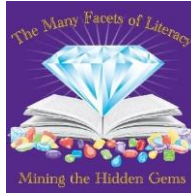


Palmetto State Literacy Association
The 48th Annual PSLA Conference
The Many Facets of Literacy: Mining the Hidden Gems
February 22-24, 2024

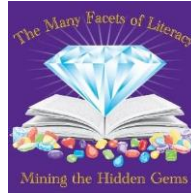


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Pre-Conference Schedule
Thursday, February 22
8:10 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.

Pre-Conference AM Sessions		
2-Hour AM Sessions (8:10-10:10 a.m.)	1-Hour AM Sessions (8:10-9:10 a.m.)	1-Hour AM Sessions (9:20-10:20 a.m.)
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Unearthing Cultural Gems: Using Literacy to Bridge the Learning Gaps for Multilingual Learners</i> Dr. Denise Furlong</p> <p>As we collaborate to engage our learners with diverse needs in authentic literacy experiences, we are empowering them to find their voices and make themselves heard. Through literacy, we make connections that bridge cultures, languages, and unique perspectives as we “mine the hidden gems” of literacy together. In this session, we will discuss ways to consider meaningful literacy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Supercharging Literacy in Learning-Challenged Students: Mixing in Executive Functioning Mojo and Support Superpowers</i> Christine Powell</p> <p>The session focuses on the connection between literacy development and executive functioning skills. By recognizing this link, educators can implement successful strategies to aid students with learning challenges, ultimately leading to student gains.</p> <p>General</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Beyond the Wall: How to Use an Informal Assessment to Build a Sound Wall</i> Keegan Wilson</p> <p>Are you wanting to implement a sound wall but you are unsure where to start? In this session, we will use an informal assessment to build a sound wall. We will look at informal assessments and how those can be used in upper elementary to middle school to identify sounds that aren’t yet mastered. We will use the assessments to identify the sounds that need to be</p>

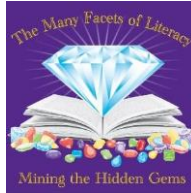
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<p>experiences in which all learners will find representation and senses of belonging. General</p>		<p>taught. We will then have an interactive lesson with all 5 pillars of literacy, beginning with sound wall instruction.</p> <p>PK, Elementary, and Middle</p>
<p><i>Transitioning from TDA to Text-Dependent Writing on State Summative Assessments</i> Rebecca Rundlett, SCDE</p> <p>Join representatives from the SCDE for an overview and timeline of the transition from text-dependent analysis (TDA) to text-dependent writing (TDW) on SC READY and EOCEP. The overview will include insight to the new TDW Scoring rubrics and how they connect to the 2023 SC CCR ELA Standards. Also, participants will receive writing support for ML students and GT students.</p> <p>General</p>	<p><i>Creating Diamonds from the Rough (Drafts): Using Technology and AI to Build Competent and Confident Writers</i> David Leshock & Cynthia Goodman, HMM</p> <p>We will explore how using technology with AI, can provide focused feedback for students to build a community of capable writers. We will see that AI can assist, not replace, teachers and provide targeted feedback throughout the writing process. Technology can facilitate in-depth and feedback opportunities so that students can work through drafts of their papers and focus on revision. AI-enhanced feedback can also free up teacher time and thus allow for more, and richer, writing experiences.</p>	<p><i>Pearls of Wisdom: Diving into Powerful Insights with AI in the Science of Reading Classroom</i> Angela Wolfe & Cynthia Goodman, HMM</p> <p>In this session, we will dive into the transformative synergy shaping modern education: Science of Reading, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and the crucial role of teachers. AI enhances learning, but the teacher's role remains paramount at the heart of the classroom. Discover how AI supports teachers, easing administrative burdens, and empowering them to use research-based practices to guide students towards improved reading skills.</p>

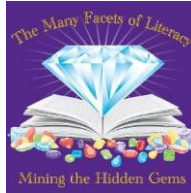
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	Middle and High	PK and Elementary
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Promoting Success for MLs in the General Education Classroom</i> Dr. Bobbi Siefert, Furman University & Melissa Oliver</p> <p>This session will focus on interactive instructional practices for meeting the language & academic needs of all students, especially Multilingual Learners (MLs). Participants will leave with a variety of ideas and strategies for planning and implementing strategic language-based instruction that assists with promoting language and literacy for MLs in the content areas, along with visible learning practices grounded in evidence-based principles (Fisher, Frey, and Hattie, 2016). This session is designed for K-12 content teachers, administrators, and other educators of MLs.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>So, they can decode. Now what?</i> Katilin Martz</p> <p>This session will discuss the importance of inquiry-based learning and highlight the benefits for students who are receiving special education services for a specific learning disability in reading, students who are currently in the MTSS process, and students who are at-risk for weaknesses in language comprehension. This session will demonstrate the need for inquiry-based learning as a strategy for reading comprehension in grades 3-5 (and above).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Elementary and Middle</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mining the Hidden Treasures of Grammar Instruction</i> Travis Leech</p> <p>Discover an innovative instructional method for teaching grammar. Join Travis Leech, co-author of <i>Patterns of Power for Middle and High School</i>, as he facilitates experiencing this. Learn how it fosters confidence, language convention understanding, and a safe, social classroom environment through conversation, collaboration, and inquiry. Engage in transformative teaching that goes beyond standards.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Middle and High</p>

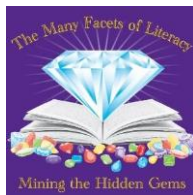
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General		
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Personalized Writing Instruction for Educators: SC Writing Improvement Network Micro-Credentials</i> Floyd Dinkins & Elizabeth Scarbrough</p> <p>In this pre-conference session, educators will have an opportunity to select a micro-credential to complete. The micro-credentials are free to educators through the SC Writing Improvement Network (SC WIN). The session will also serve as a micro-credential workshop for educators to start their micro-credential with support persons present and available to assist. Limit of 50 participants. Upon successful completion of their micro-credential, educators earn 12 renewal credits for recertification.</p> <p>General</p>	<p>Register for the 48th Annual Conference Today! February 22 -24, 2024</p> 	

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Pre-Conference Keynote (10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.)

Is There a Doctor in the House? We Have an Emergency! Using Literacy to Eradicate Poverty
Dr. Stephen Peters

Dr. Peters strongly believes poverty is the enemy of education, but literacy is the vaccine for poverty. His message will highlight the progress districts and schools are making by creating better conditions for teachers, staff, and students. Dr. Peters will share specific strategies with the audience that can be implemented immediately. He will also challenge us to understand that every level of progress will require a different version of all of us.

