

**Featured Speaker**

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Salon 2**

**Inside the Mind of a Kid with Learning Problems  
(Repeated Monday @ 1:30)**

*Nelson Lauver, American Storyteller Radio Journal,  
Saylorsburg, PA*

Nelson Lauver made the choice to be the "bad" kid instead of the "dumb" kid. He was the out-of-control kid that every teacher dreaded having in his or her classroom. At age 18, he entered society as a functionally illiterate young adult. But then a chance encounter with someone who uttered the word "dyslexia" changed his life forever. With a refreshing, humorous approach, Nelson relates his unique insight into the mind of a kid with learning problems. He entertains and inspires, helping you to find a new understanding and enthusiasm, even when working with your most challenging students.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** A/T/SE  
**Strand:** Special Education/Subgroup Populations  
**Style:** 10% Interactive/90% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 150

**Featured Speaker**

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Salon 3**

**Teaching Skills That Make a Difference  
(Repeated Monday @ 2:45)**

*Jim Burgett, Burgett Goup, Highland, IL*

This session will cover several concepts that help teachers become more effective, exciting, and efficient. Topics include how to begin a class with 100% involvement, how to deal with discipline, ways to save time with paperwork, delving, proximity, extra credit, rethinking tests, and lots more. Fun, fast, helpful.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

**Featured School**

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Salon 4**

**Garden Hill Elementary**

**Grade Level:**  
**Audience:**  
**Strand:**  
**Style:**  
**Room:**  
**Capacity:**

**Illinois Teacher of the Year**

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Salon 5**

**Enhancing Curriculum Through Charity-Based  
Projects**

*Ruth Meissen, Harlem Middle School Dist. #122,  
Loves Park, IL*

Through the examination of charity-based projects created and implemented in various public schools across our nation, educators will be able to assess ways in which they, too, can engage and empower their students by applying skills learned in class to real world applications. Discussions will also include information on each school's socioeconomic status and the positive effects of social climate change.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS/HS  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Family/Community/School Climate  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

**Double Session**

**10:00 – 12:15**

**Salon 6**

**Shuffling Into Math - Primary Math Games**

*Jane Felling, Box Cars & One-Eyed Jacks,  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*

Come prepared to play and learn card and dice games that help your youngest students achieve success in basic numeration, place value, addition, subtraction, data management, graphing and more. Ideas for developing a math backpack program will also be shared. Excellent take home ideas, student samples and reproducible gameboards will be provided. Excellent for regular, Title 1, ESL and afterschool programs.

**Grade Level:** EC/P  
**Audience:** A/T/SE  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 90% Interactive/10% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**Featured Speaker**

**10:00 – 11:00**

**New Orleans Ballroom**

**RTI: Classroom Interventions for Elementary Schools (Repeated Monday @ 1:45)**

*Jim Wright, Intervention Central, Tully, NY*

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a structured problem-solving model designed to help schools to more effectively meet the needs of struggling students. This workshop will provide elementary teachers and administrators with guidelines for putting RTI interventions into place in the classroom. Participants will then review practical, research-based intervention ideas that they can use immediately for students with academic or behavioral concerns. Websites will also be shown that contain free, research-based interventions of high quality.

**Grade Level:** EC/P//MS

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture

**Capacity:** 160

**Double Session**

**10:00 – 12:15**

**Ben Hogan**

**Incorporating Standards in Project Approach**

*Evelyn Freeman, Carol Bailey, Heidi Heilman, Rockford Public Schools, Rockford, IL*

This session will introduce participants to Project Approach, student-initiated learning and an in-depth investigation of topics of interest. The complex and flexible framework of Project Approach is made up of five features: discussion, fieldwork, representation, investigation, and display. Presenters will discuss how the IL Standards and authentic assessment are incorporated into Project Approach. There will be actual displays of projects completed in early childhood classrooms.

**Grade Level:** EC/P

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 40% Interactive/60% Lecture

**Capacity:** 40

**Double Session**

**10:00 – 12:15**

**Arnold Palmer**

**Implementing Morning Meeting**

*Kim Lewis, Marci Brown, Harlem CSD #122, Machesney Park, IL*

Morning Meeting is a simple and powerful tool for improving classroom climate. Through the four components of Morning Meeting: Greeting, Sharing, Group Activity and News and Announcements. Teachers can create an atmosphere where children feel safe enough to take the risks necessary for learning. After attending this session, participants will be able to implement Morning Meeting into their classroom routine with ease.

**Grade Level:** ALL

**Audience:** A/T/SE

**Strand:** Family/Community/School Climate

**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture

**Capacity:** 45

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Preservation A**

**Music & Literacy: A Must in Your Classroom!**

**(Repeated Tuesday @ 11:15)**

*April DeCearse, Innovative Learning Solutions, Tampa, FL*

Incorporate music into your classroom on a daily basis! Through a lively presentation of music and singing, April will share the research behind music in the classroom. Come and learn how to energize your literacy instruction and provide practical strategies for aspiring authors, student illustrators, struggling readers, students with disabilities, second language learners, and reading buddies. Participants will leave the session with practical ideas for creating and implementing Musical Big Books in their classroom.

