

## **BREAKOUT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Session #1: Amazing New Features of SMART Notebook Software**

Presenters: Marcia Jeans, *Instructional Technology Coach, Instructional Technology*  
Tina Brunn, *Instructional Technology Coach, Stonewall Jackson High School*

Attention all SMART Board users - Did you know a new version of SMART Notebook has been recently released and includes many exciting features that will engage your students? In this session you will get a glimpse at the new features: Extreme Collaboration, 3D Tools, GeoGebra, and SMART Response VE (software that enables assessments on ANY internet-connected device.) You will love the new features and what you can do with them in your classroom!

### **Session #2: The Active Classroom**

Presenters: Joy Alton, *Seventh Grade Teacher, Rippon Middle School*  
Kathy Judge, *Math Coach, Rippon Middle School*

This session explores many different activities, routines, and procedures that can be incorporated into classrooms which engage students and encourage active learning. Some of the ideas that will be explored include using exercise balls instead of chairs, music cues for classroom movement, and interactive technology.

### **Session #3: Porter Tech Smackdown**

Presenters: Jessica Gibson, *Sixth Grade Teacher, Porter Traditional School*  
Derra Banks, *Librarian, Porter Traditional School*

Join Porter educators as they share their favorite Web 2.0 tools and iPad apps in this fast-paced and interactive session. Discover ed tech tools that can be integrated into nearly every classroom to promote communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity. This session will focus on tools and apps that will enhance your teaching, engage students, increase efficiency and improve student learning. Participants are encouraged to bring their own device in order to interact and explore!

### **Session #4: Mystery Location in Action**

Presenter: Nicole Jones, *ITRT, Porter Traditional School*

Watch geography skills soar as you collaborate and communicate with classrooms around the world. Mystery Location is a fast-paced, 20 question geography game. Students use deductive reasoning to figure out where the other class is located. It is a highly engaging, interactive, student-led critical thinking challenge adaptable for any grade. Mystery Location develops communication skills, map reading and geographical knowledge while integrating technology into the classroom. Whether you have 1 computer or more technology than you know what to do Mystery Location is for you!

### **Session #5: Practical Application of the PWCS Balanced Literacy Instruction Framework in a Middle School Classroom**

Presenters: Blaire Morris, *Sixth Grade Language Arts Teacher, Rippon Middle School*  
Susan Handy, *Reading Specialist, Rippon Middle School*

This workshop will present strategies to incorporate the methods of gradual release as it pertains to the PWCS Balanced Literacy Instructional Framework. Areas of Focus will include reading workshop as it

applies to novel study, grammar, and vocabulary development. A variety of instructional strategies, flexible graphic organizers, interactive notes, along with ideas for student-created products will be showcased.

### **Session #6: Digging Deeper with DART**

Presenters: Terri Swanson, *Administrative Coordinator of Data, Office of Accountability*  
Cheryl Tibbs, *Data Analyst II, Office of Accountability*

DART, the Data Analytics and Reporting Tool, supports data driven decision making for continuous improvement on four levels: division, school, teacher/classroom and student. Properly used, it enables analysis of student scholastic performance and of teacher instructional performance, as well as advanced instructional preparation for students in the forthcoming school year(s). Trend data help show progress towards attaining strategic goals.

### **Session #7: Get in Gear with STEM**

Presenters: Kimberly McGee, *Professional Development Specialist, Science, Office of Professional Learning*  
Kris Gushue, *Professional Development Specialist, Mathematics, Office of Professional Learning*

STEM is a non-traditional approach that removes the barriers separating the four disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and integrates them into real world, rigorous learning experiences for students. During this session, math and science educators will work in teams as they engaging in STEM investigations aligned with content standards. Participants will receive resources and practice that will allow them to implement these investigations in their classroom.

### **Session #8: Let's Give Them Something to Talk About**

Presenter: Stephanie Richards, *Reading Specialist, Tyler Elementary School*

This presentation highlights Tyler Elementary School's success promoting collaboration and active listening skills in the classroom. The strategies emphasized here will help students develop a life-long love of reading, which will promote academic success in all areas, and develop the higher order thinking skills necessary to master the Virginia Standards of Learning Assessments.

### **Session #9: Failure and Its Connection to Learning**

Presenter: Amie Weinberg, *Professional Development Specialist, Office of Professional Learning*

Think back to a recent experience when you tried to learn something new. Were you immediately successful at the new task? Or did it take several attempts, and possibly some reflection to figure out how to make things work for you?