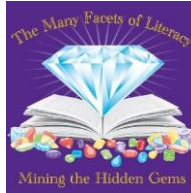
General

Pre-Conference PM Concurrent Sessions (1:40 - 2:40 p.m.)

The A-L-E in Literacy: Developing Authentic Learning Experiences for Multilingual Learners
Dr. Denise Furlong, Featured Speaker

As we collaborate to engage our learners with diverse needs in authentic literacy experiences, we are empowering them to find their voices and make themselves heard. Through literacy, we make connections that bridge cultures, languages, and unique perspectives as we “mine the hidden gems” of literacy together. In this session, we will discuss ways to consider meaningful literacy experiences in which all learners will find representation and senses of belonging.

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General

***Supercharging Literacy in Learning –Challenged Students: Mixing in Executive Functioning Mojo and Support Superpowers*
Christine Powell**

The session focuses on the connection between literacy development and executive functioning skills. By recognizing this link, educators can implement successful strategies to aid students with learning challenges, ultimately leading to student gains.

General

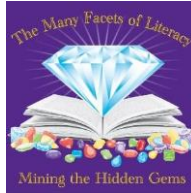
***The Can Do: Using the Known to Teach Readers and Writers*
Beth White, Literacy Consultant, LLC & University of South Carolina**

It's often easy to focus on what readers and writers can't do. Changing the lens to notice and name what they can do has to happen. What's in their known? Naming what readers know and can do informs responsive teaching. Linking the known to the Zone of Proximal Development is key. A professional goal of this session is for teachers of readers and writers to notice and name what is in their own known and to recognize areas where they need to add to their knowledge base and instructional tool belts to provide feedback in the midst of the moment with their readers and writers.

General

***Creating Diamonds from the Rough (Drafts): Using Technology and AI to Build Competent and Confident Writers*
David Leshock & Cynthia Goodman, HMH**

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We will explore how using technology with AI, can provide focused feedback for students to build a community of capable writers. We will see that AI can assist, not replace, teachers and provide targeted feedback throughout the writing process. Technology can facilitate in-depth and feedback opportunities so that students can work through drafts of their papers and focus on revision. AI-enhanced feedback can also free up teacher time and thus allow for more, and richer, writing experiences.

Middle and High

Pearls of Wisdom: Diving into Powerful Insights with AI in the Science of Reading Classroom
Angela Wolfe & Cynthia Goodman, HMH

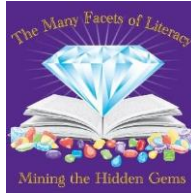
In this session, we will dive into the transformative synergy shaping modern education: Science of Reading, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and the crucial role of teachers. AI enhances learning, but the teacher's role remains paramount at the heart of the classroom. Discover how AI supports teachers, easing administrative burdens, and empowering them to use research-based practices to guide students towards improved reading skills.

PK and Elementary

Implementing Effective Instruction for Multilingual Learners
Susan Murphy, State Department of Education

Multilingual learners (MLs) enter our classrooms with experiences, traditions, culture, and linguistic repertoires that add value to our community! Effective Tier I instruction integrates these assets to meet the needs of diverse learners and drive academic success. Join this session to learn small changes that help amplify instruction for MLs in any classroom!

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General

Mining the Hidden Treasures of Grammar Instruction
Travis Leech, Featured Author

Discover an innovative instructional method for teaching grammar. Join Travis Leech, co-author of *Patterns of Power* for Middle and High School, as he facilitates experiencing this. Learn how it fosters confidence, language convention understanding, and a safe, social classroom environment through conversation, collaboration, and inquiry. Engage in transformative teaching that goes beyond standards.

Middle and High

So, they can decode. Now what?
Katilin Martz

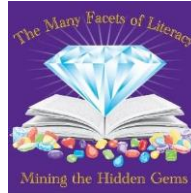
This session will discuss the importance of inquiry-based learning and highlight the benefits for students who are receiving special education services for a specific learning disability in reading, students who are currently in the MTSS process, and students who are at-risk for weaknesses in language comprehension.

This session will demonstrate the need for inquiry-based learning as a strategy for reading comprehension in grades 3-5 (and above).

Elementary and Middle

Beyond the Wall: How to Use an Informal Assessment to Build a Sound Wall

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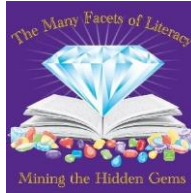
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Keegan Wilson, Hand2Mind

Are you wanting to implement a sound wall but you are unsure where to start? In this session, we will use an informal assessment to build a sound wall. We will look at informal assessments and how those can be used in upper elementary to middle school to identify sounds that aren't yet mastered. We will use the assessments to identify the sounds that need to be taught. We will then have an interactive lesson with all 5 pillars of literacy, beginning with sound wall instruction.

PK, Elementary and Middle

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Conference Schedule
Thursday, February 22

Concurrent Sessions (Start Thursday afternoon and conclude Saturday morning)

Concurrent Sessions (2:50-3:45 p.m.)

Today, I Think I'll T.E.A.C.H. - Lifting our Children Up from the Outside In
Dr. Kim Johnson, Everyday Coaches

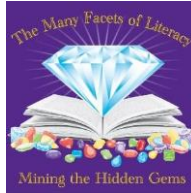
This interactive workshop will engage participants in activities to motivate and empower all learners. Through a creative approach toward literacy, we can begin to teach our children to appreciate challenges and love to learn. This workshop will show how simple yet engaging activities can lead to cognitive strength that can ultimately foster more focused success. This session will also share with participants activities that can foster critical thinking, problem-solving, and more fun in the setting.

PK and Elementary

Discover the Treasure Map to Literacy Success: Help Your Students Read Like Writers and Write Like Readers
Nicole Nelson, Learning A to Z

Successfully reciprocating reading and writing instruction and ensuring comprehension is key to student literacy success but is very hard to do in the classroom. We have a secret - it's possible to do it and do it well. Discover how reading and writing can be used together to accomplish key learning

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goals. Learn how Scarborough's Reading Rope and the Writing Rope weave together to form comprehensive literacy. Witness how to apply these concepts in your classroom and fit it all into your day

PK, Primary, and Elementary

Literacy Centers: Students Leading Their Own Learning
Nancy Breeyear

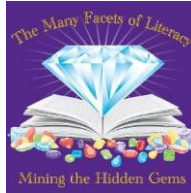
Literacy Centers are Instructional Gems! Explore literacy centers that are standards aligned and investigate the use of multisensory hands-on materials. Examine how differentiated centers can increase student engagement and encourage student achievement. Learn how strategies can be taught, practiced, and assessed within student skill levels. See how using flexible literacy centers in your classroom can make independent student work time more successful for everyone!