**Grade Level:** P//MS

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture

**Capacity:** 80

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**Double Session**

**10:00 – 12:15**

**Marsalis I**

**Picture It! Math: Problem Solving, Singapore Style**

*Angela Simmons, Shirley Carlson, Mid-Illini Educational Cooperative, Pekin, IL*

If you are looking for an effective problem-solving approach to math, this session is for you! You will be introduced to the 8-step Model Drawing process adapted from the much-acclaimed Singapore system. Learn how to apply the same 8 steps to everything from simple addition to rates, ratios and percentages. Using unit bars, students are able to solve approximately 80% of problems.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 90% Interactive/10% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**Double Session**

**10:00 – 12:15**

**Marsalis II**

**Lights! Camera! Action! Arts Integration**

*Karen Portis, Leonard White, Rockford School Dist. #205, Rockford, IL*

This workshop is designed to give educators an opportunity to see the value in using Arts Integrated Academic Program as a strategy for raising student achievement. We will provide a creative experience designing academic lessons based on the Multiple Intelligence Theory where students are engaged in learning while developing self-motivation, self-discipline, and self-confidence. It also teaches students to think creatively, critically, and reflectively.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 75% Interactive/25% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 48

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Ruby (Computer Lab)**

**Informal & Formal Transition Assessments**

*Dawn Roalson, Cindy Hall, LEASE, Ottawa, IL*

The Informal and Formal Transition Assessments session will offer Special Education teachers a chance to work with assessment tools valuable to the transition planning process. This session will begin with a brief overview of the differences between informal and formal assessments as well as a discussion of who can administer these assessments. Participants will have an ample amount of time to explore various websites for free assessment tools.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS  
**Audience:** SE  
**Strand:** Special Education/Subgroup Populations  
**Style:** 80% Interactive/20% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 40

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Coral**

**Logical Strategies for Effective Classroom Management**

*Kathleen Benson, Kristen Smith, LEASE, Ottawa, IL*

This session will give you effective strategies for improving student behavior while, at the same time, giving them more responsibility and control over their own educational experience. You will learn about teaching optimism to students, using attribution theory, and four basic research-based discipline theories used in well-known behavior programs.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS/HS  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Family/Community/School Climate  
**Style:** 40% Interactive/60% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**Double Session**

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Sapphire**

**Improving Students' Postsecondary Readiness**

*George Scholott, ACT, Inc. Midwest Region, Lincolnshire, IL*

This session will focus on the 10 Things Schools Can Do to Improve Their Students' Postsecondary Readiness. A presentation and discussion will focus on these 10 strategies and what schools can do to improve their students' performance on the ACT in relation to ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks. Improving ACT performance will impact high school accountability in Illinois.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS  
**Audience:** A/T/SE  
**Strand:** Data/Assessment  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**Double Session**

**10:00 – 12:15**

**Turquoise A**

**Engaging the Adolescent Brain**

*Roberta Sejnost, Kane County Regional Office of Education, Darien, IL*

Today, through the avenues of both medical and educational research, we know a great deal about the adolescent brain. This interactive, hands-on presentation will present research-based, dissertation tested, practical applications of current information about the adolescent brain, how it works, and what strategies help it learn most efficiently.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS  
**Audience:** A/T/SE  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
 Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**10:00 – 11:00 Turquoise B (Computer Lab)**

**"Movie" Magic with Still Images**

Susan Bohn, Hononegah High School Dist. #207, Rockton, IL  
Microsoft PhotoStory 3 is a free, easy-to-use program which allows you to create movie-like presentations with images, motion, text, music and recorded voice. Teachers and students at all grade levels and all subject areas can create engaging presentations and projects. During the session, you will learn how to create a Photo Story project from start to finish.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 80% Interactive/20% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**10:00 – 11:00 Jade**

**Improving Reading Comprehension and Communication Skills with Shared Inquiry**

Mike Elsey, The Great Books Foundation, Chicago, IL  
Discover how and why the Shared Inquiry method of learning helps improve reading comprehension, critical thinking and communication skills. See how a sequence of interpretive activities and in-depth Socratic-style questioning engage all students at higher levels of literacy. Participate in a Shared Inquiry discussion and reflect on the research base for this proven approach to increasing student achievement. Find out why Great Books Foundation programs and professional development were named "What Works" at elementary, middle and high school levels by the National Staff Development Council.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** A/T/SE  
**Strand:** Data/Assessment  
**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**Vendor Skybox Session**

(Located above the Expo/Mega Center)

**10:00 – 11:00 Sky Box 1**

**Technology-Based Approach to Literacy Instruction (Repeated Tuesday @ 10:00 am)**

Carrie Shook, Award Reading (Perfection Learning), Highland Park, IL

Documented research reveals that the AWARD Reading produced significantly higher achievement for kindergarten and first grade students in several domains of beginning reading abilities; knowledge of alphabet, phonemic awareness, oral reading, fluency, word identification, recall of information read. The AWARD program infuses all of these dimensions of reading ability simultaneously in a highly engaging interacting technological format. From the earliest introduction to reading, more students must have the opportunity to learn skills of successfully interacting with technology and print in integrated fashion. Such is the way that "reading" will exist throughout their lives. The AWARD program meets the challenge of matching the standards mandated by Reading First and No Child Left Behind legislation. Learn more about AWARD Reading in our skybox session.

