development, Carmel Valley, CA
Beyond One Subject at a Time: Educating the Whole Child

Cross-curricular teaching allows students to experience a connection with and see a relationship between core subjects, such as math and reading, and others, like the fine arts, that equally challenge their minds and hearts now and as adults. As a music teacher, Andrea Peterson, 2007 National Teacher of the Year, will outline how in her school she has connected student projects in core classes with what she emphasizes in her music curriculum, thus challenging her students’ creativity, understanding of learning connections, and brain capacity.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Andrea Peterson, 2007 National Teacher of the Year, Music Teacher, Monte Crisco Elementary School, Granite Falls, WA

Teaching for Transformational Change

Rehabilitation means “to restore to a former state.” Transformation means “to become what one has never been.” This session presents several transformation change principles and best practice methods for working with at-risk youth based upon Scott Larson’s 20+ years experience and his latest book “The Resilience Revolution.”

FEATURED SPEAKER: Scott Larson, Chairman, Reclaiming Youth International, Northboro, MA

Hope Starts Here: The “8 to Great” Process for Helping Students Help Themselves

Hope Starts Here: The 8 to Great Process for Helping Students Help Themselves is a powerfully practical session for grades 6-12 administrators, teachers and counselors. Learn the eight skills that successful adults have in common and how to teach them, a proven formula for decision making, how to separate healthy risks from unhealthy ones and the world’s best positive attitude formula!

FEATURED SPEAKER: MK Mueller, Speaker/Trainer/Coach/Author, Insight, Inc., Omaha, NE

Working Models for Family Reunification: Objective and Subjective Worlds

This presentation will focus on a study that examined the models, and the source references for these models that caseworkers reported using to assess and evaluate risk when determining permanency placement for children who have been removed from the home. Results indicated that when asked to articulate the models used to assess and evaluate risk situations, caseworkers indicated that they most often depended on risk factors and treatment plans. The source references reported included DSS training, personal/job experience, and attending workshops and advanced or specific training. These findings suggested that only about 10% of caseworkers reported their agency-trained model as one they utilized for reunification decisions and that less than 50% of caseworkers viewed their agency as the source of this model development.

Virginia DeRoma, Associate Professor, Psychology Department, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Innocence Lost: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

The prostitution of children is an atrocity that takes place in the United States. This workshop will provide awareness of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, techniques that provide an outline for working with, identifying/treating adolescent victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The workshop will also address collaborative building within a community in order to deal systemically with the issue of the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Cheron Crouch, Director of Training Education and Evaluation, Juvenile Justice Fund, Atlanta, GA

Response to Intervention (Rti): An Integrated Approach to Response to Intervention for Intermediate and Secondary Schools

The presenters will suggest specific intermediate and secondary school strategies that can be used to implement a Response to Intervention model (Rti). The presented Rti model will provide the attendees an explicitly academic and positive behaviors structure to increase student achievement and decrease truancy and student violence.


The After-School Girl Scouting Model for Girls from Marginalized Communities

After-school girl scouting for girls living in harsh conditions is an avenue for K-12 educators to extend empowering such girls outside of the classroom. The presenter provides a first hand photo, step-by-step account, including the pitfalls and glories of how school teachers, administrators, community people, or volunteer parents can set up a successful after-school Girl Scouts program.

Jennifer Herring, Assistant Professor/Field Experience Coordinator, College of Education and Human Services, University of Illinois at Springfield, Springfield, IL
**Crossroads Second Chance: Believe, Build, Become. A Model Alternative School Program**

Crossroads Second Chance North is in its third year of full operation. The school works with a population of 100% at-risk youth that have been through the Fulton County tribunal process and expelled from other schools to attend and complete the program we offer. This school serves all middle and high school students in North Fulton County region. We are a Learn and Serve by effectively integrating service learning projects into our school curriculum. This poster session will provide participants with a number of goals and strategies for developing a highly effective alternative school. Data will be presented on how the students have fared who have completed our program.

Amy Ajukwara, Discipline Administrator, Fulton County School System, Crossroads Second Chance North, Roswell, GA

**The Republic of Creative Thought: How to Incorporate Creativity in Your Work and Everyday Life**

This poster session offers suggestions and tools for encouraging leaders to be creative. It empowers participants to lead others to the waters of creativity. These ideas may be used to expand participants’ capacity to “think outside the box.”

J.D. Jones, Professor, Marshall University Graduate College, South Charleston, WV

**How to Reduce Chronic Behavior in your School**

This poster session is geared toward teachers, administrators, school police officers, counselors, and probation officers working with highly at-risk students, particularly in an alternative school environment. Participants will be given strategies to organize for academic success and strategies to insure a safe and secure environment. These strategies have been proven to work in an alternative school serving students grades 6 through 12, while attaining the academic standard for AYP and NCLB.

Donna H. Scott, Alternative School Principal, The Give Center, East Campus, Gwinnett County Public Schools, Lawrenceville, GA; and Tom Schwarzer, Zone Commander, Gwinnett County School Police Department, Lawrenceville, GA

**Young Florida Naturalists: Concept Mapping and Conceptual Development of Pre-school Children**

The Young Florida Naturalists project focused on three goals: (a) to increase at-risk preschool children’s knowledge of plants; (b) to introduce scientific learning through hands-on experiences; and (c) to examine concept mapping for tracking preschool children’s concept development. The session presents strategies that address closing the achievement gap and targets early education administrators and teachers.

Janice Hunter, Research Fellow for Early Learning and Literacy, Florida Institute of Education at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL; and Heather Monroe-Ossi, Research Coordinator, Florida Institute of Education at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

**School-Wide Action Research: A Proven Strategy for Improving Teacher Practice and Student Learning**

This poster session illustrates how to organize all educators in a school to work in professional learning communities to improve their practice and student learning. It provides an overview of the school-wide action research process for job-embedded professional development targeting specific academic student needs through what and how teachers teach.

Carlene Murphy, Director, Whole-Faculty Study Groups, Augusta, GA

**Military “Brats”: Becoming Resilient and Teaching in Society**

Many community agencies, led by 4-H, entered a collaborative called Operation: Military Kids with the Department of the Army to provide outreach and education regarding military families during deployment. All conference attendees can take home hands-on activities and information to assist community members and youth how to cope and assist others during deployment.

Casey D. Mull, State 4-H Military Coordinator, University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, Athens, GA; and Brandi S. Mullins, Air Force Reserve Component Specialist, HQ Air Force Reserve Command, Robins AFB, GA

**Empower Me: A Strength-Based Program for Adjudicated Youth**

Administrators and direct service personnel will benefit from this “how to” and “how come it works” overview of a unique and successful strength-based approach to graduated sanctions for adjudicated youth. Successful youth and program officials will co-present this poster session in an interactive and energizing style.