Primary and Elementary

Word Walk Plus: Developing Young Children's Vocabulary through Explicit Instruction and Extension Activities
Katrin Blamey & Katherine Beauchat

This session will describe an instructional procedure for explicit vocabulary instruction in the context of storybook reading designed specifically for young children. The presenters will present the research base for the vocabulary protocol, called Word Walk. In addition, presenters will discuss how to implement the instructional sequence and outcomes of using the protocol with preschool children from diverse backgrounds, including a large population of English Language Learners.

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PK and Primary

What Does the Science of Reading Mean for Content Area Teachers (4-12)
Katherine McKnight, Short Short Big

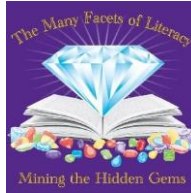
Science of reading research has become increasingly popular for raising adolescent reading comprehension in the subject areas. This research is based on the belief that literacy is a complex set of skills that need to be taught explicitly and systematically. When focusing on comprehension, science of reading research suggests that teachers provide explicit instruction in genre-specific strategies, such as summarizing, note taking and inferencing.

Middle and High

Your story is your strength - embrace it!
Dr. Tim Hunter, Featured Author

Dr. Timothy B. Hunter is a retired educator, having made immeasurable impact in the classroom, as an administrator, where he focused on student services. Hunter's decades of experience and passion in helping children has made him a highly sought after inspirational speaker. Hunter's personal life story, wrought with both tragedy and triumph, inspired him to put pen to paper. Once Dr. Hunter breathed life into his story, his first children's book, "Getting Butter from the Duck: Lessons in Thinking Outside the Box" was birthed. Hunter engages audiences with a unique blend of insightful perspectives; courageous

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authenticity and a vibrant, likable, endearing personality infused with humor and wisdom. You won't want to miss Hunter's creative tips on motivating students to read, write, and most of all, utilize their own unique talents to instill confidence in their own life "stories". Prepare to be moved and inspired by this riveting life transformer, Dr. Timothy B. Hunter.

General

Afternoon Keynote (4:00-5:30 p.m.)

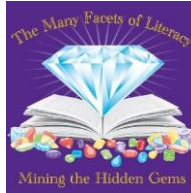
Just Say NO to the Boring and Mundane: How to Use Authentic Writing to Develop Powerful Writers
Dr. Rebecca Harper

Is writing something you love to teach or dread? Love it or hate it, writing is a necessity in education, regardless of the subject area, but it doesn't have to be boring. In fact, real authentic writing engagements are anything but! Building a classroom community of writers through engagements that capitalize on student interest and motivation while igniting a passion for literacy can be done! Hear how using rap music, post it notes, peacock feathers, social media, Taylor Swift, and more can help students learn to be successful and powerful writers.

General

Meet & Greet (Sponsored by Savvas)
5:30-6:30 p.m.

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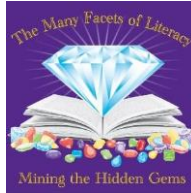


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Conference Schedule
Friday, February 23-Saturday, February 24
The conference resumes at 8:00

Friday and Saturday Keynotes are listed in order of Appearance.
Friday, February 23
Special Keynote 9:05 a.m. -10:35 a.m. Kylene Beers Sponsored by HMM
<i>Up the Joy, Ditch the Struggle: Strategies to Boost Literacy Teachers</i> 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Berit Gordon Sponsored by PSLA
<p>We love our students, and we care deeply about our jobs. And we are stressed, exhausted, and overwhelmed. There is another way. We can prioritize our professional well-being with an overall approach and practical strategies that go beyond self-care and help us feel good and be good at our essential work.</p> <p>Our readers and writers deserve thriving adults in their lives. When we choose strategies that help us see the impact of our hard work, students experience our best teaching selves. Just like students, we deserve practical steps for growth that meet us where</p>

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we're at and celebrate progress. Through an overall approach that respects teacher choice and innovative tips for literacy instruction, this workshop will show you how to avoid burnout and find more teaching joy.

General

Saturday, February 24

Special Keynote
9:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Lauren Tarshis
Sponsored by Scholastic

Concurrent Sessions (Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.)

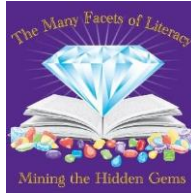
What is Text-Dependent Writing for SC READY?
Rebecca Rundlett, South Carolina Department of Education

Join representatives from the SCDE to examine a sample Text Dependent Writing (TDW) item for each mode of writing that will be assessed on state summative assessments. Participants will examine the differences between the current Text Dependent Analysis item and the new TDW items. TDW will be field-tested in grades 3-8 and English 2 in spring 2024.

Elementary, Middle and High

Fairy Tale Family Feud

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Tim Lowry

Lay a foundation for reading comprehension with magical tales! In game show format, teaching artist Tim Lowry discusses the importance of fairy tales and helps you polish your storytelling skills, capture students' attention, and give them a solid foundation for understanding more complex story structure and vocabulary. Bonus - A fairy godmother will provide FREE STUFF!

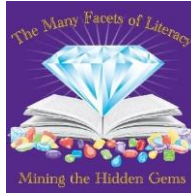
General

Low Stamina Readers and Writers? Here's How to Turn It Around
Berit Gordon, Featured Author (Sponsored by PSLA)

An essential way for students to get better at reading and writing is to read and write more. The ones doing the most (as shown by educators from Dewey, Montessori, Vygotsky, Fisher, Frey, Daniels, Harvey, Hattie, and more) are the ones learning the most. But simply handing over the reins is rarely that easy. Students are experts at avoiding what they don't feel good at, and many have reading and writing muscles that atrophied or never became robust in the first place. They need help, and so do we!

This session will provide practical, high-impact strategies to get readers and writers to do more. We will look at small and big moves that engage students, welcome even the most reluctant readers and writers, produce high volumes of work, and allow us to work with students and offer feedback while others are busy reading and writing. Just because students read and write more doesn't mean that teachers need to spend more time on feedback. We'll also look at ways to boost volume without increasing grading time. Teachers will leave with things they can try in their classrooms right away and with easy ways to monitor and celebrate growth.

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General

The Science of Reading in the Digital Age
Carol Jago, Featured Author (Sponsored by HMH)

The digital age has changed how readers, both students and their teachers, interact with text. This session will explore the ways in which technology is affecting deep reading and offer methods for helping young readers pay closer attention to what they read, methods that not only improve comprehension but also foster long-term learning. Building background knowledge strengthens students' reading and helps students navigate the gap from learning loss to learning gains.