**Grade Level:** P  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 60% Interactive/40% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 30

**Vendor Skybox Session**

(Located above the Expo/Mega Center)

**10:00 – 11:00 Sky Box 2**

**ISAT and PSAE Practice Tests (Repeated Monday @ 1:30 pm)**

Michael Vallosio, Software Technology, Inc. (STI), Tremont, IL

Prepare your students for success on state exams! STI's Achievement Services Division is now offering Illinois schools two administrations of practice tests for the ISAT and PSAE exams in Reading and Math. These exams are built on the Illinois testing blue print and are the perfect tool to pre-test your students and target your curriculum accordingly. A second test is available for winter testing so you can measure progress and/or initiate vital remediation well before the state exams.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS/HS  
**Audience:** A/T  
**Strand:** Data Assessment  
**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 30

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**Vendor Skybox Session**

*(Located above the Expo/Mega Center)*

**10:00 – 11:00 Sky Box 3**

**Using Software to Improve Student Achievement (Repeated Tuesday @ 10:00 am)**

*Gary Coffman, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill Technology, Avon, CT*

A discussion on the benefits of using computers to assist teachers in skills development to achieve higher scores on standardized tests. We will discuss lesson design, management systems and Internet vs LAN usage. We will review in detail what to look for and how to evaluate different software products.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 95% Interactive/5% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 30

**Featured Speaker**

**11:15 – 12:15 Salon 2**

**Ordinary Americans, Extraordinary Achievements (Repeated Monday @ 2:45 pm)**

*Nelson Lauver, American Storyteller Radio Journal, Saylorsburg, PA*

Nationally syndicated broadcast journalist, master communicator and human potential expert Nelson Lauver leaves flowcharts, statistics and graphs behind as he takes you on a thought provoking, moving and humorous journey into the unlimited potential within us all. As a worldclass storyteller, he motivates and entertains as he reveals the timeless secrets used by ordinary Americans who have become extraordinary achievers. He leaves you with inspiration, courage and memorable tools to use immediately in your professional and personal life.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Family Community/School Climate  
**Style:** 10% Interactive/90% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 150

**Featured Speaker**

**11:15 – 12:15 Salon 3**

**How to Become an "A" Teacher**

*Jim Burgett, Burgett Group, Highland, IL*

During this session we will consider: who is the most important person in the classroom and why, the difference between an "A" teacher and a "C" teacher, how to establish and maintain a balance between home and school, and a few "secrets" of teaching that truly make a difference. An insightful session that could change lives.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

**Keynote Speaker**

**11:15 – 12:15 Salon 4**

**Question and Answer Session**

*John Elder Robinson*



Participants will have an opportunity to meet with John and ask questions about his experiences.

**11:15 – 12:15 Salon 5**

**Interventions for Success: An RTI Model**

*Greg Bishop, Paula Didato, Cousino High School, Warren, MI*

This session will focus on the multiple programs Cousino High School uses to intervene with students who are not learning. Cousino High School has adopted the collaborative process of Professional Learning Communities. The session will focus on the multiple intervention strategies Cousino uses, such as credit recovery and creative scheduling of Academic Learning Centers resulting in a success rate of over 80% of students recovering one or more failed core classes while maintaining high levels of rigor. Collaboratively developed peer mentoring, character education, mandatory tutoring, and conflict resolution programs have been instituted with high levels of success.

**Grade Level:** HS/MS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Data/Assessment  
**Style:** 30% Interactive/70% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
 Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**Featured Speaker**

**11:15 – 12:15** **New Orleans Ballroom**

**RTI: Practical Classroom Interventions for Secondary Schools (Repeated Monday @ 2:45 pm)**

*Jim Wright, Intervention Central, Tully, NY*

To be effective at the middle and high school level, Response to Intervention (RTI) must be tailored to accommodate teams of teachers, compartmentalized instruction, highly demanding curriculum expectations, complex schedules, and students who are approaching adulthood and have a significant voice in their own educational programs. This workshop will provide secondary teachers and administrators with guidelines for putting RTI interventions into place in the busy middle or high school classroom. Participants will then review helpful research-based intervention ideas that they can use immediately for students with academic or motivation concerns. Websites will also be shown that contain free, research-based interventions of high quality for secondary schools.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture

**Capacity:** 160

**11:15 – 12:15** **Preservation A**

**Guided Reading: Quick Write, Word Work, Vocabulary Development, Fluency & Comprehension (Repeated Tuesday @ 1:30)**

*April DeCearse, Innovative Learning Solutions, Tampa, FL*

Guided Reading is the key! Based on exemplary practices used by high achieving schools, participants focus on the critical elements of guided reading within the comprehensive literacy framework. Within the framework, guided reading is critical in making this research-based literacy approach work for every child. Participants use interactive hands-on methods for creating dynamic student groups, managing the classroom, organizing the environment, using running records, building leveled book collections, using your curriculum and standards as the core. Each strategy builds on the five components of reading and teaches fluency and comprehension. Teachers leave the session with the skills to create strong readers through a quality guided reading approach!

**Grade Level:** P/MS

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture

**Capacity:** 80

**11:15 – 12:15** **Ruby (Computer Lab)**

**Using Graphic Novels in the Classroom**

*Michael Ash, Rock Cut Elementary, Harlem SD #122, Loves Park, IL*

This presentation cites many studies by well-known literacy experts (e.g. Stephen Krashen), which indicate that graphic novels foster enriched vocabulary, encourage reluctant readers to read, and increase comprehension among English Language Learners. Studies show that once educators overcome the notion that graphic novels are not "real reading," students who read them respond well, increase their reading comprehension, and begin to read "heavier" texts.

**Grade Level:** ALL

**Audience:** T

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture

**Capacity:** 40

**11:15 – 12:15** **Coral**

**Attention + Retention = Achievement**

*Thomas Freesmeier, Rock Cut Elementary, Harlem SD #122, Loves Park, IL*

Based on an Action Research Project conducted by Thomas Freesmeier at Saint Xavier University, student attention to instruction and retention of information is strongly related to achievement in the classroom. This can be accomplished through the use of multiple intelligences, brain-based learning and technology. Presenter has designed instruction to improve student achievement through the use of humor, storytelling and novelty.

**Grade Level:** ALL

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture

**Capacity:** 32

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**11:15 – 12:15 Turquoise B (Computer Lab)**

**Playford Pathways: An Evolution in Employability Education**

*Anna CTM White*

*Employment Pathways, South Australia, Davoren Park*

This session will introduce participants to unique Australian programs which have evolved through their partnering and inclusiveness. Methodologies for the collaboration of all stakeholders to develop, maintain and evolve a continuum of learning for young people will be discussed. The practicalities of building inspiration through to viable employment pathways for young people at risk, in a region that incorporates the most socially disadvantaged areas in the country, will be presented.

**Grade Level:** I, MS, HS  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Family/Community/School Climate  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**11:15 – 12:15 Jade**

**Project Citizen Engaging Youth**

*Cheryl Levi, Anne Krosnjar, Chuck Thompson*

*Project Citizen, Highland Park, IL*

Project Citizen is a problem-based learning experience that engages students in a series of structured, cooperative learning activities guided by teachers and adult volunteers. Working as a class, students learn to interact with their government and community leaders through a five-step process. Each congressional district has a project representative/support person. All resources are free to participating classes. Classes can enter a State Showcase in June 2009. Project culminating activities include an ISAT Reading Extended Response Prompt. Hundreds of IL students vote this their best learning experience of the year! Great way to work with nonfiction text.

**Grade Level:** I/MS/HS  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**Vendor Skybox Session**

*(Located above the Expo/Mega Center)*

**11:15 – 12:15 Sky Box 1**

**Superkids: Research in Action**

*Jane Vallin, Rowland Reading Foundation, LaGrange, IL*

Welcome to *Superkids!* The *Superkids* program provides core, comprehensive instruction for K-1 readers, combining a rigorous systematic, sequential skills base with engaging, lively characters and stories. Come explore five key evidence-based principles of early reading instruction: language foundation, explicit instruction and application, multi-modal immersion, integration of the language arts, and motivation. This engaging session is targeted for pre-K - grade 1.

**Grade Level:** EC/P  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 30

**Vendor Skybox Session**

*(Located above the Expo/Mega Center)*

**11:15 – 12:15 Sky Box 2**

**Career Education Teachers – Free Resources!**

*D. Diane Mahina, Linda Walker, Illinois Office of Educational Services/SIU, Springfield, IL*

Most educators do not realize the amount of high level academics taught in career and technical education programs. Research shows that CTE program computers function at academic levels equal to general education. CTE students graduate at high levels and are more likely to complete a post secondary career program. This presentation will highlight a new curriculum initiative helpful to both career and academic teachers.