Shelby Robertson, Manager, Public Achievement, Heartland Foundation, St. Joseph, MO; Ray Meyers and other youth participants, Heartland Foundation, St. Joseph, MO; and Terry Long, Associate Professor, Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, MO

**Understanding and Overcoming Shame for Students Transitioning to Higher Education**

This poster session explores the social and emotional skills that must be developed by the students who perceive that they are “wanting” or “different” as a result of their usage of “special” education services. It recognizes stressors and offers strategies to help the participants to assist the students and significant social systems in their life with successful assimilation in their home school and with transition to higher education.

Jacqueline Awe, Director, Counseling and Disability Services, Savannah State University, Savannah, GA; and Chandriah Bell, Social Work Intern, Savannah State University, Savannah, GA

**Pointing African Americans Towards Health (PAATH): HIV and SAP Prevention for High Risk African Americans**

Pointing African Americans Toward Health (PAATH) is a HIV and substance abuse prevention (SAP) program designed to serve high risk African American youth. PAATH’s goal is to significantly reduce high-risk behaviors for HIV infection and substance abuse through culturally competent multi-faceted and integrated SAP and HIVP program. The program provides case management, anger and stress management and nutrition education classes.

Kelvin Walston, Case Manager, Wholistic Stress Control Institute, Atlanta, GA; and L'dia Men-Na’a, Wholistic Stress Control Institute, Atlanta, GA

**A True Collaborative**

Presenters will explain how a rural community collaborative and the Department of Juvenile Justice has come together to increase access to community resources for involvement in wholesome activities for at-risk youth and their families. Target audience: teachers at all levels, business and community leaders and volunteer service leaders.

Mary Robbins, Department of Juvenile Justice, Sylvania, GA; Wendy Warren, Director, Screven County Community Collaborative, Sylvania, GA; and Angela Cosby, District Director, Department of Juvenile Justice, Augusta, GA
Tuesday, March 4, 2008

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

BALLROOM A
School District/Community Collaboration That Support Student Achievement and Discipline in Rural Schools: The Positive Impact of the S.T.A.R. and SRO Programs in Appling County Schools (This presentation repeats today at 2:45 pm)

Both the school-wide discipline program S.T.A.R (Student Transition and Recovery) and the SRO (School Resource Officer) program have assisted in creating an environment in Appling County Schools that is conducive to the success of all students. In this session, the presenters will discuss the county-wide collaboration between intergovernmental agencies that lead to the successful implementation of the programs, how both programs operate daily in each school, and student data that supports the effectiveness of both initiatives.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Dennis Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent, Appling County School System, Baxley, GA; with Phil Murphy, Principal, Appling County High School, Baxley, GA; and Keith Johnson, Principal, Appling County Middle School, Baxley, GA

BALLROOM B
Solutions to Bullying (This presentation repeats today at 2:45 pm)

Research indicates that up to 43 percent of the student population is involved in bullying as a victim or perpetrator. Bullying in our schools contributes to attendance problems, behavior problems, an increase in aggression, less altruistic behaviors, and ultimately lower academic achievement. This session will examine the root causes of bullying. Sound research and evidence-based strategies will be provided. Participants will have the ability to begin to implement a comprehensive bully prevention program at their school sites. Attendees will be provided with PowerPoint slides to conduct parent trainings at their school sites and the Bullying Documentation and Assessment Guide developed by the trainer.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Wayne Sakamoto, Lead Coordinator, Safe Schools Department, San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego, CA

BALLROOM D
Stemming the Flow from Schools to Jails

Session participants will gain an in-depth understanding regarding the link between school failure and court involvement and learn about a revolutionary interagency collaborative helping to reduce the flow of youth from schools to jails. The presentation is ideal for educators, professors, attorneys, juvenile justice workers, and social service providers.

Kimberly R. Mills, Educational Advocate, Fulton County Juvenile Court, Atlanta, GA; and Craig Goodmark, Team Child Supervisor, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Atlanta, GA

BALLROOM E
Early Onset Bipolar Disorder

Children and adolescents with Early Onset Bipolar Disorder (EOBPD) tend to overwhelm parents and teachers with the persistence and intensity of their emotional reactivity, their aggressive outbursts, their behavioral noncompliance, and their resistance to intervention. This presentation provides an up-to-date explanation of EOBPD. Major areas of emphasis include: differentiating EOBPD from other emotional and behavioral disorders; selecting and managing drug interventions; and developing and implementing nondrug interventions at home and in school.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Richard Marshall, Associate Professor, Psychological and Social Foundations University of South Florida at Lakeland, Lakeland, FL

BALLROOM F
Why Try? Innovative Interventions That Provide Hope and Motivate Youth to Overcome Challenges (This presentation repeats today at 2:45 pm)

This presentation provides the audience with several methods to teach emotional intelligence and life skills. This workshop emphasizes a strength-based approach to helping youth overcome their challenges using “multiple intelligence” methods emphasizing the youths’ learning styles, to teach in ways that youth will understand and remember.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Christian Moore, Founder/Lead Presenter, The WhyTry Organization, Orem, UT

SCARBROUGH 1
Empowering At-Risk Girls for Academic and Social Success (This presentation repeats today at 2:45 pm)

This highly interactive and stimulating workshop has been designed to help participants develop higher expectations for all girls, especially those who are at-risk of failing academically, and gain some tools to deal with them more effectively.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Barbie Reed, CEO, Nurturing Yourself Seminars, Daytona Beach, FL

SCARBROUGH 2
Tough Times, Tough Choices: Retooling to Achieve Success (This presentation repeats today at 2:45 pm)

This session is designed to have educational leaders acknowledge the current state of where we are with regard to our mission as educators, and to rethink the value of retooling leaders in order to lead high achieving school districts and schools. This session will provide best practices and approaches that are being utilized to prepare 21st Century leaders to lead a high performance culture.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Wanda West, Performance Consultant, Georgia’s Leadership Institute for School Improvement, Macon, GA
Tuesday, March 4, 2008

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM  CONCURRENT SESSIONS CONTINUED

**SCARBOUGH 3**

Motivating the Unmotivated: What Works? (This presentation repeats today at 2:45 pm)

Do you teach students who aren't living up to their potential? In this session, we will discuss the two fundamental elements to help build your students' intrinsic motivation: value and success. Then, we will explore specific instructional strategies that can be incorporated across all grade levels and subject areas to support those characteristics. Participants will be given multiple opportunities for interaction and will leave with a specific action plan for implementation of ideas.

*FEATURED SPEAKER: Barbara Blackburn, Associate Professor, Curriculum & Instruction, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC*

---

**SCARBOUGH 4**

Building Family Strengths During Times of Crisis

Building Family Strengths during Times of Crisis will allow professionals who work with families to: 1) survey a variety of teaching techniques; 2) explore age appropriate teaching tools; 3) apply a Family Strengths model to their existing family programs; and 4) discover the advantage of teamwork and collaboration when meeting the needs of families. Samples of the materials developed by the Extension Service Land Grant University will be shared as well as other sources for information will be identified.