Guided failure, or learning from your mistakes, can actually help individuals learn about persistence and problem-solving. When you try to learn something new and struggle with the task, you are presented with an opportunity to engage your creativity and innovation.

Session attendees will be introduced to ways to foster various skills in themselves and their students, by viewing failure as opportunities for learning.

## **Session #10: Enhancing Writing Instruction through Mentor Texts and Self-Regulation**

Presenter: RJ Lucciotti, *Fifth Grade Teacher, Coles Elementary School*

This session will explore two research-based methods for improving writing instruction; mentor texts and self-regulation. Mentor texts allow teachers to model exemplary writing through children's literature, while self-regulation strategies help children to use meta-cognition to monitor their own writing progress. Participants will receive a comprehensive list of mentor texts broken down by grade level and skill, as well as, samples of self-regulation checklists to be used in their writing instruction.

## **Session #11: Inclusive Practices—More than Wearing Our Team Shirt**

Presenter: Vicki Fornasar, *Administrative Coordinator, Inclusive Practices, Office of Special Education*

We're familiar with the saying, "There's no I in team." Taking a look at how we define ourselves and others may have us thinking twice about that statement. This session focuses on how perspectives may affect the cohesiveness of working together.

## **Session #12: You don't have to be an Instructional Technology Coach to Use Technology to Engage Students and Meet the Needs of ESOL & Special Education Students**

Presenters: Cyrine Kribbs, *LD Teacher, Porter Traditional School*

Karen Garay, *Third Grade Teacher, Porter Traditional School*

Are you ready to increase student achievement in your classroom? At this workshop you will learn strategies for transforming your teaching and discover innovative apps and web tools for differentiating your instruction. This workshop is designed for teachers who are or aren't used to using technology in the classroom. The ideas that will be presented will also work for a one iPad or one computer classroom. Participants will have the opportunity to learn how to use a variety of technology to create engaging and differentiated lessons in all subject areas. They will have hands on experience with apps, as well as web-based tools such as Glogster, Blendspace and Vocaroo and learn how these specific tools can be used during centers, small and whole group instruction, as well as paperless homework opportunities. The presenters will also demonstrate how this type of technology can be an efficient and research based strategy to meet individual needs of ESOL and SPED students.

## **Session #13: Maximizing Student Learning through Effective Feedback**

Presenter: Tim Neall, *Professional Development Specialist, Office of Professional Learning*

Providing students feedback is a research-based component of quality instruction. In this session, participants will explore five forms of feedback and how they impact thinking. Participants will reflect on their own feedback mechanisms and how they can engage students in the learning process.

## **Session #14: Involving a Parent Community in the Learning Process: A Parent's Field Trip into the Classroom**

Presenter: Roxanne Anthony, *Fifth Grade Teacher, Porter Traditional School*

Participants will be introduced to UStream Broadcast and explore possibilities of the benefits of involving the parent community in the learning process. UStream is a free live broadcast that is used mostly for businesses and social networking, but can be used in the 21st century classroom to bridge the gap and involve parent stakeholders from any remote location (work, home, etc.).

## **Session #15: Don't Judge a Book by Its Cover**

Presenters: Artise Gill, *Professional Development Specialist, Language Arts, Office of Professional Learning*  
Jennifer Hughes, *Librarian, Patriot High School*

This workshop will focus on the importance of literature by touching on three aspects that will ensure a positive experience for students: the importance of a flourishing classroom library, choosing literature that will support student learning and how close reading can support and increase stamina in student reading.

## **Session #16: Maximizing English Language Development Instruction for ELs in the K-5 Balanced Literacy Classroom**

Presenters: Sarah Serrano, *ESOL Program Specialist, ESOL Office*  
Kimberly Peterson, *ESOL Professional Development Coordinator, ESOL Office*

What could English Language Development (ELD) look like in the K-5 Balanced Literacy block? How can we maximize ELD instruction to have the most impact on language development and academic success? What steps can we take to guide teachers toward accelerating language growth and content achievement? Join us as we view video clips, discuss language development instruction, and create action steps toward improving instruction for the success of our ELs!

## **Session #17: Integration across the Curriculum**

Presenters: Kimberly Lennox, *Gifted Specialist, Porter Traditional School*  
Alex Jaffee, *Second Grade Teacher, Porter Traditional School*

**CALLING ALL SPECIAL AGENTS!** Are you tired of the world you live in? It's time to desert your homeland and create a new civilization!