**Grade Level:** HS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 10% Interactive/90% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 30

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

### Vendor Skybox Session

(Located above the Expo/Mega Center)

**11:15 – 12:15**

**Sky Box 3**

#### Jingles, Rhythm, Repetition and Fun!

*Michael Schafstall, Shurley English, Carmel, IN*

"My students act like they have never heard of a noun! Did their teacher ever teach parts of speech last year? I cannot even get them to write a complete sentence, let alone a paragraph." In this session, you will see students that have successfully resolved these issues with the use of jingles, rhythm, repetition, and fun easy writing outlines. Activities will be presented from Shurley English. DOOR PRIZES.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS

**Audience:** A/T/SE

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture

**Capacity:** 30

### Featured Speaker

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Salon 2**

#### Inside the Mind of a Kid with Learning Problems

*Nelson Lauver, American Storyteller Radio Journal*

*Saylorsburg, PA*

Nelson Lauver made the choice to be the "bad" kid instead of the "dumb" kid. He was the out-of-control kid that every teacher dreaded having in his or her classroom. At age 18, he entered society as a functionally illiterate young adult. But then a chance encounter with someone who uttered the word "dyslexia" changed his life forever. With a refreshing, humorous approach, Nelson relates his unique insight into the mind of a kid with learning problems. He entertains and inspires, helping you to find a new understanding and enthusiasm, even when working with your most challenging students.

**Grade Level:** ALL

**Audience:** A/T/SE

**Strand:** Special Education/Subgroup Populations

**Style:** 10% Interactive/90% Lecture

**Capacity:** 150

### Featured Speaker

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Salon 3**

#### Quality Service All the Time

*Jim Burgett, Burgett Group, Highland, IL*

One of the most important aspects of a successful classroom, school, or system is the ability to understand, incorporate, and provide quality service. A workable model will be offered with insights that will truly change the way educators think and teach. This session is an eye opener with concepts that can be put to use immediately.

**Grade Level:** ALL

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture

**Capacity:** 64

### Featured School

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Salon 4**

#### Succeeding with Standards Aligned Classroom Practices - Kankakee Jr. High School

*Edison Barber, Michelle Cooper, Laura Shellie,*

*Robert DeOliverira, Kankakee Jr. High School, Kankakee, IL*

By implementing strategies from the school improvement plan, including double blocks from math and reading, and a standards aligned classroom approach, Kankakee Junior High School has been successful in continuing to move students ahead academically for the past several years.

**Grade Level:** I/MS

**Audience:** A/T

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture

**Capacity:** 64

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Salon 5**

#### Research-based Strategies to Engage Students

*Deborah Endress, Kathy Holloway,*

*Lisa VanderSchaaf, Performance Learning Systems,*

*Shannon, IL*

You will walk away with 25 activities that can be adapted to all subject area and grade levels. These strategies are brain-friendly and based on Gardner's multiple intelligence theory. In this interactive session, several experienced educators will share a potpourri of research-based ideas to reach all students.

**Grade Level:** ALL

**Audience:** T/SE

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture

**Capacity:** 64

#### Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**Double Session**

**1:30 – 3:45**

**Salon 6**

**All Hands on Deck: Math Games for Grades 3-5**

*Jane Felling, Box Cars & One-Eyed Jacks, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*

Are you a teacher who is looking for ways to challenge, motivate and engage every learner in your math program? Come prepared to play in this interactive math games session. Handouts and game ideas will focus on the operations, place value concepts and more. Strategies for making math come to life will be provided throughout. Ideas for multi-level games, home connections, afterschool programs, and ESL will be shared. Close the achievement gap with these easy to adapt, ready to use ideas. Gameboards provided.

**Grade Level:** I  
**Audience:** A/T/SE  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 90% Interactive/10% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

**Featured Speaker**

**1:30 – 2:30**

**New Orleans Ballroom**

**RTI: Classroom Interventions for Elementary Schools**

*Jim Wright, Intervention Central, Tully, NY*

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a structured problem-solving model designed to help schools to more effectively meet the needs of struggling students. This workshop will provide elementary teachers and administrators with guidelines for putting RTI interventions into place in the classroom. Participants will then review practical, research-based intervention ideas that they can use immediately for students with academic or behavioral concerns. Websites will also be shown that contain free, research-based interventions of high quality.

**Grade Level:** EC/P//MS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 160

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Ben Hogan**

**Connecting with Students to Increase Motivation (Repeated Tuesday @ 1:30)**

*Lea Ann Fairall, The Power of Positive Speaking, Canonsburg, PA*

Are you frustrated because you are having difficulty motivating and engaging students? Does it bother you to look into the face of students who seemingly have no interests, drive, or ambition? Motivated students are engaged students. Engaged students are ready to learn. This session will explore techniques which will help you connect on a personal level with unmotivated students, Generation Y and Millennials. By “connecting” with your students, you are better able to increase their motivation, help them overcome their self-defeating behaviors, and ultimately allow you to accomplish your daily goals for their academic success.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 40