*Deborah J. Thomason, Professor and Extension Family & Youth Development Specialist, Clemson University, Clemson, SC*

---

**HARBORSIDE CENTER EAST**

The Power of One: Kindness Matters in Schools (This presentation repeats today at 2:45 pm)

When many people think about school safety, they tend to think in terms of metal detectors, cameras and armed officers. With "No Child Left Behind" and its stress on academic achievement at all costs, with little regard for the mental, social, physical, emotional or spiritual aspects of the whole child, many teachers teach tests and not students. Today, new ways to prevent school violence and help children learn include social and mental health communication skills that incorporate kindness. Because kindness does matter, you can put a human face on school safety and learning and make your schools and communities safer and a better place to live and learn. You have the Power of One to change the future with kindness. Let's start today!

*FEATURED SPEAKER: Stephen R. Sroka, President, Health Education Consultants, and Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, Lakewood, OH*

---

**PERCIVAL**

Resolving Rage & Restoring Relationships

Restoring family relationships increases the likelihood of a juvenile's future success, diminishing the odds for recidivism. Dominic Herbst will present a model that has been featured on four national television specials, offering a clear understanding of how relationships break down, eventually leading to a cycle of conflict; and then provide a strategic plan for emotional and relational healing for the entire family.

*Dominic Herbst, President, Bethesda Family Services Foundation, Lewisburg, PA*

---

**VERNON**

Examining the Generational Effects of Slavery: Is Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome Valid?

This interactive workshop will explore Dr. Joy DeGruy-Leary's Theory of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome (PTSS). The workshop will utilize a short video presentation, lecture/discussion, and dialogue as tools for examining the validity of PTSS. In addition to identifying and examining symptoms related to PTSS, the workshop will examine the significance of the history of racial oppression and client resiliency.

*Leon Spencer, Professor, Counselor Education, College of Education, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; Orville E. Jackson, Jr., Clinician, Behavioral Health Link, Adjunct Instructor, Mercer University, Conyers, GA; and Mary A. Hill, Parent Aid/Consultant, Lithia Springs, GA*

---

**SAVANNAH**

A Methodology to Reduce the Prejudice and Discrimination in Our Schools

The objective of this presentation is to provide teachers, school administrators, principals, and counselors with a tested methodology that has been shown to reduce prejudicial attitudes and discriminatory behaviors (Richman's work, in 2000 edition of "Current Psychology: Developmental, Learning, Social Behavior, and Personality"). This presentation will address methods to ensure unlearning racism. School principals, teachers, and counselors are the targeted audience.

*Charles Richman, Professor of Psychology, Emeritus; Unlearning 'ISMs' Consultant, Wake Forest University, Fripp Island, SC*

---

**SLOANE**

More Than a Game: Chess and Its Benefits for At-Risk Students

Studies show that chess improves math, reading and problem-solving abilities, increases concentration and boosts self-esteem, and creativity. Steve Schneider, author, teacher and proponent for scholastic chess, will demonstrate the positive benefits chess can offer at-risk students. He will also introduce the successful methods he has developed to help children learn to play chess. Whether you play chess or not, you can learn successful strategies for getting at-risk children involved in chess in your classroom or school.

*Stephen Schneider, Author/Chess Programs Coordinator, Championship Chess, Atlanta, GA*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>League of Democratic Schools</strong>&lt;br&gt;The League of Democratic Schools is looking for schools who “dare to make a better society”. The members of the school community believe the primary purpose of schooling is development of the knowledge, skills, and dispositions in our nation’s youth that support renewal of our nation’s social and political democracy. The objective is to expand the Eastern Region network of schools.&lt;br&gt;Stephanie Kenney, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Teacher Education and Accreditation, College of Education, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Dianne Bath, Director of The Georgia Center for Educational Renewal, College of Education, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 PM</td>
<td><strong>Integrating Effective Teaching Practice into Instructional Design</strong>&lt;br&gt;Come and see effective teaching practices included in instructional designs! We can use our intellects and wills to create instruction leading to successful student achievement. Evidence explains these results nationwide from all socio-economic levels including high poverty and high minority schools. Everything has its time! The time to improve our schools is now.&lt;br&gt;John Hobe, Professor of Education, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Cannot Take It Anymore! School Related Challenges That At-Risk Immigrant Youth Encounter in America</strong>&lt;br&gt;Though immigrant youth enter America and the school system with myriad hopes, many of them encounter challenges that make them want to quit. This poster session will outline the unfail school culture that they have to learn and the value systems of their native culture (present at home) that they have to balance with those of the dominant culture (present at school).&lt;br&gt;Jeron P. Rotich, Assistant Professor, North Carolina Agricultural &amp; Technical State University, Greensboro, NC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>Successful Practices in Coaching Children’s Social and Emotional Competence</strong>&lt;br&gt;Children’s social and emotional competence is fundamental to academic learning and interpersonal relations. This poster session introduces successful practices that teachers and parents may use to coach children’s social emotional competence. By enhancing social and emotional skills, the youth will be prepared to deal with daily stressors and learn to regulate their emotions and behaviors, subsequently reducing bullying and disruptive behaviors.&lt;br&gt;Tsu-Ming Chiang, Professor of Psychology, Georgia College &amp; State University, Milledgeville, GA; and Matthew Anderson, Shelby Carson, Alex Carson, Jimmie Fowler, Susan Hulteen, Lauren Lesso, Christopher Newberry, and Kimberly Stosik, Students, Georgia College &amp; State University, Milledgeville, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>What is CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children)?</strong>&lt;br&gt;The four modalities of CSEC are: 1) Pornography: Who are the predators? How are children recruited? What web ID language is used to attract children? 2) Prostitution: Who are the recruiters? What can be done in the communities, schools? All communities are affected by child recruiters, and gang recruitment? What are the warning signs, reporting’s and legal remedies? 3) Child Trafficking: Overview of trafficking, domestic and international trafficking, What are the legal remedies? And 4) Child Sexual Tourism: Who are the predators? Domestic and International remedies on how to prevent it.&lt;br&gt;Marisa B. Ugarte, Executive Director, Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition, National City, CA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 PM</td>
<td><strong>Helping Adolescents Cope with Parental Life-Threatening Illness</strong>&lt;br&gt;This poster session will provide attendees with practical ways to identify protective factors that foster resiliency within youth who are experiencing a life-threatening illness of a parent, while also increasing awareness of risk factors. The presenter will also discuss approaches on how youth workers can assist these youth in coping and to prevent disruptions to their normal development.&lt;br&gt;Kerri Ashurst, Senior Extension Associate, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Food Smart</strong>&lt;br&gt;Food Smart has enabled outreach to an underserved Hispanic and African American youth population. This program’s goal is to share program ideas and activities that have been successful in broadening the connection to rural, remote, and community members. This poster session is hands-on, and participants will actually take part in the lessons, which are taught to youth and their families.&lt;br&gt;Lisa Dennis, County Extension Director/4-H Youth Development Educator, University of Maryland, Princess Anne, MD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>Effective Parenting Skills for Single Parent of Multiracial Children</strong>&lt;br&gt;Recent Census numbers indicate there are approximately 12 million single parent families in the United States. While most are headed by women, no accurate count is available concerning the number of single parents raising multiracial children. This poster session, intended for all interested audiences, will focus on issues faced by single parents of multiracial children and offer evidenced based practices to help them develop appropriate and effective parenting skills.&lt;br&gt;Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3:00 PM      | **Engaging Parents**<br>This poster session addresses the challenge being faced by many educators: the difficulty of engaging parents in school-related activities. Participants will get hands-on experience with specific strategies to increase parent’s involvement. Learn strategies that are used by a model program.<br>Anita Burns, Certified FAST Trainer, FAST (Families and Schools Together) National Training and Evaluation Center, Atlanta, GA.
2:45 PM – 4:00 PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