General

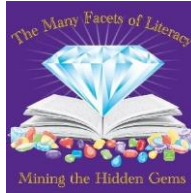
Implementing Effective Instruction for Multilingual Learners
Susan Murphy, SC Department of Education

Multilingual learners (MLs) enter our classrooms with experiences, traditions, culture, and linguistic repertoires that add value to our community! Effective Tier I instruction integrates these assets to meet the needs of diverse learners and drive academic success. Come learn small changes that help amplify instruction for MLs in any classroom!

General

Shifting from Word Walls to Sound Walls
Keegan Wilson, Hand2Mind

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Are you hearing more about sound walls and ready to make the transition in your own classroom? Join us for a session where we will explore the importance of sound walls backed by research from many well known in the structured literacy and Science of Reading community. We will also dive into how to implement them for enhanced engagement. Participants will have the opportunity for several sound wall resource giveaways.

PK and Elementary

Discipline Literacy: What Is It?

Charlene Aldrich, Heather Hall, Brooke Hardin, Jennifer Morrison, & Rachelle Savitz

Disciplinary literacy (DL) prompts teachers to see literacy as a set of tools, strategies, and practices specific to a discipline's reading, writing, processing, comprehension, communication, and production. In this session, we will examine asset-based DL in social studies, English language arts, mathematics, science, physical education, and the visual/performing arts, including examples of lessons, materials, practices, and texts.

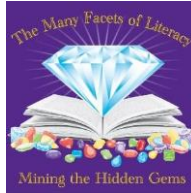
Middle, High, and College

Boring Nonfiction Books? No Way!

Steve Swinburne, Featured Author

Do all the elementary visitors head straight to the fiction section in your library? Is your elementary nonfiction not circulating? How can teachers use more nonfiction books to support their curriculum units? The days of boring, joyless, and stale nonfiction

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are ancient history. The new wave of kidlit nonfiction is filled with drama, excitement, and unbridled creativity. And heart! This session showcases the modern, compelling, and exciting nonfiction published today; nonfiction that will foster a child's curiosity and kickstart a love of reading! Join Steve, recently nominated for a CBC-NSTA STEM Best Book of 2024 (Giraffe Math), as he presents on amazing nonfiction.

PK, Elementary and Middle

Authors on the Move – Lunch Event

David Biedrzycki, Victoria Benton Frank, Tim Hunter, Ann Lilly, Tim Lowry, Tara Luebbe, Angela May, Steve Swinburne, Susan Riley Diamond & Helen Wilbur

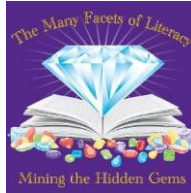
Have you ever wanted to have a dinner conversation with an author? Well, here's your chance! Join the fun as TEN authors are showcased during this featured event. Authors will join you at your table while you enjoy lunch. This unique event provides an opportunity to learn about books directly from the author. This event includes the author presentations, a bagged lunch, and one signed book from the author of your choice. \$15.00 and registration required.

The fee, not covered in the cost of conference registration, will pre-purchase the book of your selected author. Please use this [Google Form](#) to register for this event and choose an author. *Note: Due to the organizers purchasing books in advance, the \$15 fee is non-refundable if you cannot attend.

General

Negotiating Literacy Practices and Policies: Posing Possibilities

Palmetto State Literacy Association
The 48th Annual PSLA Conference
The Many Facets of Literacy: Mining the Hidden Gems
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Rachelle Savitz & Lucy Spence

Last year, we asked participants what they wanted to explore from a research and theory perspective. Common responses referenced current practices and policies that impact teachers and their students. Presenters will share teacher educator perspectives on negotiating new policies currently impacting classrooms. Speakers will draw upon research and theory to share what good instruction looks like in classrooms and schools, including challenges, successes, and resources. We anticipate addressing 3rd-grade retention laws, book banning, missing voices from curricula, and required literacy programs and practices. This session will provide a space for affirming voices and alternative perspectives on what is happening in South Carolina classrooms.

General

Make Your Brains Shimmer with Phonics

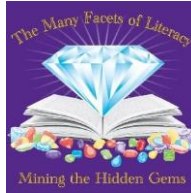
Kimberly Tisi, Hannah Norris, Alexis Tuten, Emma Lambrecht, Elizabeth LaFlamme,
& Patricia Massengale, Anderson University

Is your Phonics routine lacking sparkle? Phonics can be exciting while easily supporting diverse learners - our hidden gems! By incorporating evidence based practices into any phonics routines, teachers can create a dazzling learning environment filled with phonics fun. Utilizing movement, songs, games, and one of a kind books will transform an average phonics routine into a shimmering diamond. Attendees will discover practical and hands-on activities that will shine in the classroom.

PK and Primary

Leading a Balanced Literacy School into the Science of Reading
Virginia Kemp, Orangeburg School District

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Reading coach, interventionist, and school leader discusses the successes of leading a balanced literacy school into the knowledge, understanding and practices of the science of reading. The session will highlight ways to work with reluctant staff, positive modes of leadership, building trust, and embracing change as a school. Although teachers will benefit from this session, strategies will be geared towards district and school literacy leaders.

PK and Elementary

The Canyon Experience: Coaching through the Pit
Amber McQueen, Richland District One

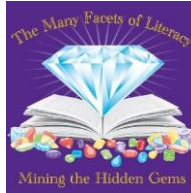
The Learning Pit is an experience that impacts us and our students as we strive towards student success and growth. As coaches, we find joy in supporting teachers, employing evidence-based strategies to utilize literacy across content areas to meet the needs of multiple learners. Our shared success with our team is evident in multiple classrooms, one for which we have invited to share her canyon experiences.