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Arnold Palmer**

**Classroom Excellence - Conquering Discipline Problems**

*Alvin Albert, Albert Management Group, Marietta, GA*

This session will review theories of low level discipline behaviors and how they impact children. How teachers currently deal with discipline problems and new thoughts and techniques on how to deal with problems and how to eliminate behaviors in the classroom will also be reviewed.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Family/Community/School Climate  
**Style:** 30% Interactive/70% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 45

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Preservation A**

**Essentials of Literacy Through Reading & Writing (Repeated Tuesday @ 2:45)**

*April DeCeasre, Innovative Learning Solutions, Tampa, FL*

Come and learn how to meet your state standards through this amazing tool based on research and effectively organized! The Essentials of Literacy tool becomes an effective assessment tool as writing and reading proficiency develops throughout the school year! Children see themselves as readers and writers and have a genuine understanding of their purposes. This a workshop you won't want to miss!

**Grade Level:** P//MS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 80

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
 Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**1:30 – 2:30 Marsalis I**

**Building Math Concepts with Strategies from Singapore**

Angela Simmons, Shirley Carlson,  
Mid-Illini Educational Cooperative, Pekin, IL

Are you looking for strategies you can use to develop your students' conceptual understanding of mathematics? Unlock the secrets of the much acclaimed Singapore Math through a hands-on exploration of place value and mental math strategies. Add some of Singapore's most powerful strategies to your teacher toolbox to support your current mathematics instruction.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS  
**Audience:** T/SE  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 80% Interactive/20% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**1:30 – 2:30 Marsalis II**

**The Seven Strategies of Assessment for Learning**

Amanda Zirzow, Anne Cole, Brittney Racine, Georgia Wirth  
Clinton Rosett MS DeKalb #428, DeKalb, IL

Learn how a middle school Standards Aligned Classroom (SAC) team uses Rick Stiggins' Seven Strategies to create lessons in which students generate their own ISAT writing rubric and use that rubric to critique their own pieces of writing.

**Grade Level:** MS  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 100% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 48

**Double Session**

**1:30 – 3:45 Ruby (Computer Lab)**

**Reading Ignited!**

Zoe Cassidy, Debi Donze, Amy Jo Mascal, Lynette Williams  
Streator High School, Streator, IL

Have reluctant readers? Want them to be excited? Discover research-based strategies to motivate primary through high school students using technology. As 'digital natives', students of all ages are enthralled with technology. The catch is how to use it to ignite and incite students in the classroom and raise student achievement – especially in reading. This workshop will share several scientifically research-based FREE web sites that appeal to multiple literacies and modalities, gaming ideas, handhelds, and lesson ideas that may be implemented within the classroom from kindergarten through high school. Presented by classroom teacher researchers.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 85% Interactive/15% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 40

**Double Session**

**1:30 – 3:45 Coral**

**Homani - Freshman Transition Program**

Michele Blaser, Ehren Jarrett, Gretchen Fillweber, Darryl Rohrer, Hononegah High School Dist. #207, Rockton, IL

Homani, a Native American word which means "New Journey" was developed in 1999 by Hononegah's Student Support Team. The academic pilot program is in its 2nd year and getting positive results. For example, Homani students increased their GPA by almost a full letter grade. Attendance and discipline results were also extremely promising. The session will address the components of the pilot program, results in student achievement, funding ideas and the passion needed to create a pilot program at the high school level.

**Grade Level:** HS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Special Education/Subgroup Populations  
**Style:** 10% Interactive/90% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**1:30 – 2:30 Sapphire**

**Click Your Way to Success**

Dan Bohn, Hononegah High School Dist. #207, Rockton, IL

How can you get math students to actively engage in ACT prep work? The answer is just a click away. Through the use of the Turning Point Classroom Response System, this presenter has created a stimulating environment where every student is working ACT practice problems. The Turning Point program interacts with Microsoft PowerPoint and allows the instructor to create multiple choice questions. The instructor is able to provide immediate feedback on each math problem, allowing students to ask questions and generating discussions on certain topics.

**Grade Level:** HS  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 75% Interactive/25% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**1:30 – 2:30 Turquoise A**

**Easy Steps to Learning Content Area Vocabulary**

Roberta Sejnost, Kane County Regional Office of Education, Darien, IL

Research tells us that content vocabulary is not learned incidentally. Furthermore, direct instruction of content vocabulary increases students' knowledge of content area concepts. Join this session to learn effective strategies for helping students master content area vocabulary.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS  
**Audience:** A/T/SE  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**Double Session**

**1:30 – 3:45**

**Turquoise B**

**Free Representative Democracy in America  
Resources From Congress**

*Anne Krosnjar, Cheryl Levi*

*Center for Civic Education and Constitutional Rights  
Foundation, Libertyville, IL*

America's representative democracy is a constantly evolving process, one that relies on public participation and the Voices of the People. Congress has funded the creation of government and history resources for grades 4 – 12. Each full session attendee will receive a set of the free resources. Participants will also receive a list of ISAT Reading Extended Response strategies that can be used with the nonfiction resources in support of the ISAT Reading Test. This session is for teachers and librarians.

