

Pre Conference Sessions

Thursday, February 22, 2024, 8:00-2:40 p.m.

The list below includes the pre conference sessions for Thursday morning and early afternoon. As we approve sessions, we will continue to add to this list, so please check it often for updates.

Session 1 8:15-10:15

Unearthing Cultural Gems: Using Literacy to Bridge the Learning Gaps for Multilingual Learners

Dr. Denise Furlong, Author & Professor

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.

Audience: Primary-High, General

Session 2 8:10-9:10 & Repeat Session 11 1:40-2:40

Supercharging Literacy in Learning-Challenged Students: Mixing in Executive Functioning Mojo and Support Superpowers

Christine Powell, Beaufort

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.

Audience: PK-High, General

Session 3 8:10-9:10

Creating Diamonds from the Rough (Drafts): Using Technology and AI to Build Competent and Confident Writers

David Leshock & Cynthia Goodman

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

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

Audience: Middle-High, & General

Session 4 8:15-10:15

MLs and Academic Language
Dr. Bobbi Siefert, Furman University
MLs and Academic Language (More details to come)

Session 5 8:10-9:10 & Repeat Session 15 1:40-2:40

*Personalized Writing Instruction for Educators: SC Writing Improvement Network
Micro-Credentials*
Cindy Van Buren, Floyd Dinkins, & Elizabeth Scarbrough

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.

Audience: Primary -High, General

Session 6 9:20-10:20 & Repeat Session 19 1:40-2:40

Beyond the Wall: How to An Informal Assessment 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 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.

Audience: PK - Middle

Session 7 9:20-10:20 & Repeat Session 18 1:40-2:40

So, they can decode. Now what?
Kaitlin Martz, Aiken

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).

Audience: Elementary - Middle

Session 8 9:20-10:20

Pearls of Wisdom: Diving into Powerful Insights with AI in the Science of Reading Classroom
Angela Wolfe
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

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.

Audience: PK – Elementary, General

Session 10 8:15-10:15

Transitioning from TDA to Text-Dependent Writing on State Summative Assessments
Rebecca Rundlett, SCDE

Join representatives from the SCDE for an overview and timeline of the transition from TDA to 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.

Session 12 1:40-2:40

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

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Audience: Primary-High, General

Session 13 1:40-2:40

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

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.

Audience: PK-High, General

Session 16 1:40-2:40

Excavation in Progress: Best Practices and Strategies to Support MLLs in your Classroom

Susan Murphy, SCDE

Audience: General

Pre Conference Keynote

Sabal Palms 10:30 a.m.-12:30 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.

Audience: PK-High, General