BALLROOM A

School District/Community Collaboration That Support Student Achievement and Discipline in Rural Schools: The Positive Impact of the S.T.A.R. and SRO Programs in Appling County Schools

Both the school-wide discipline program S.T.A.R (Student Transition and Recovery) and the SRO (School Resource Officer) program have assisted in creating an environment in Appling County Schools that is conducive to the success of all students. In this session, the presenters will discuss the county-wide collaboration between intergovernmental agencies that lead to the successful implementation of the programs, how both programs operate daily in each school, and student data that supports the effectiveness of both initiatives.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Dennis Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent, Appling County School System, Baxley, GA; with Phil Murphy, Principal, Appling County High School, Baxley, GA; and Keith Johnson, Principal, Appling County Middle School, Baxley, GA

BALLROOM B

Solutions to Bullying

Research indicates that up to 43 percent of the student population is involved in bullying as a victim or perpetrator. Bullying in our schools contributes to attendance problems, behavior problems, an increase in aggression, less altruistic behaviors, and ultimately lower academic achievement. This session will examine the root causes of bullying. Sound research and evidence-based strategies will be provided. Participants will have the ability to begin to implement a comprehensive bully prevention program at their school sites. Attendees will be provided with PowerPoint slides to conduct parent trainings at their school sites and the Bullying Documentation and Assessment Guide developed by the trainer.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Wayne Sakamoto, Lead Coordinator, Safe Schools Department, San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego, CA

BALLROOM D

Give It Up and Gain: Administrative "How-To's" for Making Teacher Leadership Work

Targeted to principals, teachers, and leaders. This session focuses on promoting shared leadership for meeting school goals and objectives and the principals’ “how-to’s” to make it happen. This session is a “must” for principals who have schools with challenging situations.

Susan Trimble, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Johnny Trimble, Clinical Instructor, Department of Teaching and Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

BALLROOM E

Panel: Building Peace in Our Schools and Communities

This panel presentation will discuss how to go beyond merely “keeping peace” to “building peace” in our schools and communities. In an era preoccupied with zero tolerance policies and tight surveillance for strict security, we have neglected the fundamental human needs for positive peace and well-being. Panel members will share successful programs, strategies, and techniques for fostering cultures of peace and well-being in our classrooms, schools, and communities.

Moderator, Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, Georgia Southern University, GA
Panel Members: Candice Carter, University of North Florida; Susan Armoni, paxUnited, Bob Lake, Georgia Southern University, GA

BALLROOM F

Why Try? Innovative Interventions That Provide Hope and Motivate Youth to Overcome Challenges

This presentation provides the audience with several methods to teach emotional intelligence and life skills. This workshop emphasizes a strength-based approach to helping youth overcome their challenges using “multiple intelligence” methods emphasizing the youths’ learning styles, to teach in ways that youth will understand and remember.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Christian Moore, Founder/Lead Presenter, The WhyTry Organization, Orem, UT

SCARBROUGH 1

Empowering At-Risk Girls for Academic and Social Success

This highly interactive and stimulating workshop has been designed to help participants develop higher expectations for all girls, especially those who are at-risk of failing academically, and gain some tools to deal with them more effectively.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Barbie Reed, CEO, Nurturing Yourself Seminars, Daytona Beach, FL

SCARBROUGH 2

Tough Times, Tough Choices: Retooling to Achieve Success

This session is designed to have educational leaders acknowledge the current state of where we are with regard to our mission as educators, and to rethink the value of retooling leaders in order to lead high achieving school districts and schools. This session will provide best practices and approaches that are being utilized to prepare 21st Century leaders to lead a high performance culture.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Wanda West, Performance Consultant, Georgia’s Leadership Institute for School Improvement, Macon, GA

SCARBROUGH 3

Motivating the Unmotivated: What Works?

Do you teach students who aren’t living up to their potential? In this session, we will discuss the two fundamental elements to help build your students’ intrinsic motivation: value and success. Then, we will explore specific instructional strategies that can be incorporated across all grade levels and subject areas to support those characteristics. Participants will be given multiple opportunities for interaction and will leave with a specific action plan for implementation of ideas.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Barbara Blackburn, Associate Professor, Curriculum & Instruction, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC
SCARBROUGH 4
See Program Addendum

HARBORSEIDE CENTER EAST

The Power of One: Kindness Matters in Schools

When many people think about school safety, they tend to think in terms of metal detectors, cameras and armed officers. With "No Child Left Behind" and its stress on academic achievement at all costs, with little regard for the mental, social, physical, emotional or spiritual aspects of the whole child, many teachers teach tests and not students. Today, new ways to prevent school violence and help children learn include social and mental health communication skills that incorporate kindness. Because kindness does matter, you can put a human face on school safety and learning and make your schools and communities safer and a better place to live and learn. You have the Power of One to change the future with kindness. Let's start today!

FEATURED SPEAKER: Stephen R. Sroka, President, Health Education Consultants, Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, Lakewood, OH

PERCIVAL

Community Based Risk Reduction: Supporting Students & Families Through a Multi-Agency Partnership

Our community uses a multi-agency approach to early identification of and intervention with children at risk for future delinquency or deprivation. Come and learn how we embraced an initiative from the Judge of Juvenile Court (OCGA 15-11-10) and made it work efficiently and effectively.

Ken Greene, Director of Student Services, Barrow County Schools, Winder, GA; Shannon Hammond, Federal Programs & School Improvement Coordinator, Barrow County Schools, Winder, GA; and Cathy Rowan, Juvenile Probation/Parole Specialist II, Barrow County Department of Juvenile Justice, Winder, GA

VERNON

NIDA Goes Back to School

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) created NIDA Goes Back to School, a presentation providing free, science-based materials for children, teens, and influential adults. Attendees learn the many ways NIDA-supported science addresses fundamental questions about drug abuse and addiction, including current drug-use trends among youth, and also learn how to access cost-free, interactive, research-based resources that augment current skills and strategies.