**Grade Level:** I/MS/HS

**Audience:** T

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 60% Interactive/40% Lecture

**Capacity:** 32

**Double Session**

**1:30 – 3:45**

**Jade**

**Teaching Science? Don't Worry, You Can Do  
This!**

*Gayle Bianchi, Marseilles Elementary - MES #150,  
Marseilles, IL*

Participants will be engaged in hands-on activities and learn how to use a data lab book, which incorporates writing and other subjects into science class. Leave the session with activities to use with your next science lesson. A variety of assessment ideas, ideas for gifted, as well as other differential learning techniques, will be presented. Join Gayle and take advantage of her twenty-four plus years of experience teaching science, using humor to make science and learning fun!! Leave with a few doldrums beaters to wake students up and get them excited about learning.

**Grade Level:** I/MS

**Audience:** T

**Strand:** Content/Instruction

**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture

**Capacity:** 32

**Vendor Skybox Session**

*(Located above the Expo/Mega Center)*

**1:30 – 2:30**

**Sky Box 2**

**ISAT and PSAE Practice Tests**

*Michael Vallosio, Software Technology, Inc. (STI),  
Tremont, IL*

Prepare your students for success on state exams! STI's Achievement Services Division is now offering Illinois schools two administrations of practice tests for the ISAT and PSAE exams in Reading and Math. These exams are built on the Illinois testing blue print and are the perfect tool to pre-test your students and target your curriculum accordingly. A second test is available for winter testing so you can measure progress and/or initiate vital remediation well before the state exams.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS/HS

**Audience:** A/T

**Strand:** Data Assessment

**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture

**Capacity:** 30

**Featured Speaker**

**2:45 – 3:45**

**Salon 2**

**Ordinary Americans, Extraordinary  
Achievements**

*Nelson Lauver, American Storyteller Radio Journal  
Saylorsburg, PA*

Nationally syndicated broadcast journalist, master communicator and human potential expert, Nelson Lauver leaves flowcharts, statistics and graphs behind as he takes you on a thought provoking, moving and humorous journey into the unlimited potential within us all. As a worldclass storyteller, he motivates and entertains as he reveals the timeless secrets used by ordinary Americans who have become extraordinary achievers. He leaves you with inspiration, courage and memorable tools to use immediately in your professional and personal life.

**Grade Level:** ALL

**Audience:** ALL

**Strand:** Family Community/School Climate

**Style:** 10% Interactive/90% Lecture

**Capacity:** 150

**Key**

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**Featured Speaker**

**2:45 – 3:45**

**Salon 3**

**Teaching Skills That Make a Difference**

*Jim Burgett, Burgett Group, Highland, IL*

This session will cover several concepts that help teachers become more effective, exciting, and efficient. Topics include how to begin a class with 100% involvement, how to deal with discipline, ways to save time with paperwork, delving, proximity, extra credit, rethinking tests, and lots more. Fun, fast, helpful.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

**2:45 – 3:45**

**Salon 4**

**Integrating Geography into Reading**

*Glen Weatherwax, Linda Weatherwax*

*Illinois Geographic Alliance, National Geographic Society, Sterling, IL*

Learn how to incorporate geographic concepts and skills into your already-existing language arts/reading curriculum. Test scores reflect the need for more experiences involving non-fiction reading. Lesson plans and strategies shared follow National/State Standards. Leave this presentation with a multitude of materials, ideas, and door prizes to take back into your own classroom.

**Grade Level:** I  
**Audience:** A/T  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 40% Interactive/60% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

**2:45 – 3:45**

**Salon 5**

**Great Ideas from Great Teachers**

*Deborah Endress, Janis Jones, Kris Yingling, Angela Kamper, Lisa Vanderschaf, Julie Mensendike, ROE #47, Shannon, IL*

Hear 6 great teachers share their favorite, tried-and-true lessons. All strategies are based on ISBE's Best Practices in Reading. The idea for this session came out of a graduate course discussion group where participants agreed that the best part of professional development was the ideas shared by colleagues.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** T/SE  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 50% Interactive/50% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 64

**Featured Speaker**

**2:45 – 3:45**

**New Orleans Ballroom**

**RTI: Practical Classroom Interventions for Secondary Schools**

*Jim Wright, Intervention Central, Tully, NY*

To be effective at the middle and high school level, Response to Intervention (RTI) must be tailored to accommodate teams of teachers, compartmentalized instruction, highly demanding curriculum expectations, complex schedules, and students who are approaching adulthood and have a significant voice in their own educational programs. This workshop will provide secondary teachers and administrators with guidelines for putting RTI interventions into place in the busy middle or high school classroom. Participants will then review helpful research-based intervention ideas that they can use immediately for students with academic or motivation concerns. Websites will also be shown that contain free, research-based interventions of high quality for secondary schools.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 160

**2:45 – 3:45**

**Ben Hogan**

**Making ISAT Prep Fun!**

*Jason Karno, Rachele Mendez*

*Glen Flora Elementary - Unit Dist. #60, Waukegan, IL*

Can you imagine your students actually enjoying learning for the ISAT? This presentation will focus on two of the most difficult parts of the ISAT: reading extended response and math extended response. Teachers will leave with strategies and instructions to implement right away. These "cheat sheets" have been designed based on the Illinois State ISAT rubrics. The lessons involve songs, chants, active participation, and practice. Taking the ISAT is like playing a video game. Learn how to teach your students to score.

