

breakout sessions

Wed ~ 8:00 am

Wednesday Schedule

7:00 am - 12:00 pm

Registration Open
Lower Level, West Lobby

7:00 am - 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast on Lower Level
(included in conference fee)

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Breakout Session VI

8:00 am - 10:15 am

Textbook Coordinator Session
Room 206
(by invitation only)

9:15 am - 10:15 am

Breakout Session VII

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

General Session
Renaissance Hotel Ballroom

Keynote Speaker: Dave Weber

Session Six

Wednesday ~ 8:00-9:00 am

W01. English Language Learners - Strengths and Challenges

Room: 102 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L, A

Discussion will focus on the changes in assessment, monitoring, and service to English Language Learners in Tennessee. National opportunities have been offered. 2008-2009 has brought many changes and the momentum of this dynamic ESL community, including learners and professionals, is noteworthy.

Jan Lanier, ESL Coordinator, TN Dept. of Education

W02. Supporting your teachers to integrate STEM with their Elementary Students

Room: 103 | Elementary/Middle | Strands: I

Districts face growing pressure to improve students' mastery of curriculum in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and math), but are challenged to ignite interest in their elementary students, and to provide them with the foundational skills that ensure they take higher-level math and science courses in their later years. Learning.com's STEM Solution makes it easy to support your teachers with effective and engaging supplemental curriculum to ignite that interest in STEM. A flexible suite of online curriculum in Science, Math and Technology Literacy provides teachers with proven strategies and multiple models of instruction – supporting them to feel confident and empowered to teach critical concepts for students' future success. This presentation will also provide insight into how Learning.com solutions align to the new Tennessee Curriculum Standards.

Jim Hickey, Territory Manager, Learning.com

W03. New High School Policy - Elements of School-Wide Reform

Room: 104 | Middle and Secondary | Strands: L, S

ALL students entering ninth grade during the 2009-2010 school year will be affected by the new high school policy. We must make sure we give students, parents and teachers a pathway to reach the higher standards and graduation requirements of the new policy. An examination of the ten elements of school-wide reform in the new policy will provide participants knowledge and skills for building capacity to meet these challenges.

Branson Townsend, Executive Director, Secondary Education, TN Dept. of Education

Lead

W04. Practical Functions of Formative Data

Room: 105 | Elementary | Strands: A, I

In this session, presenters will propose practical methods for utilizing formative data at the elementary level to understand individual student needs, guide instruction, and create assignments tailored to specific areas of concern, thus better preparing students for success, both in the classroom and on state achievement tests. Participants will receive a variety of strategies that are easily adaptable to any elementary school setting.

Cathy Nester, Math Specialist, Sullivan County Dept. of Education

Dr. Robin McClellan, Principal, Emmett Elementary School, Sullivan County Dept. of Education

Sarah Muncey, Title I Coordinator, Sullivan County Dept. of Education

W05. "The Daily Five" - Literacy Centers

Room: 106 | Elementary | Strands: I

Implementation of the "Daily Five", developed by two teachers/sisters, Gail Boushey and Joan Moser of Washington State, can enhance literacy within the classroom. A powerpoint presentation will illustrate how the "Daily Five" promotes self-learning, involves only literacy skills within the rotation of centers, and improves assessment within reading. This rotation can be adapted per grade level and is excellent with a reading basal and TN State Standards. It allows teachers to work smarter not harder.

Tammy Patton, Lead Third Grade Teacher, Riceville Elementary, McMinn County

Andrea Edgemon, Third Grade Teacher, Riceville Elementary, McMinn County

W06. The Roles of the Literacy Coach in Achieving School-wide Literacy Leadership

Room: 107 | Elementary | Strands: L, I, S

Participants will gain an understanding of the critical roles and responsibilities of the literacy coach. Suggestions will be given on how the literacy coach can support the classroom teacher in providing quality reading instruction as well as providing student support in the RtI process. Issues such as administrative support, time management, and documentation for accountability will be discussed.

Susan Roberts, District Level Reading Specialist, Jefferson County Schools

W07. Understanding the New Reading and Language Arts Standards

Room: 108 | All Grade Levels | Strands: I

The new Language Arts standards officially go into effect during the 2009-2010 school year. This presentation will help participants understand the new Language Arts/English standards and provide ideas and strategies on how to teach standards at various grade levels. Also, we will discuss how reading elements are incorporated into the Language Arts standards and how teachers can use these elements to improve reading instruction. Intervention for struggling readers will also be addressed.