Primary and Elementary

Battling Burnout Zombies in High School English
Jennifer Gribben, Michelle Nelson, & Dr. Jennifer Putnam, Darlington

Are you facing the ultimate battle in your classroom? Do your students often zone out during your instruction? Join us to learn how to plan, implement, and end the Burnout Zombies in your classroom. We will present lesson planning techniques, curriculum activities and materials, and assessment ideas to keep your students in the world of the living. Leave with a learning

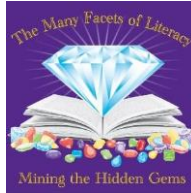
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model that can be implemented with your school team.
High
<i>Mining the Gem of MTSS: A Targeted Approach to Tiered Instruction Using Literacy Pathways</i> Dawn Mitchell, Spartanburg District Six
This session will provide participants with the process our district utilized to implement a targeted approach to our tiered instruction. This approach includes creation of literacy pathways that provides teachers, coaches, interventionists, and administrators with multiple data points, research-based instructional resources, and a collaborative, responsive approach that help us know and grow our readers across each tier.
Primary and Elementary
<i>Literacy's Gems= Representation + Inclusion + Building Knowledge</i> Carmen Garrett, Benchmark Education
During this interactive session the focus questions will be: How can we as educators mitigate some of the external factors that adversely affect teaching and learning by becoming more culturally sustaining in our use of story and trade books? How will that mitigation increase student learning and disrupt disproportionality by giving our students a sense of belonging while expanding their perspectives?
General
<i>Write from the Beginning</i> Dr. Rebecca Harper, Featured Speaker

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It's never too early for writing! Even our youngest students can be writers. In this session, participants will take part in hands-on literacy strategies that foster writing in the primary classrooms. See how you can use slinkies, animal crackers, paint strips, and more for exciting writing lessons.

Primary

When What You've Done in the Past Doesn't Work Anymore: Instructing Research and Communications through the 2023 ELA Standards and Cross-Curricular Content

Tabatha Hughes, Mandy Hocker & Breanna McCormick, SC Department of Education

Are you tired of spinning your wheels trying to figure out how to teach inquiry, research, and proper communication to your students? Is it an effort to get your students interested in anything other than non-academic activities? Perhaps it's time to clean out your old toolbox in favor of some new educational tools. Participants will leave this session invigorated with new ideas, strategies, and instructional techniques for utilizing cross-curricular content to teach Research and Communication.

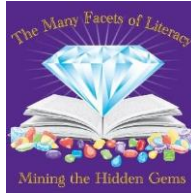
General

The New SC ELA Standards and Students with a Disability
Angie Neal, SC Department of Education

This session will outline what general education teachers need to know about the new SC ELA standards and struggling readers including students with a disability. This presentation will also include information related to accommodations and modifications for students with a disability.

General

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The Promise and Perils of AI
Carol Jago, Featured Author (Sponsored by HMH)

ChatGPT and artificial intelligence have thrown many writing teachers into a quandary. While recognizing the remarkable tools that AI provides, we worry about what may be lost. This session invites teachers to explore the promise and perils of artificial intelligence. Learn how teachers are using these tools to improve student learning while avoiding or mitigating the harm.

General

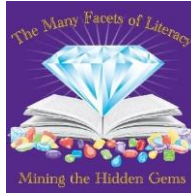
Unlocking the Science of Reading
Dr. Carol Connor, Scholastic

The Science of Reading comes from decades of research on what proficient readers must know and be able to do. In support of teachers trying to organize all the research into classroom instruction, Dr. Carol Connor studied the actions of students in classrooms and evaluated what students who were making gains were doing. This research has helped teachers organize instruction into 4 quadrants and “Unlock the Science of Reading.” In this session we will discuss these 4 quadrants of literacy teaching and learning. Participants will be able to describe the fundamental principles of the Science of Reading and Identify strategies to individualize instruction using the Science of Reading principles through content, context, and time.

Kindergarten and Elementary

Writers Gonna Write: Motivating the Writer in All Students

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**Melissa Ewing, Spartanburg District Two,
Elizabeth Crocker & Courtney Kozelski, University of South Carolina**

We conducted action research on instructional sequences for transforming literacy spaces. What we learned about contextualized and personalized learning, along with SEL strategies, can be adapted for any classroom. We will share easy-to-use instructional practices

Primary, Elementary and Middle

***From Guided Reading to the Science of Reading- What Happens at the Small Group Table?*
Caitlin Padgett, Letterland**

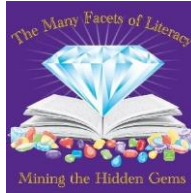
As you are learning about the Science of Reading, do you find yourself asking, “what takes the place of Guided Reading at the small group table?” Join this session with Letterland to learn what small group instruction looks like based upon the science of teaching reading. Differentiated instruction, progress monitoring, and engaging, child-friendly strategies will be demonstrated. Learn how to replace leveled readers by incorporating decodable text into a small group plan.

Primary

***Using Discovery Education to Support Growing Readers*
Andrea Lance, Discovery Education**

All SC educators have access to Discovery Education through the SCDE Instruction Hub. In this professional learning, using state-specific standards and the Discovery Education K-12 Learning Platform, this session will provide teachers with the planning tools

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to engineer learning experiences that provide students with routine experience with complex texts. This hands-on session will immerse participants in a variety of strategies that use multimodal texts as scaffolds for growing readers.

General

STOP-It's Integration Time!

Amanda Thomas & Jenna Pinckney, Spartanburg District One

Teachers are often grasping at every spare minute we can get our hands on. Between all the things required of us, it seems impossible to do it all. Science and social studies aren't core content areas, so they're typically the first subjects to get cut if your schedule gets off. However we don't want our kids to miss out on learning about all the subjects! So how can we do it all? INTEGRATE! In our session we'll give you 5 tips to integrate science and social studies into your literacy workshop.

Elementary and Middle

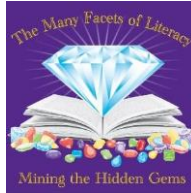
Lunch & Learn with Oliver James

12:00-12:45 p.m.

Oliver James, Featured Speaker

Oliver James is a TikTok sensation and motivational speaker. In his TikTok videos, Oliver often introduces himself by saying "I'm a 35-year-old man who struggles with reading." However, it wasn't long ago that he would say "I can't read."

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He opens up about many deep struggles he has gone through with learning to read and his mental health. His story has been so inspiring that he ended up being interviewed on ABC's *Good Morning America*, the *Rachael Ray Show*, *NPR*, and other major outlets. He was also recently featured in *People* magazine. In October, he was awarded the 2023 National Literacy Honors Award by the Barbara Bush Foundation for the light he has shed on being functionally illiterate. *Participants must pre-register for this event as space will be limited.

General

Ready, Set, Go! Unlocking the Power of Decodable Readers
Jennifer Hamrick & Lori Poole, Lexington District One

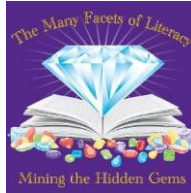
Are you ready to unlock the power of decodable readers in your classroom? After learning about the power of decodable readers, teachers will leave the session with a planning tool to enhance small group instruction. This session will hinge on a three step approach to small group instruction, which provides teachers with a structure to guide students in reading decodable texts with varying levels of support. Participants will return to their classrooms ready and prepared to grow their readers.