Are you hooked? The 2nd graders at Porter Traditional School certainly were! This session will highlight brain-based learning through connections with curriculum. Hear from a gifted specialist and 2nd grade teacher on how their students used the children's picture book, *Weslandia*, as a spring board for content integration across all subjects including technology integration. From researching habitats and selecting a geographical location to incorporating natural resources and writing a persuasive script, students created a civilization that brought learning to life. Participants will also be introduced to other sample units for first and third grade.

### **Session #18: ADA & Long-Term Absences**

Presenters: James Fagan, *Legal Counsel, Prince William County Schools*  
Deborah Sparks, *Director, Benefits & Retirement Services*

Program will discuss the complexities of the American Disability Act and an employee long-term absences; when it is appropriate to continue to accommodate and employee through absence.

### **Session #19: STEAMing Through Interdisciplinary Connections: Learning through LittleBits, Legos, and Snap Circuits**

Presenters: Jason Calhoun, *Supervisor, Science and Family Life Education*  
Joyce Zsembery, *Supervisor, The Arts*

Corporations, business owners, and academia consistently list the abilities to be creative, solve problems, and work collaboratively, as skills needed to succeed in a 21st Century workforce. Participants will explore ways to bring opportunities for students to develop these traits in all classrooms, regardless of the content area, with an additional focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). In particular, participants will be exposed to and be able to explore utilizing easily available consumables with equipment like LittleBits, Snap Circuits, and Legos as part of their project-based learning opportunities.

### **Session #20: Overview of WIDA for Teacher Leaders and Administrators**

Presenters: Christina Jennings, *Supervisor, English Learner Instruction, ESOL Office*  
Janel Sax, *ESOL Program Specialist, ESOL Office*

What is WIDA? How can I better understand the WIDA standards and their implication for teaching English Learners (ELs)? What do the key look-fors on the Classroom Look-fors Protocol Tool for WIDA really mean? Join us as we learn about the key look-fors, WIDA's focus on academic language, and how to support educators of ELs.

### **Session #21: Surveys: The Art of Asking Questions**

Presenter: Nancy Carey, *Administrative Coordinator Program Evaluation, Office of Accountability*

The presentation will increase participants' understanding of how surveys can enhance their understanding of issues that affect their approach to leadership, curriculum development, and instruction.

### **Session #22: Investing 101**

Presenter: Steve Singer, *Lincoln Financial*

Educate attendees on the basics of investing, retirement planning and programs available for PWCS employees.

### **Session #23: Collegial Conversations: Meeting the Needs of English Learners Identified with a Disability**

Presenters: Donna Hankins, *ESOL Dual Language Assessment & EL Intervention Specialist*  
Eileen Lockhart, *ESOL Program Specialist, ESOL Office*

School Administrators, School Leadership Teams and Central Office instructional leaders are invited to participate in collegial conversations about meeting the individual needs of students who are English

Learners identified with a disability (EL SWD). Meeting unique needs of individual students requires the exchange of expertise, as well as meaningful dialogue about not only English language development and the impact that a disability may have on a student, but also the intersection of language goals and IEP goals. If you're looking for ways to facilitate this dialogue among the professional educators you lead, join us!

### **Session #24: Survey Data! Survey Data! Survey Data! Of What Use to Me Are Survey Data in Improving Customer Service**

Presenter: Ken Hinson, *Supervisor, Program Evaluation, Office of Accountability*

Often organizations receive survey results and are overwhelmed with the data, find it difficult to understand, and don't get the opportunity to use results to improve products or services provided to customers. The presentation will provide information and actions to improve understanding and enhance use of survey results.

### **Session #25: Oh My! Colleagues Observing**

Presenters: Kaye Bush, *Professional Development Coordinator, TIPA*

Dan Birch, *Fourth Grade Teacher, Sinclair Elementary School*

This session will provide the participant an interactive overview about instructional rounds and the important roles teachers play when serving on an instructional round team. Participants will have the opportunity to hear from Sinclair teachers about their experience and ask questions.

### **Session #26: Something Old, Something New: Cross-walking the Professional Educator Performance Standards with the Culturally Responsive Instructional Indicators**

Presenters: Natalie Bonshire, *Director, TIPA*

Marietta Bradinova, *ESOL Program Specialist, ESOL Office*

Emmaline Wimberley, *ESOL Program Specialist, ESOL Office*

Join us in exploring how the culturally responsive classroom indicators connect with the PPP Professional Educator Performance Standards. Participants will engage in a cross-walk activity that will promote discussion and reflection as they discover the myriad correlations. They will be empowered to turn-key this professional development with their own staff to facilitate better understanding of the connections.