James Herman, Director, Reading, Language Arts & English, TN Dept. of Education

W08. Improving Achievement in Reading and Math through Peer to Peer Tutoring

Room: 109 | All Grade Levels | Strands: I, S

Attendees will learn about the rich and successful peer to peer tutoring program that Fentress County has implemented as part of their interventions in after school programs. Reading and math achievement has improved dramatically. Another benefit of the peer to peer tutoring program has been the increase in student self-esteem.

Sheila Crouch, Director After School Programs, Fentress County Schools

Kristi Hall, Director Federal Programs, Fentress County Schools

W09. Taking Action, Getting Results: Energy, Enthusiasm, Excellence

Room: 110-111 | Middle/Junior High | Strands: I, S

Middle school teachers have taken strategies and ideas learned from the "Ron Clark Academy" to transform a traditional middle school setting to a culture that promotes high achievement, improved social skills, and excitement for learning in a school with 70% low-socioeconomic students. Presenters will demonstrate successful instructional approaches that "grab" student attention. Attendees will leave with a model plan for increasing student expectations of themselves and promoting a positive school climate.

Holly Pillow, Teacher, Lake County Middle School, Lake County Schools

W10. Leading High School Redesign Through the Small Learning Communities Model

Room: 201 | Secondary | Strands: L, I

In this session educators will learn effective strategies to implementing the "small learning communities" model in a comprehensive high school with a focus on a freshman academy and thematic academies. Additionally, strategies to effectively engage your teachers and community in creating hands-on learning experiences to engage all students and to create interventions for at-risk students will be shared.

Dr. Lora Hall, Executive Principal, Cane Ridge High School, Metro Nashville Public Schools

breakout sessions

Wed ~ 8:00 am

W11. Pathways to School Readiness

Room: 202 | Pre-K | Strands: L, I

In this time of academic accountability, children need to be ready for school when they arrive on the first day. There's no time to slowly develop; parents need to help them to be ready, but many parents don't know what to do. The Pathways to School Readiness Grant created a model for teacher-parent collaboration that included focus groups, "Kindergarten 101" workshops for parents, and summer instruction for teachers on working play into the curriculum.

Dr. Reggie Curran, Senior Program Coordinator, University of Tennessee
Dr. Rena Hallam, Associate Professor, University of Tennessee

W12. Building RTI with Universal Screening and Progress Monitoring Data

Room: 203 | Elementary | Strands: L, A, S

This session will present practical applications to help schools build multi-tier coordinated early intervening services (aka RTI) with a foundation on Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM) organized with AIMSweb. CBM data, organized and reported with AIMSweb, has been reviewed positively for use in universal screening and progress monitoring by the National RTI Center. Real examples of data use across 3 tiers will be presented.

Dr. Mark Shinn, Professor and Coordinator, School Psychology Program, National Louis University

W13. "What's New in STEM Education"

Room: 204 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L, I

State Science Coordinator, Linda K. Jordan and Mathematics Coordinator, Scott Eddins, will provide an update on efforts to promote and advance Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics education in Tennessee.

Linda Jordan, K-12 Science Coordinator, TN Dept. of Education
Scott Eddins, K-12 Mathematics Coordinator, TN Dept. of Education

W14. Teacher Effect: The Rest of the Story

Room: 205 | All Grade Levels | Strands: A

This session will explain the difference between TVAAS and Teacher Effect, what Teacher Effect scores really mean, the value of three year averages, when teacher effect scores can be used in professional evaluations, and the importance of the claiming process.

Teresa McClure, Special Projects Consultant, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education

W15. Discussion of Textbook Laws and Other Issues

Room: 206 | All Grade Levels | Strands: I

This session is a special 2-hour session

This session will give an overview of the laws, rules, and policies governing textbook adoption in Tennessee along with discussion of issues related to textbook adoption. The second section of the presentation will be an informational session with Randy Collignon from TN Book and representatives from the TN Publishers' Representatives Organization. Concerns of textbook coordinators will be discussed.

Morgan Branch, Director, Textbook Services, TN Dept. of Education
Randy Collignon, Vice President, Tennessee Book Company
Noel Pack (TN Publishers' Group), East TN Sales Rep, Holt McDougal

W16. Soaring to New Heights on the TCAP AND NAEP Writing Assessments

Room: 207 | Middle/Junior High | Strands: I

This session will examine eighth grade data from the NAEP Grade Eight Writing Pilot and the 2009 TCAP Writing Assessment to help participants improve eighth grade writing instruction.