PK and Primary

Kylene Beers, Featured Author

Empowering our Learners: Data Doesn't Always Determine Success
Dr. Kim Johnson, Everyday Coaches

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This interactive session will remind participants about the power of data but also the depth of self-talk and positive reinforcement. Participants will gain knowledge that will help them balance the research and the learning process. Dr. Kimberly Johnson will remind you that even though data is needed, you have to be intentional with what to do with the information. She will share her experiences of growing up in a household that was not driven by the perils of data but used other factors to help elevate her toward success. These same factors can exist and do exist in the children who are served today. You must be willing to look for these factors and stand up for the most vulnerable of our learners. Dr. Kim will also remind you why you can't throw in the towel and how you can step up and regain your energy and passion through seeing data from a different lens. This recharge session will help you navigate both your personal and professional lives in a more realistic and achievable manner. Come ready to listen, to laugh and to LIVE – knowing that data is just one tool to help measure success!

General

Sorting through the Support Documents for the 2023 CCR ELA Standards
Breanna McCormick, Kayce Prince-Harvey & Mandy Hocker, SC Department of Education

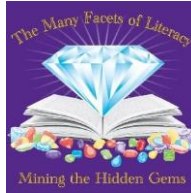
Participants can expect to explore the support documents for the 2023 SCCCR ELA Standards. We will engage in scenarios where we will explore the documents to support student success in the classroom.

General

The New SC ELA Standards and Vocabulary
Angie Neal, SC Department of Education

This session will explain the overlap between the Applications of Reading Standards related to Vocabulary Instruction and

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standards within the Foundations of Literacy Standard. Instructional implications across all grade levels will be discussed.

General

Teaching Readers, Writers, and Inquirers FOR Real

Liz LeBlanc & Taylor Wuerferl, Richland District Two, Tameka Breland, Richland, School District One, Heidi Mills, University of South Carolina & Cathy Jones-Stork, Lexington District Two

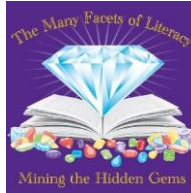
The presenters will illuminate beliefs & practices that make a genuine difference when teaching readers, writers & inquirers across K-5 classrooms. While sharing diverse perspectives (classroom, school & district) they will show how to create cultures of inquiry by teaching children how to learn (process) & what to learn (content standards). Participants will develop a vision of authentic, joyfully rigorous, culturally responsive strategies to teach content & literacy across the curriculum.

PK and Elementary

Using Art to Enhance Learning

Dr. Jerry Harste, Emeritus Professor, Indiana University

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As a practicing artist, Dr. Harste will share his personal experiences as well as his research and work with students and teachers as they incorporate more and more art in their curriculum. In addition, audience members will examine the artistic responses that students have made to various pieces of literature to experience for themselves how art supports the learning process.

General

Unlocking the Magic of Vocabulary
Karon Haddoway & Laura Lindsay
American Reading Company

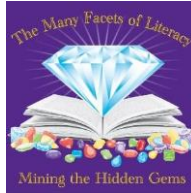
Once students can decode the words on a page, what else can get in the way of comprehension? Vocabulary is a key feature of complex text that creates significant difficulty for students. Having to stop to determine the meaning of too many words in a text slows readers down and the problem worsens over time as students are faced with ever-more complex text. In this session we will explore the role vocabulary plays in comprehension and successful approaches educators can take to positively impact vocabulary growth, including the importance of growing knowledge in Science, Social Studies, and Genre.

General

Peer Editing: Finding a Diamond in the Rough
Judy Arnold & Tiffany Smith, Spartanburg District Two

Move your students from, "sounds good" or "it could be a little neater" when peer editing to become a writing gem for their classmates. We will show you how we use peer editing in our middle school classrooms to build a community of writers willing to

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share their work in a safe space. Peer editing also allows students to glean ideas from each other, use and give constructive feedback, communicate effectively, and improve his or her own writing skills.

Middle

Mining Hidden Social Studies Gems within Literacy Instruction
Jayson Evaniuck, Anderson University

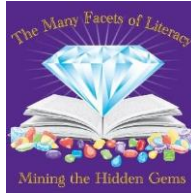
Due to time constraints, elementary teachers often thoughtfully and artfully integrate Social Studies within literacy instruction. This session will present poetry and literature integration approaches embedded within a new elementary Social Studies teaching methods course design. Larger social goals and the ten National Council for Social Studies strands will be utilized as a guide for meaningful integration of Social Studies within literature blocks.

Primary and Elementary

Differentiating Instruction with Teaching Books
Kym Davick, Teaching Books

Explore titles on Teaching Books with lessons designed to support differentiated learning styles, scaffold instruction, guide reflection, and build connections to texts for K-12 readers. TeachingBooks is provided to schools, colleges, public libraries, and residents by Discus, South Carolina's Virtual Library. Use the resources to locate qualitative and quantitative data for titles, analyze book lists to extend differentiation, provide inclusive experiences with multi-leveled lessons, and empower independent choice.

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General

When Home Is the Red Rose Motel
Susan Zurenda, Featured Author

Come join award-winning novelist Susan Zurenda as she discusses her inspiration for *The Girl from the Red Rose Motel* (Mercer University Press, Sept. 2023) and share how the story embraces the importance of literacy, especially for the sheltered homeless. *The Girl from the Red Rose Motel* is a multilayered novel that will appeal to readers of love stories, coming of age novels, literary teacher stories, and remarkable alliances between adults and teenagers.

General

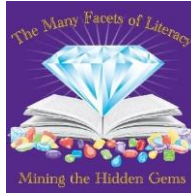
Mining the Hidden Gems of Emergent Literacy with Rhymes through Play!
Angela Compton & Lynn Kuykendall, South Carolina Department of Education

Nursery Rhymes matter! “If a child knows 8 nursery rhymes by the time they are four-years-old, they are usually among the best readers and spellers in their class by the time they are eight.” (Mem Fox, *Reading Magic*) In this session, participants will experience the power of nursery rhymes through purposeful play and discover how to support the crucial building blocks of emergent literacy as the foundation for children’s success as readers and writers.

Primary

Need a Friend? A, I Have One for You!
Ann Aust & Dr. Lori Vinson, North Greenville University

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In the ever changing world of technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has surfaced as a shiny, new tool for many students and teachers. AI has been around for many years. In this session, educators will be introduced to AI, gain a basic understanding of how it works, and learn about the many benefits of its use as it relates to literacy. Create lesson plans and assessments that align with literacy standards in minutes and utilize research to enhance your instruction.