Brian Marquis, Public Liaison Officer, National Institute on Drug Abuse, Rockville, MD

VERELST

The Protected School

This highly interactive session will provide participants an opportunity to learn about the impact that a comprehensive approach to violence and substance abuse prevention can have on a campus. It can drastically alter the school environment and have lasting impact on students. This workshop will explore the issues that currently face the youth of our nation and what we can do to help them become successful, pro-social members of society. Dr. Susan Armoni will explore some of the most effective programs any school can implement to provide a safer, more caring learning environment.

Susan Armoni, Executive Director, paxUnited – The National Mediation Center, Richardson, TX

SAVANNAH

MIA (Mission in Action): Empowering Students in Alternative Education

Giving the at-risk students ownership into learning by empowering each one to accept responsibility is the key to keeping them in school. Attitudes change as students participate in a variety of service learning projects and self-improvement program. Students are actively involved in each step of their alternative education process.

Melinda Strickland, Principal, Floyd County Education Center, Rome, GA

SLOAN

Meeting the Challenge: Differentiating Instruction for At-Risk Learners

Teaching in a high-stakes, standardized-testing world has become increasingly challenging. Add special-needs and at-risk learners to the regular education classroom, and the already tremendous challenge is magnified. This session will present a plan of action for regular education teachers frustrated with the seemingly-unending challenges of differentiating instruction and assessment within their classrooms. The presentation will include a plan of action for adapting materials, teaching strategies, and evaluative measures, along with a synopsis of the latest research.

Mary Williams, Teacher, Southeast Bulloch Middle School, Brooklet, GA; and Lauren E. Williams, Sixth Grade Teacher, Langston Chapel Middle School, Statesboro, GA
### 2:45 PM - 4:00 PM — POSTER SESSIONS

All poster sessions are in HARBORSIDE CENTER WEST unless otherwise indicated.

#### High School Inclusion: A Facilitative Model

Exceptional education students can be successful! They require a set of services that meets their specific needs. To develop this student-specific service it requires: Family involvement, a coordinated group of educators, and a lot of celebration!

-Kenneth Webley, Assistant Principal, Sarasota High School, Sarasota, FL; and Tom Olman, Behavior Specialist, Sarasota County School System, Sarasota, FL

#### Collaboration: Creating and Sustaining Learning Communities

Collaboration is one of the most popular buzzwords of the day. What does it really mean? How do we begin to collaborate in authentic and sustainable ways? What are the stumbling blocks? Learn how collaboration can help you create and sustain learning communities to help our youth succeed.

-Kelly O’Brien, Owner and Principal Trainer, KOK Consulting, Battle Ground, WA; and Shonny Bria, Superintendent, Battle Ground School District, Battle Ground, WA

#### Accommodations: Not Just for Special Education Anymore

This poster session explores examples of accommodations related to different teaching styles (listen to me, read this, watch this, do this) and the response methods associated with each. It also explores accommodations for standardized and classroom tests. Accommodations presented in this session are not your regular, run-of-the-mill accommodations, but exciting accommodations that motivate students and do not require teachers to spend hours preparing the accommodations. The target audience is all educators.

-Amity Coleman, Educational Consultant; Virginia Department of Education, Care Connection for Children, Annandale, VA

#### The Importance of Social and Emotional Learning for Academic Achievement

This poster session will use the concept of social and emotional learning as the foundation for academic success. It will also incorporate the ideas of Gardner’s multiple intelligence, Kolb’s use of learning theory, Goleman’s emotional intelligence, Kolberg’s learning theory to reduce stereotypical thinking, Yalom’s ideas of group process in the classroom, Sternberg’s concept of successful intelligence and Erikson’s stages of development, especially the stage of adolescent identity formation.

-Alan Kahn, Teacher, South University, Savannah, GA

#### Magical Beginnings: A Doorway to Inner Possibilities

Children are capable and able beings. Teachers learn to create a safe space to honor and respect children and nurture them through creativity, thereby developing social and emotional skills. Teach children through sensory modalities and teach children to honor their inner voice and how feelings create our reality. Children learn to identify feelings and what causes them.

-Ritu Pasrja, Owner, Conscious Connections, and Secretary of Toledo Association for Education for Young Children, Local Chapter of NAEYC, Toledo, OH

#### Win-Win Solutions: Helping At-Risk Youth Develop Resilience via Conflict Resolution Intervention

This poster session will provide information and intervention strategies to participants in teaching at-risk youth conflict resolution skills when interacting with peers and adults. The major objective is to assist professionals and paraprofessionals in understanding and implementing specific conflict resolution intervention strategies with at-risk youths.

-Johnny Sanders, Jr., Professor, Wanda Briggs, Assistant Professor, and Moody Crews, Assistant Professor, Counseling & Development, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC

#### QPR for Suicide Prevention: Ask a Question, Save a Life

This poster session enables participants to understand the myths and facts about suicide, identify clues and warning signs, learn helpful tips for asking the suicide question, learn how to persuade someone to stay alive and acquire best practice knowledge in making needed referrals. This is a steppingstone that can easily lead to involvement in suicide prevention targeting children and youth.

-Joe Troope, Developmental Disabilities Case Expediter, Georgia Department Of Human Resources, Region 4 MHDDAD Office, Valdosta, GA

#### Tapping Into the Teacher Candidate Resource

Tapping into the Teacher Candidate Resource to Prepare Preschoolers for Learning offers community organizations ideas about how to use local teacher preparation programs as a viable resource to prepare pre-school children for learning. This initiative also illuminates how community-based educational programs are instrumental for meeting required standards for Early Childhood teaching certification.

-Don Livingston, Associate Professor and Chair, Education Department, LaGrange College, LaGrange, GA; Vicki Pheil, Field Placement Director, LaGrange College, LaGrange, GA; Anna Adams, Jennifer Ballard, Allison Gordon, Haley Howard, Nikki Roth, and Brooke Rowe, Students, LaGrange College, LaGrange, GA

#### Using Social, Family, and Community Resources to Meet the Needs of the Chronically Disruptive Student

Crossroads Second Chance North Alternative School was founded in 2005 to address the needs of chronically disruptive students in metro Atlanta. The staff focuses on the social, behavior; and academic development of the student. These skills are enhanced through the implementation of a social and academic life skills course, the mentoring program, mental health and counseling resources, family counseling, parenting workshops, academic service learning projects and active business partner collaboration.