Charlotte Woehler, Associate Director, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education
Uma Short, NAEP Coordinator, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education

W17. Differentiating without Dying: One Really Doable Strategy

Room: 208 | All Grade Levels | Strands: I

Tired of going to sessions that focus just on the philosophy of differentiation? We know it's critical with the diversity of our students, but we have to be able to put it in place without killing ourselves. This interactive session will teach administrators and teachers how to easily differentiate assignments by adapting the great assignments teachers already make to meet the varied learning preferences of students while using just one rubric.

Debbie Willingham, Educational Consultant

W18. I Love Free

Room: 209 | All Grade Levels | Strands: I

Are your funds tight? Do you need to a variety of tools for technology integration in the classroom? "I Love Free" provides a cross-section of free and open source software resources to engage digital learners in exciting learning activities. Resources are user -friendly and facilitate teachers in gaining confidence with digital tools.

Faye Humbard, Director of Technology and Attendance, Jefferson County Schools
Jan Coley, Educational Technology Specialist, Jefferson County Schools

W19. EDvantage TN: Education Data Management System

Room: 210 | All Grade Levels | Strands: A

In this session TDOE, in collaboration with Pearson, will introduce EDvantage TN, a statewide assessment-based education data management and reporting system. This unique system enables stakeholders at all levels to make informed, data-driven, education decisions, meets state and federal reporting requirements, and provides student-focused reporting with teacher and organization dimensions (state, district, school, and class). An option to proceed to computer lab for hands-on training highlighting features of the application will immediately follow this session.

Laura Atkins, Associate Director, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education

Melissa Cantrell, Program Manager, State Services, Pearson Educational Measurement

Wendy Northcutt, Senior Project Manager, Pearson Educational Measurement

W21. Leading Career Education in Tennessee Schools and Beyond

Room: 213 | Middle and Secondary | Strands: L, I

This session will discuss updates to the TCIDS (Tennessee Career Information Delivery System), Pathways, and Virtual Career Center websites including expansion of The Classroom Corner (free, career-related lesson plans), deeper integration of TCIDS and Pathways, improved resume and interviewing resources for students on the Virtual Career Center site, and continued success of the annual Virtual Career Information Fair for students. The session will touch on incorporation of the new Career Management course into the classroom.

Callie Wise, Trainer, Tennessee Board of Regents

W22. Turning Around Chronically Low-Performing Schools- A Practice Guide

Room: 214 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L

This session will provide effective strategies for turning around chronically low-performing schools. These recommendations from a school-developed practice guide will focus on four (4) core strategies that will help move students from proficient to advance. Qualities of a leader and how they set the building tone will also be discussed.

Natalie Elder, Principal, Hardy Elementary School, Hamilton County Dept. of Education

Session Seven

Wednesday ~ 9:15-10:15 am

W23. Love, Read, Learn! - An Effective Family Engagement Program.

Room: 102 | Elementary | Strands: S

Love. Read. Learn! provides educators and parents with down-to-earth and easy to understand information about the stages of child development and age-appropriate educational activities. You will leave the workshop enthusiastic about practicing these fun learning activities. The program is administered by the Volunteer USA Foundation - a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of families by offering proven programs that promote lifelong learning and community service to others.

LOVE.READ.LEARN! are free workshops provided to families, so parents can help their children improve reading skills through fun, research-based activities. Come and learn more about this great opportunity.

Paul Coggins, Lead Presenter, Volunteer USA Organization

Pat Coggins, Lead Presenter, Volunteer USA Organization

W24. Draw a Line in the Sand without Getting Down in the Dirt

Room: 103 | All Grade Levels | Strands: S

Newsweek reports that on average, teachers lose 5-9 hours of instructional time per week dealing with low level discipline issues. This fast paced session will provide a research based overview of the power of relationships in connection with reduced discipline issues, increased engagement and stronger performance. Participants will be provided with 13 proven "Lines in the Sand" that will help any teacher truly be the CEO of their classroom, mean what they say and be in control without losing control each and every day.

Tara Brown, Educator-Trainer-Consultant, Learner's Edge Consulting

W25. Unpacking Math and Science Standards

Room: 104 | Elementary | Strands: I

Participants will unpack the new science and math standards to gain an understanding of the back ground knowledge needed to form a foundation for future learning. Participants will create a thinking map that includes the learning standard, knowledge to address that standard, and the processes required to illustrate a performance standard which would lead to mastery. This process will help show and indentify what students will need in order to grow in the areas of math and science.