General

***What's Up? I Can't Read! Using Social Media to Promote Reading and Grow an Online Reading Community*
Oliver James, Featured Speaker**

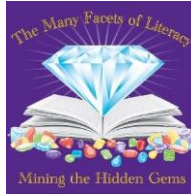
Join Oliver James, a renowned TikTok and Instagram sensation, to hear his journey of how TikTok and Instagram serve as his platform to share his story of how he fell in love with reading at 34 years old and how he uses these outlets to promote the importance of reading and continue his journey as a lifelong reader with the support of online reading communities. Mr. James has appeared on various talk shows and news outlets, telling his story of how he learned to read and inspiring others to get behind the movement.

General

***MTSS and Text Complexity in the 2023 SCCCR ELA Standards*
Mandy Hocker & Breanna McCormick, SC Department of Education**

Participants can expect to experience an overview of MTSS as it relates to Text Complexity. Presenters will explain how MTSS

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and Text Complexity can be used to meet the varying needs of students. All information will relate to the Text Complexity Process published in the 2023 SCCCR ELA Standards.

General

Tier 2 Interventions Using Any Literacy Curriculum and SOR Approach
Laura Roach, Clemson University

Educators will learn how to use literacy assessments from their school curriculums for effective and efficient instructional planning through a Science of Reading lens. This Tier 2 approach will provide educators with a simple process to target skill gaps (post-assessment/weekly/bi-weekly) for every student in their class in order to provide data-informed small-group interventions every week.

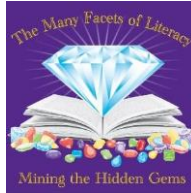
Primary and Elementary

Bringing it all together - How to Reach Your Goals Leveraging Change Management
Janise Lane, Regional VP Customer Success, Amplify

Janise Lane will highlight change management principles and examine how to navigate change for all stakeholders while building alignment, buy-in, and momentum throughout all stages of implementation.

We will highlight the importance of understanding the research behind a shift in literacy instruction and examine the change management needed to achieve your desired impact. We will explore systems and structures to support the change momentum in your buildings. Administrators from Henry County Public Schools will share best practices they learned from transitioning to the Science of Reading and selecting a high-quality instructional resource.

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General

Session Title: TBA
Raj Haldar, Rapper and Featured Author

From #1 New York Times bestselling author of *P Is for Pterodactyl* Raj Haldar comes a hilarious and thoughtful new picture book, *This Book is Banned*, that underscores the importance of the fight against censorship in schools and libraries across the country. Join Raj for a reading and discussion to discover just what happens when we aren't allowed to freely share and explore ideas with this funny, self-referential picture book romp that kids (and grown-ups) will want to read over and over again.

Primary and Elementary

From Striving to Shining: Polishing the Skills of Readers and Writers
Emily Kimpton

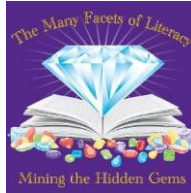
Much attention has been paid to developing the skills of young readers in current reform efforts while the needs of upper elementary and adolescent students have been largely ignored. This session will examine practical strategies to address common issues of older readers and writers. Participants will leave with a framework for developing a literacy-rich classroom that moves students not only on the academic scale but also in their love of literacy.

Elementary, Middle and High

Getting Graphic: Utilizing Graphic Novels in Secondary ELA
Scarlett Pack & Kimberly Smith, Spartanburg District Two

As Sam Wineburg states, "...the old ways of reading won't do. We'll need new ones to cope with the mountains of information

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that threaten to bury us each day.” New strategies can be found in utilizing graphic novels to unearth students’ abilities to dive deeply into the vast amounts of content they encounter and to effectively communicate their understanding. This session aims to show how pairing images alongside text helps students of all reading levels develop verbal and visual literacy.

Middle and High

Partnering with Families to Improve Literacy
Sherrie Jeffries, Spartanburg District Seven

Research has shown that partnerships between schools and families can lead to improved student achievement. Engaging parents in their children's literacy development can also lead to increased reading and writing skills for students. This session will explore strategies used to successfully engage parents at both the community level and school level (Title 1 schools), equipping them to be literacy leaders at home. We will also share how this engagement has benefitted students.

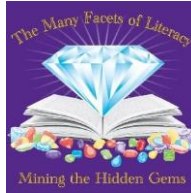
PK, Primary and Elementary

Making Books Come Alive with Music
Jo Hackl

We all know that students learn in a variety of ways. attendees will learn evidence-backed ways to engage students by creating a chapter-by-chapter playlist of the book they are studying, with a narrative explaining the connection between the song and the chapter. The session also includes best practices, resources, and tips to get started.

Elementary, Middle and High

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***Uncovering Three Big Ideas within Science of Reading: The Why, The What, and The How*
Dr. Diana Betts, 95 Percent Group**

This session addresses the compelling call to action that all children deserve access to high-quality, evidence aligned literacy instruction by exploring these big ideas: 1. Learning to read is not a natural skill; 2. There are key conceptual models which can inform our understanding of the process of reading so that instruction can be effectively delivered and assessed 3. There are five “must-haves” for educators to embrace in order to deliver on the promise.

PK, Elementary and Middle

***Q & A about Reading Research: What does Research tell us about Teaching Reading?*
Dr. Catherine Compton-Lilly, Literacy Leaders & University of South Carolina**

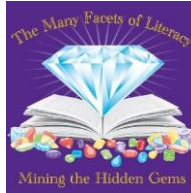
Join Dr. Compton-Lilly for an informal discussion on the research behind the effects of teaching reading. Use the topics discussed in this session to empower the readers in your classroom.

PK, Primary, Elementary, and Middle

***CDQs & TDQs: The Art of Scaffolding Questioning*
Breanna McCormick, SC Department of Education**

This session will provide an overview of two types of questions: collaborative discussion questions (CDQs) and text-dependent questions (TDQs). Participants will learn the difference between and purpose of each type of questioning. In addition, participants will learn to write TDQs based on grade-level indicators from the 2023 SC CCR ELA Standards and CDQs as a scaffold to prepare students to independently answer TDQs. Emphasis will be placed on aligning questions to the rigor, content, and

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skills expected by grade-level indicators.

General

Author's Panel

Tara Luebbe, Victoria Benton Frank, and Steve Swinburne

Tara Luebbe, Victoria Benton Frank, and Steve Swinburne join us for an interactive panel discussion about their inspiration, creative process, path to publication, and advice to up and coming writers. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions, purchase books, and get autographs during this session.