-Toni Holt, School Counselor, Crossroads Second Chance North, Roswell, GA

### 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM

PLU CREDIT MASTERY TEST

(REPORT TO THE REGISTRATION AREA FOR THE ROOM ASSIGNMENT)

### 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

FILM VIEWING — WHAT BLACK MEN THINK

Question and Answer Session after the viewing with Director/Producer Janks Morton

A documentary examining the role that myths, stereotypes, and misperceptions have played in the decimation of modern era Black relationships, and how the symbiotic relationship between Government, the media and Special Interests perpetuates misinformation to further marginalize the role of Black Men in society.
Wednesday, March 5, 2008

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM
REGENCY BALLROOM PREFUNCTION
SECOND FLOOR BALCONY — LOBBY
REGISTRATION, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, EXHIBITS

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
KEYNOTE ADDRESS — REGENCY BALLROOM
Moving from Impossible to I'M POSSIBLE

An innovative approach to ensuring our youth become “prospects” not “suspects.” "Motivator of the Millennium" Keith L. Brown will take you on an odyssey filled with stimulating strategies which lead to one destination: YOUTH-AT-PROMISE ROAD [Reaching Our Adolescents Daily]. If you are ready to have a “Party with a Purpose,” DO NOT MISS THIS KEYNOTE!!!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Keith L. Brown, Motivational Speaker, 20/20 Enterprises, Fayetteville, GA

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM
EXHIBITS

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SCARBROUGH 1
School of Belonging: A Different Standard (This presentation repeats today at 11:15 am)

This session will help participants (teachers, administrators, and mental health professionals in grades k-12) understand the connection between meeting a child’s emotional needs, and motivation and learning. A key aspect of the presentation will focus on how to cultivate healthy relationships through dialogue, common language, and ritual building. Mr. Levine will present how the School of Belonging framework has been implemented in five empowerment schools in the Bronx, NY, as a key component of their systems change process.

FEATURED SPEAKER: David Levine, Educator/Author, In Care of Students, Accord, NY

SCARBROUGH 2
What About the Children? (This presentation repeats today at 11:15 am)

This unique hands-on presentation will examine strategies to enthuse, enlighten, equip and empower positive behavior for at-risk students. Participants will take an active role in creating ideas for diminishing failure and setting students up for success. Get ready, get ready to strut your stuff.

FEATURED SPEAKER: Diane Jackson, Paraprofessional, Frank W. Spencer Elementary School, Savannah, GA

SCARBROUGH 3
Moving from Impossible to I'M POSSIBLE! Question and Answer Session

Keith L. Brown, Motivational Speaker, 20/20 Enterprises, Fayetteville, GA

HARBORSIDE CENTER EAST
A Town Hall Meeting: How to Reach Young African-American Males
(This double-session Town Hall meeting continues until 12:30 pm)

Traditional approaches to increasing achievement and success of young black males are not working. We must change the pattern where finishing high school is the exception and prison is almost routine. A panel of expert educators and parents will discuss how to raise and educate academically successful African American males. Come join our town hall meeting on this important topic.

Moderator: Fayth M. Parks, Georgia Southern University; Panel Members: Mayor Otis S. Johnson, City of Savannah; Judge LeRoy Burke III, Chatham County Juvenile Court; Michael C. O’Neal, Parent University; Dr. Evelyn Dandy, Professor Emerita, Armstrong Atlantic University; David Miller and LaMarr Shields, Urban Leadership Institute; Bubba Longgrear, Tattnall County High School, Diane Jackson, Young Men of Honor Program, Spencer Elementary School

PERCIVAL
Blending Families: Keeping Legacy in Trans-Cultural Families

Blending Families: Keeping Legacy in Trans-cultural Families’ is one family’s story of blending different cultures and forming a strong family bond. This family has five different cultures through adoption and marriage. Through trials, they have found some proven techniques of communication and understanding blending their differences into a collective working family structure.

Audria Cheever, Association Director, AUCHEEV & Associates, Inc., Brunswick, GA; Aleshia Howell, Parent, Jacksonville, NC; and Matthew Howell, Adopted Teen, Jacksonville, NC
9:45 AM – 11:00 AM — POSTER SESSIONS

All poster sessions are in HARBORSIDE CENTER WEST unless otherwise indicated.

At-Risk or At-Promise? Implications and Cautions of Brain Based Pedagogy

At-Risk or At-Promise? Implications and Cautions of Brain-Based Pedagogy highlights the theoretical implications of brain-based pedagogy on teaching and learning with emphasis on at-risk youth. This poster session offers practical applications, as well as precautions, for classroom implementation with this particular population.

Linda H. McCall, Professor, Early Childhood Education, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA; and Elizabeth O. Crawford, Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Education, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

The Courage to Say, “Okay, What are you going to do about IT?”: Complain with AIM

Are you tired of people complaining about what’s wrong with education in America, but doing nothing about it? Let’s create a culture that allows educators to tell complainers, “Okay, I understand your viewpoint; what are you going to do about it?” Just imagine how this simple statement could change your school’s culture. What would happen if the nay-sayers “Complained with an Aim”?

Kay Isom, Assistant Principal, Northside High School, Warner Robins, GA

Data Driven Decision-Making for Teachers and Administrators

With myriad assessment data available (national tests, statewide tests, teacher made end of course tests, etc.), how can teachers and administrators choose the correct data to analyze? Quickly and painlessly identify the data needed to create achievement goals using: charts, agenda examples, data collection forms, and goal setting templates. Choose any of these to begin your successful journey toward data driven decision-making!

Lola Burse, Assistant Principal, Hesse Elementary School, Savannah, GA

Working With Children of Poverty: Strategies to Improve Academic Achievement

This poster session’s focus is on children of poverty and how educators can meet their needs. The session will enable educators to better understand children of poverty and make important decisions in regards to instructional strategies. Attendees will learn how the following impact children of poverty: 1) resources, 2) formal and casual language patterns, and 3) hidden rules of classes.