Jaci Stewart, K-12 Curriculum Supervisor, Williamson County Schools

Jackie Arthur, Curriculum Specialist Math and Science, Williamson County Schools

breakout sessions

Wed ~ 9:15 am

W26. Using Research-based Strategies to Achieve Effective Instruction

Room: 105 | All Grade Levels | Strands: I, S

Best practice strategies are a must in establishing effective instruction. The “must haves” include good classroom management, universal screening, progress monitoring, high expectation and teaching to mastery. In order to have good teacher effect, teachers must also incorporate research-based instructional strategies that have been proven to work: small group instruction based on data, differentiated activities based on data, and constant engagement of students using systematic and explicit instruction.

Debbie Williams, Project Director, Lambuth University Grant Program

W27. Creating Teacher Autonomy

Room: 106 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L

Autonomy in teachers must be developed in order for true accountability to occur. In this session, topics covered will include the creation of an environment that fosters autonomy in teachers, identifying and dealing with issues, enabling and expecting change toward autonomy, how students assessment and teacher goal-setting figure into the plan, and avoiding micro-management and “free for all” mentalities.

Shelia Sitzlar, Principal, Kingston Elementary School, Roane County

W28. Maximize Student Success through Distance Education

Room: 107 | Middle and Secondary | Strands: L, I

eLearning, Video Conferencing and Virtual Field Trips are quickly becoming as synonymous with education as TCAP, end of course testing, and graduation rates. The key for educators is to decide which option best fits the needs of their particular district. Learn how one school district has employed three different methods of distance education that has improved graduation rates, reduced discipline problems, solved scheduling conflicts, and given students more options to obtaining success.

Dr. Blair Henley, Assistant Principal, Tennessee High School, Bristol City Schools

Miller Foutch, Teacher, Tennessee High School, Bristol City Schools

W29. Right Is Not Always Easy

Room: 108 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L

As educators we face dilemmas and decisions that require a strong core of principles. Our responsibility to students, staff members, the school system, and the community requires that we revisit those guiding values from time to time. In this session we look at how ethics and teaching work hand in hand and “do a reality check.” Examples and scenarios are used that teachers and administrators face everyday. “Don’t worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you.” (Robert Fulghum)

Jacque Scarbrough, Instructional Coach, Sumner County Schools

W30. Weaving TILS into Quality Programs & Internship Experiences

Room: 109 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L

The new Tennessee Instructional Leadership Standards provide an opportunity for university programs to forge new relationships with school districts for involvement in principal and leadership preparation. This presentation will detail how the new standards can be aligned to enhance not only the coursework, but also quality internships with the assistance of the school district based personnel. This model will assist principals and school directors/superintendents in understanding how they can become an integral and vital part of the development of the next set of district and state leadership in Tennessee. Handouts of the activities and alignment for school use will be distributed.

Dr. Carole de Casal, Chair, Department of Leadership, TN State University

Dr. Denise Dunbar, Coordinator, MED & Licensure Programs, TN State University

W31. Closing the Loop: Supporting School Districts with SAVE Act Reporting

Room: 110-111 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L, S

In order for students to achieve, they must feel safe and secure. The SAVE Act requires schools to show how these issues are being addressed. With the assistance of two grants, the TDOE is providing school support in complying with these new requirements. This session will provide helpful information for meeting Standards 1.7 and 3. Come learn how these grants can help you develop a recovery plan, bring together community partners and identify at-risk students.

Nicole Cobb, Director of School Counseling, TN Dept. of Education

Rene Love, Vanderbilt Psychiatry Clinic Manager

W32. Perkins IV Reserve Grants Promote Innovative CTE Programs

Room: 201 | Secondary | Strands: L, I

The CTE Division has awarded Perkins IV Reserve grants to fund innovative programs the past three years. Grant information and examples of programs funded will be presented. Donna Gilley, CTE Director at Davidson County Schools, will share her grant experience. If you are looking for CTE grant opportunities to promote new and innovative CTE programs, this session is for you.

Ralph Barnett, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Career and Technical Education, TN Dept. of Education

Dr. Gay Burden, Director of Secondary to Post-Secondary Transition, Division of Career and Technical Education, TN Dept. of Education

W33. Drop Out Prevention and Graduation Rate Strategies

Room: 202 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L, S

This session will focus on practical applications that building level administrators can implement to address graduation rate improvements and positively affect dropout rates. A best practice approach to improve attendance and keep students engaged and in school will be addressed.

William Byford, Director, South Central Field Service Center, TN Dept. of Education

W34. "First In, First Out": Ways to Expedite Your TCAP Test Processing

Room: 203 | All Grade Levels | Strands: A

This session is designed specifically for system and school testing coordinators who want the edge on quick and efficient test processing. The presenter will demonstrate the importance of post-test procedures after TCAP testing. Discussion will include accurate coding instructions and why it matters, the latest tips on return procedures, and practices to avoid... actions that delay test processing or worse, could result in inaccurate reporting and AYP data.