General

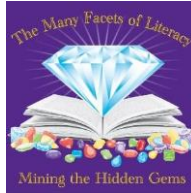
Beyond the Wall: How to Use a Scope and Sequence to Build a Sound Wall
Keegan Wilson, Hand2Mind

Are you wanting to implement a sound wall but you are unsure where to start? In this session, we will use a scope and sequence to build a sound wall. The scope and sequence will cover K-2nd and we will identify the sounds addressed at each grade level. After teaching a specific sound from the scope and sequence then we will have an interactive lesson including all 5 pillars of literacy instruction.

PK and Primary

Teacher Researcher Panel: The Research to Practice Strand & the Role of Research in Schools and Classrooms
Catherine Compton-Lilly, Literacy Leaders & University of South Carolina

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**Melissa Ewing, Spartanburg District Two,
Valente Gibson & Aisja Jones, Richland District Two &
Cathy Jones-Stork, Lexington District Two**

This session will feature a panel of educators who will speak about the role of research in schools, classrooms, and curricula. Panelists will address: What is meant by research to practice and how might research findings inform literacy instruction? What qualifies as research? How are different types of research useful to practitioners? What does it mean to be research-based or scientific? What are the contributions of practitioner action research and teacher inquiry?

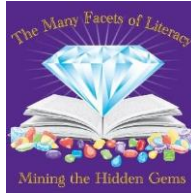
General

***Student-Centered Book Clubs: A Multifaceted Treasure that Uncovers the Ability Within All Readers*
Sarah Brower, Spartanburg School District Six &
Alyssa Likens, Greenville County Schools**

Join us to explore the use of book clubs in the classroom to promote collaboration, foster critical thinking skills and implement meaningful reading instruction for all students. Participants will learn ways to start book clubs in their own classrooms by focusing on student choice and instructional needs. Presenters will share instructional strategies and classroom examples for incorporating technology, writing and content area integration into student centered book clubs.

Primary, Elementary and Middle

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Creating a Multicultural Classroom through Literature
Jaclyn Wallace, Lexington-Richland District Five

Participants will gain useful strategies, book suggestions and standards based research projects to represent the various cultures in their classroom and/or school. When educators promote inclusion and understanding, it will lead to student acceptance of all cultures.

Primary, Elementary and Middle

From Knowing to Doing; Tips for Transferring Science of Reading Research to Classroom Practice
Dr.Lori Poole and Jennifer Hamrick

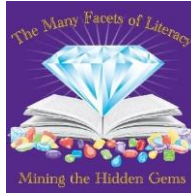
This session will provide a brief overview of the most current science of reading research, including the importance of systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Following the overview, educators will be equipped with practical tips for implementing evidence-based strategies in their classrooms. By bridging the gap between theory and practice, teachers will be better equipped to foster strong literacy foundations in their students.

Primary

Concurrent Sessions (Saturday 8:00. to 9:00 a.m.)

What's Up? I Can't Read! Using Social Media to Promote Reading and Grow an Online Reading Community
Oliver James, Featured Speaker

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Join Oliver James, a renowned TikTok and Instagram sensation, to hear his journey of how TikTok and Instagram serve as his platform to share his story of how he fell in love with reading at 34 years old and how he uses these outlets to promote the importance of reading and continue his journey as a lifelong reader with the support of online reading communities. Mr. James has appeared on various talk shows and news outlets, telling his story of how he learned to read and inspiring others to get behind the movement.

General

It's All about the Science
Eugene Greenfield, McGraw Hill Education

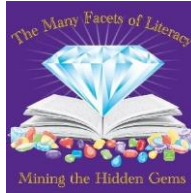
Join this fun and engaging session on the Science of Reading, This session will cover the essential components of reading; phonological processing, sound-letter correspondences, decoding, synthesizing, word recognition, spelling, and comprehension and their influence on how to teach reading and how to help struggling readers.

PK, Elementary and Middle

ARTificial Intelligence and the Authorator
David Biedrzycki, Featured Author

South Carolina Picture Book nominee, Authorator (50% author, 50% illustrator) David Biedrzycki, takes you behind the scenes of his newest picture book, ARTificial Intelligence. Asked by his publisher not to share until it's published next October, he's throwing caution to the wind and letting you experience it now. A labor of love more than 5 years in the making, ARTificial Intelligence, is a story about a robot designed to work in a warehouse but unexpectedly finds out he was destined for something

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greater. From the adventure's idea seed to the finished story, highlighted with videos of the art being created and writing decisions being made, there is enough information you could share with students of the creative process of this heartfelt story. David creates his art digitally and will be doing some live demonstrations along with videos.

General

Creating a Culture of Culturally Responsive Literacy through Writer's Workshop
Kavon Barger, Richland District One
Felicia White, Literacy Consultant

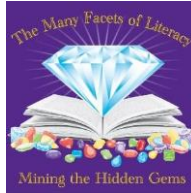
A literacy consultant and teacher (who is also the District's Teacher of the Year) will share how professional inquiry around culturally responsive teaching through writer's workshops has been transformative for his students over the past three years. This engaging and informative session will leave you with theoretically sound and practically relevant strategies to grow writers through ongoing inquiries into the writing process.

Primary and Elementary

How to Make Vocabulary Instruction F.U.N.
Jennifer Dunn, Greenwood 50

Do you want to expand your students' vocabularies? When we make vocabulary instruction F.U.N., we get FLAMBOYANT, UBIQUITOUS, and NOTABLE learning in our classrooms. This presentation will focus on ways to introduce students to new vocabulary words and review vocabulary words daily. The outcome? Students will be using new words in everyday conversations, using new words in their writing to replace those boring words, and finding new words in their reading.

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Elementary and Middle

Play: The Bedrock of Early Literacy
Jordan Page, University of South Carolina

Play is often being dismissed or pushed aside to make space for more academic rigor, but we know that play is rigorous and essential to early literacy development. Participants will leave this session with an understanding of how play can support literacy and how literacy can support play as well as the tools to advocate for purposeful play in the classroom.

PK and Primary

We Found the Treasure: 30 for 30!
Christy Flowers & Mary Howard, Florence District Three

Stacked against the odds of struggling readers, Covid loss, and slow growth – how did a small, rural district turn things around?? Come join us as we take you on our journey of implementing our district wide 30 for 30 – reinvigorating our daily independent reading block. From changing up our conferencing, to leveraging all of our team, and partnering with parents – we’ve changed the game when it comes to reading time...and we have the data to prove it!

PK, Elementary and Middle