Mark DeWalt, Director of Graduate Studies and Professor of Educational Research, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC; and Jessica Conley, Graduate Student, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC
**Wednesday, March 5, 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM | **POSTER SESSIONS CONTINUED**<br>**Developing a Peer Driven, Skills-Based Approach to Leadership Development Among High School Youth**<br>This youth leadership project examined youth perceptions of adult support, youth leadership, peer values, and intrinsic leadership. The objective was to understand the leadership development of youth in the following areas: leadership programming, leadership development, youth/adult partnerships, and community involvement. The research presentation will help other school districts and communities understand the importance of school-based leadership development initiatives.<br><br>*Kenneth Jones, Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY; and Donna Hancock, Graduate Assistant, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY;*
| | **How to Leave No Child Behind: Making Connections with Kids**<br>What are you passionate about? What are your students passionate about? Communicate these things with each other to create an exciting learning environment. Wonder why the gap between teachers (or adults) and kids keeps getting bigger and bigger? Let me show you how to “connect with kids.”<br><br>*Melissa Kimble, School Counselor, Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, Savannah, GA*
| | **How Community Organizations Can Get Involved with Tutoring/Mentoring**<br>This poster session is intended to serve community college and university leaders who have Early/Middle college students on campus, middle college administrators, high school administrators, and mentors. The session will include information regarding economic knowledge base, civic/political responsibility, cultural/career development, and health and wellness issues.<br><br>*Sharon Hunter, Liaison Coordinator, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, Greensboro, NC; and Carolyn Brown, Early College Liaison, Robeson Community College, Lumberton, NC*
| | **Peace-Building and Peace-Making: Implications for Developed Versus Developing Countries**<br>This poster session relays the importance of implementing peace in our curriculum by encouraging conflict resolution. It will draw a kind of comparison between the case of this type of education in America, as a developed country, versus Morocco, as a developing country. Teachers, parents, educators, etc. are samples of the audience that this topic targets.<br><br>*Sidi Mohamed Oubit, International Educator, Sahara, Morocco*
| | **Current Research Efforts to Harness the Power of Video Games in Educating Youth**<br>The objective of this poster session is to discuss current research and efforts aimed at assisting school and after school professionals in harnessing the power of video games in educating youth. This session is a follow-up to one presented last year that looked at violent video games and their negative impact. This year’s session will focus more on the research regarding the practical benefits of video play in education as well as evolving efforts/practices to utilize video games in a positive manner.<br><br>*Willie Burden, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; Daniel Czech, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Drew Zwald, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA*
| | **The Effects of Exposure Response Prevention on Reducing Weight**<br>Participants of this poster session will learn why ERP is effective for their clients. They will also learn the rationale, theory, and approaches for incorporating it into their practice. Data will be presented reviewing the outcome study on ERP conducted by SLS Health Inc.<br><br>*Robert DeLeDris, Director of ERP Therapy, SLS Health Inc., Brewster, NY*
| | **Make Today the Day: Increasing Efficiency Through Improving Time and Space Management Skills**<br>This poster session integrates experience and planning with proven organizing principles to help individuals increase productivity, maximize time usage, improve classroom management, and decrease stress. The sessions are designed by educators for teachers at all levels, school administrators, counselors, and youth service providers to ensure that an opportunity to improve student learning is never missed because of lack of organization.<br><br>*Clarence Jordan, Educational Organizer, Founder/Presenter of Organized By Jordan, Grayson, GA*
| | **Birth Order Communication**<br>The purpose of this poster session will be to foster a greater understanding among educators of the effects of birth order on themselves and especially on students. Knowledge of the differences traditionally associated with the three birth orders, first/only, middle, and last will significantly facilitate communication between educators and students. Comprehension of birth order characteristics makes attempts to present or target information to a particular birth order easier and more successful.<br><br>*Vickie Barton, Executive Co-Director, Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, Muncie, IN*
| | **Yes, He Included Me: A Parent’s Perspective**<br>Every child has a right to an education in spite of their disability. Disabled persons have to learn to live in their environment; we do not have a self-contained work force or community, so a self-contained education can lift the outcomes of progress. This poster session will relay how early intervention and inclusion can only make life easier for those young persons with disabilities.<br><br>*Gladys Cohen, Health Services Coordinator, EOA Head Start, Savannah, GA*

---

**11:00 AM – 11:15 AM**<br>BREAK — EXHIBITS
**BALLROOM D**

**High School/High Tech Youth Leadership Forum: Dare to Soar**

YLF (Youth Leadership Forum) has two goals: (1) Development of leadership skills, teaching students how to become self-sufficient and productive members of society; developing relationships with supportive adults, learning independent decision-making skills, and understanding self-determination and self-advocacy skills; and (2) Familiarization with and exploration of post-secondary options and opportunities. A YLF manual will be made available to attendees at no cost. The topic is relevant to anyone working with youth with disabilities.

Lee Miller, President & CEO, Georgia Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, Inc., Columbus, GA

**BALLROOM E**

**At-Risk Youth and Crime**

This session will address the possession of firearms and commission of crimes by young men in Savannah, GA and how this is being addressed by law enforcement.

Michael Berkow, Police Chief, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department, Savannah, GA

**BALLROOM F**

**Interactive Approaches to Self-Advocacy**

Interactive approaches to self-advocacy will provide educators and group leaders of any population of youth-at-risk the opportunity to possess a tool kit of 6 hands on activities that fosters empowerment, self-determination, and the ability to set and achieve goals. Hands on approaches involve students directly as they take ownership over the projects. Watch as personal confidence develops!

Eric Fox, Advocacy Specialist, The Arc of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC

**SCARBROUGH 1**

**School of Belonging: A Different Standard**

This session will help participants (teachers, administrators, and mental health professionals in grades k-12) understand the connection between meeting a child’s emotional needs, and motivation and learning. A key aspect of the presentation will focus on how to cultivate healthy relationships through dialogue, common language, and ritual building. Mr. Levine will present how the School of Belonging framework has been implemented in five empowerment schools in the Bronx, NY, as a key component of their systems change process.

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** David Levine, Educator/Author, In Care of Students, Accord, NY

**SCARBROUGH 2**

**What About the Children?**

This unique hands-on presentation will examine strategies to enthuse, enlighten, equip and empower positive behavior for at-risk students. Participants will take an active role in creating ideas for diminishing failure and setting students up for success. Get ready, get ready to strut your stuff.

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Diane Jackson, Paraprofessional, Frank W. Spencer Elementary School, and Founder and Director of the Young Men of Honor, Inc., Savannah, GA

**SCARBROUGH 3**

**Working With children of Poverty: Strategies to Improve Academic Achievement**

The session will focus on children of poverty and how educators can meet their needs and will enable educators to better understand children of poverty and make important decisions in regards to instructional strategies. Attendees will learn how the following impact children of poverty: 1) resources, 2) formal and casual language patterns, and 3) hidden rules of classes.

Mark DeWalt, Jessica Conley, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC

**HARBORSIDE CENTER EAST**

**A Town Hall Meeting: How to Reach Young African American Males**

(This double-session Town Hall meeting continues until 12:30 pm)

Traditional approaches to increasing achievement and success of young black males are not working. We must change the pattern where finishing high school is the exception and prison is almost routine. A panel of expert educators and parents will discuss how to raise and educate academically successful African American males. Come join our town hall meeting on this important topic.

Moderator: Fayth M. Parks, Georgia Southern University; Panel Members: Mayor Otis S. Johnson, City of Savannah; Judge LeRoy Burke III, Chatham County Juvenile Court; Michael C. O’Neal, Parent University; Dr. Evelyn Dandy, Professor Emerita, Armstrong Atlantic University; David Miller and LaMarr Shields, Urban Leadership Institute; Bubba Longgrear, Tattnall County High School, Diane Jackson, Young Men of Honor Program, Spencer Elementary School

**PERCIVAL**

**Empowering Youth Through Civic Engagement**

Learn about Youth Action Centers and the impact they are making on students and communities throughout Georgia. This is a “must-attend” workshop for anyone interested in helping youth become civic leaders through school-based or community-based service learning programs. We’ll provide a framework for success and invaluable tools to take home and apply immediately. Great for beginners!

