



**Palmetto State Literacy
Association Preconference
Sessions**

“Literacy and Justice for All”

February 24, 2022

**The first 150 participants to
register for a morning and
afternoon preconference
session will receive a
complimentary seated lunch.**

Thursday, February 24, 2022

AM Sessions

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Session 1: Students As Media Evaluators: Media Literacy in the 21st Century

Frank Baker, Media Literacy Clearinghouse

Audience: All

Today's students love the media. But often they don't question the media and they view much of it passively. Media educator Frank Baker will use visual literacy, advertising and moving images as ways to provide students with 21st century media literacy skills. Bring your device. You will be actively involved in hands-on activities.

Session 2: Transforming Student Achievement Through a District-Wide Approach to Common Instructional Knowledge, Language, and Tools

Dr. Donyall Dickey, Education Epiphany sponsored by Scholastic, Inc.

Audience: All

This dynamic session will expose participants to a finite set of high-yield actionable, measurable, and replicable practices that have expeditiously transformed student achievement in urban, suburban, and rural schools/districts from coast to coast. Balanced by theory and practicality, Dr. Dickey delineates processes for aligning daily instruction with the nuanced expectations of the state standards and high-stakes summative assessments necessary to drive and sustain academic achievement in the core content areas. Participants will understand the value of performance-based objectives as an approach to improving literacy outcomes, curriculum-driven approaches for teaching and assessing general and domain specific vocabulary as an approach to improving literacy outcomes, gradual release of responsibility as an approach to transitioning students from dependence upon the teachers knowledge/ability to reliance their own independent knowledge/ability, and standard-informed writing from sources and the relationship between informational text structures as an approach to improving writing outcomes.

Session 3: The Neuroscience of Word Study for Teaching Phonics, Vocabulary, and Spelling—A Pathway for Closing the Literacy Gap

Dr. J. Richard Gentry, sponsored by Zaner-Bloser, Inc.

Audience: Elementary

In a democracy literacy is essential for “Literacy and Justice for All.” In this session we rethink how we teach reading through the lens of the science of reading with focus on integrated word study for teaching phonological awareness, phonics, spelling, morphology and vocabulary up through the grades—all essential for reading comprehension and text composing. This session translates the latest reading brain science into practical application in the classroom. Learn what you are doing that works and what you might want to change. Leave with science-based teaching techniques you will immediately take back to your classroom.

Session 4: Instructional Routines: Put Them in Place for Developing Foundations and Observing Learning in Action

Noelle Morris, Senior Director - Community Engagement (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Audience: ALL

Midyear is the time of year to monitor progress and refine instructional practices. In this workshop, participants will use data scenarios to make decisions on what instructional routines to add, refine, and enhance to match learning goals. Key routines will be explained, modeled, and practiced throughout the workshop. The routines will provide a variety, but align to foundational skills, engagement, vocabulary, and reading in order to construct a Structured Literacy framed daily instructional experience.

Session 5: Doing Whatever it Takes! Connecting and Engaging with Multilingual Learners

Erin Berglind, Kelly Wersler, Rosana Hellstrom, Debbie Fitzgerald, Ashley Williams, and Cynthia Laizer

Red Cedar Elementary, Beaufort County Schools

Audience: Elementary

Connections matter; relationships matter. Doing the same thing you've always done might not be enough. Listen to staff members of a SC Lowcountry School share how they do whatever it takes to build relationships and engage with ML students, their families, and community members. Participants will learn how they can build relationships and trust through multilingual and multi-modal communication and school structures that support them, how they can engage parents through different levels of parent nights both inside and outside of the school walls and how offering multiple models of service and flexibility to ML students in addition to having all teachers trained to support MLs significantly impacts ML student growth.

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PM Sessions

1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Session 6: Students As Media Evaluators: Media Literacy in the 21st Century

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Audience: All

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to provide students with 21st century media literacy skills. Bring your device. You will be actively involved in hands-on activities.

Session 7: Transforming Student Achievement Through a District-Wide Approach to Common Instructional Knowledge, Language, and Tools

Dr. Donyall Dickey, Education Epiphany sponsored by Scholastic, Inc.

Audience: All

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Session 8: The Neuroscience of Word Study for Teaching Phonics, Vocabulary, and Spelling—A Pathway for Closing the Literacy Gap

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Audience: Elementary

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Session 9: Instructional Routines: Put Them in Place for Developing Foundations and Observing Learning in Action

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Session 10: Justice Matters: Growing Beliefs and Practices that Nurture Children's Hearts, Minds, and Actions

Dr. Heidi Mills, Tim O'Keefe, Chris Hass, Nozsa Tinsley

Center for Inquiry, Richland 2

Are you striving to lift literacy and learning in ways that are equitable, just, and culturally relevant? If so, this session is for you. The presenters will offer practical and inspiring demonstrations of inquiry-based teaching across K-5 classrooms. They will share high impact strategies, compelling videos, engaging student artifacts, and joyfully rigorous integrated units of study that help students learn to read, write, think, and act critically and compassionately. Participants will learn how to create cultures of literacy through inquiry by creating authentic invitations for students to pose questions, collect data, read to learn, analyze findings, and take action to make the world a better place in word and deed. This session will offer a balance between explicit demonstrations of exquisite and effective instruction and collaborative conversations designed to help participants take beliefs and practices that nurture children's hearts, minds, and actions and make them their own.