### **Session #27: Raise the Bar for Problem Solving - Elementary**

Presenter: Donna Stofko, *Elementary Mathematics Coordinator*

Come see how using the Singapore bar model method helps students understand mathematical relationships in problems which in turn help to prevent errors in selection of operations. This visual approach to solving problems clarifies the choice of operations for one-step problems; but its real power lies in the simplicity it lends to more complex, multistep problems. Participants will also be provided with links for additional support with using this strategy.

### **Session #28: Bar Models: An Introduction to a Powerful Strategy for Solving Problems**

Presenter: Carol Knight, *Supervisor, Mathematics*

Participants will learn how students can solve algebra and other story problems by using simple diagrams. These bar diagrams help students see the relationships between the numbers in a problem and be able to write the correct equations to solve them. Using these will help all students become more successful in problem solvers.

### **Session #29: Preparing PWCS Students for Life after High School-Ready to Go!**

Presenters: Ken Bassett, *Director, Office of Student Learning*

Carolyn Custard, *Director, Office of Student Services*

Rebekah Schlatter, *Supervisor of Secondary Counseling and Support Programs*

Participants will learn about the new "Ready to Go" initiative wherein bold steps are being take to better prepare our students for life after high school. Starting as early as sixth grade, students across the division will be exposed to the many career and post-secondary educational opportunities available to them through the delivery of classroom lessons by school counselors. In high school, the opportunities to earn college credit and prepare for college placement tests will help our students get ready for entry into two and four year colleges across the country. Participants will also learn about steps being taken to involve parents in the post-secondary planning process.

### **Session #30: Positive Thinking for a Positive You!**

Presenter: Maria Burgos-Singleton, *Supervisor of Global Learning & Culturally Responsive Instruction*

In this session participants will explore the internal constructs of positive thinking and the benefits of finding good things in any situation.

### **Session #31: Motivate, Mobilize, LEAD-Teachers as Leaders**

Presenter: Jamie Hughes, *Professional Development Specialist, Social Studies, Office of Professional Learning*

This session is for educators who are interested in effecting change by becoming an owner not a renter. Participants will interact with a variety of ideas, strategies, and resources that aim to strengthen relationships, communication, and a collective focus that is on teaching and learning. Teachers can see both the problems and students clearly enough to imagine solutions. Resources will be provided.

### **Session #32: Leading Reflective Conversations that Matter**

Presenters: Josie Stevenson, *Professional Development Coordinator, TIPA*

Koen Madsen, *Professional Development Coordinator, TIPA*

What is your definition of reflection? How do you use "reflection" in your practice? Before we can lead teams in reflective inquiry we ourselves have to understand what reflection is and how we practice it ourselves. In this session participants will first have a chance to systematically reflect and make connections to their own attitudes and ideas about children and teaching. Participants will then engage in conversations and activities that will enhance their ability to lead their teams' practices in reflection.

### **Session #33: Charging Your Confidence, Unleashing Your Power**

Presenter: Janet Greer, *Director, Office of Professional Learning*

This session will provide an opportunity for participants to identify strategies necessary for building efficacy when challenges occur and help others do the same.

### **Session #34: Preparing for DOJ School Visits**

Presenter: Janine Sadki, *Director, ESOL Office*

This presentation is especially prepared for all educators to assist with ESOL Program implementation. It will address administrator and teacher responsibilities outlined in the Settlement Agreement in relation to preparing your school for a potential visit from the Department of Justice.

### **Session #35: So, what is MTSS (exactly?), and how can it help my school?**

Presenter: Carla Henderson, *CEIS Professional Development Specialist, Office of Special Education*

In this workshop, participants will receive a broad overview of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and explore its application in PWCS. School staff will co-present and share data regarding how their school has changed and/or implemented MTSS in their buildings. Participants will also learn next steps they can take to become a MTSS school.

### **Session #36: Enhancing My Communication Skills**

Presenter: Carolyn Burns-Speller, *Account Executive, ValueOptions, Inc.*

This interactive training focuses on enhancing one's communication skills. It allows one to understand the importance of listening/effectively communicating one's needs and being able to recognize/accept and learn how to get along with others—even the very difficult personalities.