Jeremy Foreman, Executive Director, Community Centered Foundation, Statesboro, GA; and Zeena Regis, Program Director, 21st Century Leaders, Decatur, GA
Poverty and the Brain: Applying the Power of Neuroscience to Enhance Learning and Life
Frank Kros, President, The Institute of Transformation Education, and Executive VP of The Children’s Guild, Baltimore, MD

The Relationship Between School Connectedness and Bullying Behavior
Jan Urbanski, Supervisor, Safe and Drug Free Schools, Pinellas County Schools, Largo, FL

Integrating Social Emotional Learning Standards into School-Wide Systems of Support
Kelly Sholtis, Prevention Coordinator, Student Support Services, Springfield Public Schools, Springfield, IL; and Cindy Harris, Supervisor of Student Support, Springfield Public Schools, Springfield, IL

Solution-based Problem Solving for At-Risk Students
Jacqueline Melendez, Program Specialist School Counseling/School Social Work, Georgia Department of Education, Atlanta, GA; and Rodney Green, Program Manager, Graduation and Secondary Redesign, Atlanta, GA

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM — POSTER SESSIONS

The Educational Plight of African American Males
Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC

Hammerhead Tactics: Managing Young Black Males’ Minds Through a Non-Traditional Model
Henry L. Harris, Associate Professor, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC; and Kawachi Clemmons, Visiting Assistant Professor of Music, North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC

Hip-Hop Pedagogy: A Culturally Responsive Approach
Melinda Jacox, Executive Director for Innovative Programs, Glynn County Schools, Brunswick, GA

Programs for “Square Pegs”
If trying to fit square pegs into round holes just isn’t working for your at-risk high school students, then it’s time to consider other options. This session will introduce you to three models for non-traditional learning that are used successfully in separate entity sites in Brunswick, Georgia.
### Re-Engaging the Disenfranchised Learner: Notes from the Underground

Students often become disenfranchised with school long before they drop out. Re-engaging these students through non-traditional methods before they disengage is key. The design of effective alternative education programs addresses re-engagement through rigorous instruction of relevant topics by teachers who have established relationships with their students. Research based best practices of highly successful schools will be shared.

**Thomas Peeler, Director of Alternative Education, MSD of Warren Township, The Renaissance School, Indianapolis, IN**

### Empowering the Millennials to Handle the Stressors of College

The purpose of this poster session is: (1) to provide people who work with older adolescence and young adults an awareness of the unique sources of stress faced by Millennials; (2) present research data that quantified the effectiveness of certain stress coping mechanisms currently employed by Millennials; and (3) provide an interactive learning opportunity for stress management for this generation.

**Helen Graf, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; Bridget Melton, Assistant Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Paul Welle, Student, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA**

### Have You Ever Dropped an Egg? Using the Power of Relationships to Mend and Motivate Students

Participants in this poster session will have an enhanced understanding of the role that relationships play in working with and motivating students. The information provided will include “Essential Keys” and practical applications which can be implemented immediately.

**Cassina Allen, Assistant Principal, Hillcrest High School, Simpsonville, SC**

### Deter Juvenile Delinquency Utilizing Interscholastic Sports

The purpose of this poster session is to examine both the positive and negative effects of interscholastic sport on juvenile delinquency, with the notion of further discussion for new ideas and mindsets.

**Drew Zwald, Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; Daniel Czech, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA; and Willie Burden, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA**

### Feeding Students to Nurture Better Attitudes and Test Scores

Proper nutrition can enhance a more positive attitude in students. They are more willing to learn and concentrate on school tasks longer. They also have higher self-esteem. Mentoring and community programs can fill voids created when students lack guidance at home.

**Dorothy Nisbet, Site Coordinator for Communities in Schools, Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education, Savannah, GA**

### Finding Solutions to Risk Factors among At-Risk African-American Youth: Using an Ecological Framework

This poster session will share data that could increase positive outcomes among at-risk African-American youth, strengthen curricula, and improve student services in alternative school programs.

**Betty Amica, Guidance Counselor, Grades 6-12, Joseph Neel Academy-Alternative School, Macon, GA**

### Youth-At-Risk: Results from a National Program in Sweden

The Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs is in charge of a national program that supports efforts for social inclusion among youth. The program (2006-2007) includes support and education for youth workers, developing meeting places for youth and to develop the efforts for youth by non-profit associations. The program was founded by the national government and the goal was to develop youth work in the leisure area. The poster session will include: a) National strategies and actions to develop youth work in Sweden; b) Results from a national program; c) Good practices and local social innovations; and d) The importance of cooperating. Target groups are policy makers, youth workers and people in research/education.

**Torgny Sandgren, Research Officer, The Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden**

### The Influence of Fathers in Early Childhood Aggression

The objective of this poster session is to provide exposure to the significance of the role that the father plays in the development of their child’s social-emotional development, in particular the regulation of aggressive behaviors. This poster session focuses on topics such as: father involvement, aggressive behaviors, and emotional coping skills. The information is directed toward parents, educators, and social workers.

**Matthew Anderson, Christopher Newberry, Shelby Carlson, and Kimberly Stosik, Students, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA; and Tsu-Ming Chiang, Professor of Psychology, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA**

### Using Every Scrap

This poster session will discuss how to use a variety of available resources to assist the classroom teacher with closing achievement gaps and utilizing untapped resources. Programs such as university partnerships, community service learning initiatives, and parental involvement will be examined. Specific examples and ideas for implementing these programs will be shared with participants.

**Anita Sanders, Community Service Learning Coordinator, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC**

### Navigating the Transitions of the Middle-Schooler

We took transition to the next level. Come hear the significance of a transition program, steps and pitfalls of creating and redesigning transition programs, inventive examples of how to entreat parental and family involvement, and the absolutely awesome benefits of helping students navigate the waters of middle school. Handouts are provided to help ensure school improvement and student success.

**Latrecia Ellen Lewis, Academic Coach, West Chatham Middle School, Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, Pooler, GA**

---

**11:15 AM - 12:30 PM — POSTER SESSIONS CONTINUED**

**All poster sessions are in HARBORSIDE CENTER WEST unless otherwise indicated.**

---

**12:30 PM**

**ADJOURN**

See You Next Year! • Sunday, March 1 – Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Savannah, GA
“My objective is to have each student become more insightful, compassionate, introspective, and empathetic. In your case I will settle for quiet.”

Don’t just settle for quiet.
We have the tools you need to bring out the excellence in every student.

The Kids Left Behind
Catching Up the Underachieving Children of Poverty
By Robert D. Barr and William H. Parrett
Reach and teach the underachieving children of poverty using practical strategies based on the 8 common factors of high-performing, high-poverty schools.

PASSport to Success
A PASS Training Program
By Vickie Burt
This parent-training curriculum is based on the book Parents Assuring Student Success by John R. Ban. Parents will learn what they can do to help their children succeed in school. The curriculum can be used to train parents directly or as a curriculum to “train the trainer” and covers each of Ban’s eight modules.

Teaching Empathy
A Blueprint for Caring, Compassion, and Community
By David A. Levine
Discover how teaching your students empathy involves recognizing and naming the skill, practicing it, modeling it through action, and encouraging it in others.

Visit the Solution Tree booth to get your free empathy exercises!
Or visit www.solution-tree.com/teachingempathy