**Grade Level:** EC/P  
**Audience:** T  
**Strand:** Data/Assessment  
**Style:** 40% Interactive/60% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 40

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**2:45 – 3:45 Arnold Palmer**

**Time to Teach**

Bonnie Foust, Center for Human Potential, Shannon, IL  
Time to Teach is an evidence-based classroom management model which uses practical, proven and powerful strategies. All of the strategies are research-based and are ready to use in the classroom! Every teacher has known the frustration of losing valuable instruction time to matters of discipline. Time to Teach is a program proven to restore that lost time to teachers and students in a way that is simple, fair, and mutually respectful. More time to teach = more time to learn = higher student achievement.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** A/T  
**Strand:** Family/Community/School Climate  
**Style:** 40% Interactive/60% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 45

**2:45 – 3:45 Preservation A**

**Smart Centers with a Purpose: Read, Write, Activity, Challenge**

April DeCearse, Innovative Learning Solutions, Tampa, FL  
April will show you how to build students' strengths through authentic research-based strategies supporting national and state standards. Smart Centers align to the five reading components, state standards, Bloom's Taxonomy, and Howard Gander's Multiple Intelligences! Each Smart Center embraces your core curriculum with every task and allows for differentiation to meet the needs of diverse learners including gifted students, second language learners, and special needs children. Through hands-on approaches, you will learn how to implement the LLS model of "Read, Write, Activity, and Challenge" into all content areas. Come and learn the BEST way to approach center time!

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 25% Interactive/75% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 80

**2:45 – 3:45 Marsalis I**

**Computation Strategies with a Singapore Twist**

Angela Simmons, Shirley Carlson  
Mid-Illini Educational Cooperative, Pekin, IL  
Basic computation skills impact student achievement? Could you benefit from learning addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division strategies that take students from a concrete to pictorial to abstract progression? Join us for an interactive exploration of Singapore's computation strategies and support your struggling math students by introducing them to multiple ways to solve basic computation problems.

**Grade Level:** P/I/MS  
**Audience:** T/SE  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 80% Interactive/20% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

**2:45 – 3:45 Marsalis II**

**Research-based Interventions for RTI**

Christopher Cook, Ph.D., Pat Graham, CSC Learning, Burr Ridge, IL  
This interactive session will review the requirements of the three-tier intervention model, then demonstrate and discuss the design and implementation of three research-based, web-enabled reading and math interventions - Lexia Reading, Symphony Math and Reading Plus. A rubric will be introduced that may be used to evaluate the degree to which interventions meet the requirements of the RTI/multi-tier model. Case studies from Illinois districts will be shared, including specific implementation models and best practices from RTI implementations. Discussion topics will include: current research in reading and math instruction, tier I, II and III strategies for grades PreK-12, data-driven progress monitoring, flexible grouping and scheduling strategies and implementation models for RTI.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 30% Interactive/70% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 48

**2:45 – 3:45 Sapphire**

**High on Physical Education**

Sarah Buck, Chicago State University, Chicago, IL  
Physical education waivers are being granted at all grade levels in favor of increased time in academics. However, research indicates that from a cognitive and physical health standpoint, this practice is detrimental to students. This presentation provides research-based evidence of the benefits of P.E. during the school day with particular focus on academic achievement.

**Grade Level:** ALL  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Content/Instruction  
**Style:** 100% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)

**2:45 – 3:45** **Turquoise A**  
**Incoming Freshman Academy A Collaborative Project**

*Jodi Scott, Jeff Whitsitt, Regional Office of Education #27, Monmouth, IL*

In this session hear how the Regional Office of Education #27 is leading the way in a collaborative project for local school districts. We have developed a program design that will provide an accelerated learning experience for students who may have difficulty meeting the standards of the high school curriculum. The goal of the Freshman Academy is to improve skills in reading, writing, and mathematics and increase confidence of students entering high school.

**Grade Level:** MS/HS  
**Audience:** ALL  
**Strand:** Data/Assessment  
**Style:** 20% Interactive/80% Lecture  
**Capacity:** 32

Key

Grade Level: EC (Early Childhood), P (Primary), I (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), HS (High School)  
Audience: A (Administrators), T (Teachers), SE (Special Education), TC (Technology)