Freddie Summers, Associate Director, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education

W35. Title I Distinguished Schools Panel - Principal Direction

Room: 204 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L

The purpose of the Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program is to (1) identify schools that ensure all children have access to effective instructional strategies and challenging academic content and (2) demonstrate success that all children make significant progress towards learning that content. Four schools in Tennessee have been recognized as Title I Distinguished Schools for 2008-2009, two national and two state awardees. This session will allow the principals of the awarded schools to share instructional strategies used at their individual schools. These are Title I schools with grade spans from PK-8 to K-12.

Karen Munn, Project Director, TN Dept. of Education

W36. A Tale of Two Data Sets: Effective Utilization of Achievement & Growth Data

Room: 205 | All Grade Levels | Strands: A

By measuring both the academic achievement of students as well as the academic growth of students, schools and teachers will have a more comprehensive picture of where students are academically. This session will provide accurate explanations of why 100% proficient doesn't always equal growth and why educators MUST look at both sets of assessment data in order to make sound decisions about schools and students.

Teresa McClure, Special Projects Consultant, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education

Marcy Tidwell, Associate Director, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education

W38. SWISH: School-wide Writing Improvement for Students in High School

Room: 207 | Secondary | Strands: A, I

In an effort to better prepare students for the TCAP Writing Assessment, high schools need a consistent plan that incorporates writing across the curriculum. This session focuses on preparing the high school for such a plan. Session participants will receive information on how to develop a school wide writing initiative that incorporates training all teachers to grade holistically and numerically simultaneously. Copies of sample school writing schedules, teacher direction sheets, essay brainstorm sheets, and sample essays for various secondary subjects will be given to participants.

Monty Wilson, Supervisor, Secondary Education, Wilson County Schools

W39. Measuring the Impact of Understanding by Design in the Science Classroom

Room: 208 | All Grade Levels | Strands: A, I

This presentation focuses on action research conducted by the presenter on the impact of the Understanding by Design curriculum design model on student understanding in the science classroom. The research was conducted at Loretto High School in the spring of 2009 in two physical science classrooms. Implications for instruction and supervision are discussed as well as pitfalls for implementation of a UbD-based instruction design on the school and district level.

Anthony Augustin, Science Department Chairman, Loretto High School, Lawrence County Schools

Dr. Bill Heath, Director of Schools, Central Office, Lawrence County Schools

breakout sessions

Wed ~ 9:15 am

W40. You Too Can Become an SES Provider!

Room: 209 | All Grade Levels | Strands: L, S

Supplemental Educational Services (SES) is free tutoring provided by for-profit and non-profit entities to low-income students in High Priority Title I schools. In an effort to provide a wide array of provider options, districts and schools are encouraged to apply to become SES providers. The presentation will look at application criteria and how districts and schools can begin to plan to submit an SES application during the spring 2010 application window.

Rita Fentress, SES Coordinator, TN Dept. of Education

W41. TCAP-Alt Portfolio Assessment 2009/2010

Updates

Room: 210 | All Grade Levels | Strands: A

This session will inform participants of the changes to the Portfolio Alternate Assessment. The presentation will include information concerning Alternate Performance Indicators, changes to the TCAP-Alt PA Evidence Sheet and Graph and general updates to the TCAP-Alt PA in 2009/2010.

Lori Nixon, Special Education Assessment Consultant, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research, TN Dept. of Education

W43. Learn How a Carbo Reading Lab Will Increase Your School's Reading Gains

Room: 213 | All Grade Levels | Strands: I

Learn how Mountain View School uses Carbo's Power Reading Program, a research-based program, to motivate and engage students while rapidly raising their reading abilities to higher levels. Presenters will walk you through the steps of setting up a lab, selecting students, and beginning class instruction. They will also look at individual and group reading gains.

Jennifer Jordan, Carbo Reading Lab Instructor, Mountain View School, McMinn County Schools

Angie Covington, Assistant Principal, Mountain View School, McMinn County Schools

W44. "The Model Classroom"

Room: 214 | Elementary | Strands: L, I, S

Today's educators are required to teach a more rigorous and advanced curriculum. Teachers and administrators are dealing with students that want to take the fast track, lack motivation, and are just too busy to listen. This session will review five effective strategies that will make teachers and students lifelong learning leaders.

Dr. Shantrell Pirtle, Assistant Principal, Bolivar Elementary School, Hardeman County Schools

Dr. Dedrick Messenger, Facilitator/ Instructor, Mitchell-Neilson Primary School, Murfreesboro City Schools