

TeachReadLead

2020 Literacy Conference



**BLUE RIDGE
LITERACY PROJECT**

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Milligan College
101 Neth Drive
Milligan College, TN

Presented by
Blue Ridge Literacy Project
@BRLitProj

Conference Schedule

Saturday, March 7, 2020

7:45 Check In and Registration

8:15 - 9:45 **General Session 1 - Gregory Center**

Welcome Remarks

Featured Speaker - Franki Sibberson - What does it mean to be literate today?

10:00 - 10:45 **Session A** (see conference program for room locations)

11:00 - 11:45 **Session B** (see conference program for room locations)

11:45 - 12:30 **Lunch** - Derthick Hall 2nd Floor

12:45 - 1:30 **Session C** (see conference program for room locations)

1:45 - 3:00 **General Session 2 - Gregory Center**

Afternoon remarks

Featured Speaker - Allison Varnes

Session A

1. Featured Speaker Session

Description: Franki Sibberson is hosting a Q & A session addressing topics from her keynote.

Franki Sibberson (all)

Gregory Center Auditorium

2. VCOP: Igniting the Passion to Write

Description: Writing is a huge challenge for many students. They often lack self confidence and have negative views about their writing ability. For teachers, it can be equally challenging. How do you improve the skills of 20-30 students who are all at different levels? VCOP came out of England and was responsible for huge gains in writing achievement. It provides teachers and students with a common set of tools, is fun and easy to understand, and applies to all genres of writing. It can be used from grade one through high school, supporting students with special needs. You will leave this session with tools and materials which you can immediately implement in your classroom.

****NOTE:** This is a double session. Part 2 will be presented during Session B.**

Jo Cullen, Principal, Jeremiah School (K-6)

Derthick Hall Room 202

3. Teach Outside the Box with Google Docs!

Description: Teach outside the box with new ideas using Google Docs! We will use common features in new ways to engage learners in reading and writing activities. Perfect for the middle school or early high school ELA classroom!

Abbi Kincaid, English Teacher, Blended Learning Coordinator, Daniel Boone High School (middle grades)

Derthick Hall Room 207

4. Supporting English learners: Scaffolding practices that work

Description: This session will focus on how elementary classroom teachers can adapt their instructional practices to support English learners in developing linguistic repertoires and content knowledge necessary for academic success. The presenters will discuss scaffolding strategies related to lesson planning, text selection, modified activities, and moment-by-moment interactions with students.

Dr. Natalia Ward, Mackenzie Cochran, Natalia Suit, ETSU (ELL)

Derthick Hall Room 310

5. Thinking About Text and Task in a Culturally Responsible Classroom

Description: Come join a focused conversation about how texts and tasks selected for use in your classroom can be enhanced in regards to cultural responsiveness. Particular attention will be given to the specific elements of a culturally responsive classroom.

Dr. David Timbs, Johnson City Schools (all)

Derthick Hall Room 209

6. Circle Up! The Power of Community Circles

Description: Join 2nd grade teacher, Penny Reece-Wrigley to learn how she has used her understanding of adverse childhood experiences, trauma informed care, and restorative practices to create an impactful routine for classroom community circles. Circle gatherings serve as a way to build relationships and resolve conflicts in classroom communities. These routines help create a classroom where children feel safe and supported. During this time, children learn how to express feelings and emotions in constructive ways, learn self-regulation strategies, and build problem-solving skills. Mrs. Reece-Wrigley will share many effective strategies and participants will experience a “book tasting” of a variety of children’s books that promote social emotional learning.

Penny Reece-Wrigley , Woodland Elementary (PK-6/Admin)

Derthick Hall Room 210

7. Lean, Learn, & Lead with Technology Tools

Description: This session provides an overview of tools you can use to enhance instruction, empower your students, and effectively integrate tech tools not only into literacy but all subjects. A laptop or iPad is recommended for this session but not necessary.

Lori Farley, Athens City Schools (all)

Derthick Hall Room 208



Session B

1. The Line of Best Fit: Teaching Literacy in the Digital Domain

Description: It's all about the cut, right? How the shoulders fall. Where the cuff hits. It's about how it looks on you. You, specifically. Why not approach literacy in the same manner? In this session, you will learn strategies using Google Docs, Canvas, and CommonLit to personalize learning for each of your students to achieve that perfect fit.

Warren Lewis, Washington County Department of Education (all)

Derthick Hall Room 207

2. VCOP: Igniting the Passion to Write - PART 2

Description: Writing is a huge challenge for many students. They often lack self confidence and have negative views about their writing ability. For teachers, it can be equally challenging. How do you improve the skills of 20-30 students who are all at different levels? VCOP came out of England and was responsible for huge gains in writing achievement. It provides teachers and students with a common set of tools, is fun and easy to understand, and applies to all genres of writing. It can be used from grade one through high school, supporting students with special needs. You will leave this session with tools and materials which you can immediately implement in your classroom.

****NOTE:** This is a double session. Part 1 was presented during Session A.**

Jo Cullen, Principal, Jeremiah School (PK-6)

Derthick Hall Room 202

3. Now That's a Plan

Description: During this session, participants will learn how we have used Google Slides, Google Docs, and Google Drive to transform your collaborative planning process and to improve instruction. Discover how we use these readily available platforms as a way to organize your lesson plans in an efficient and useful way. Learn how to improve your ability to work collaboratively with your colleagues and have everything you need for planning and instruction available in the same digital file! See how you can insert videos, share links, create links to assignments and assessments, attach information in the comments and speaker notes, assign content to students, and much more! Leave with an immediate plan to transform the way you plan!

Penny Reece-Wrigley, Woodland Elementary (all)

Derthick Hall Room 210

4. #classroombookaday

Description: Classroom book-a-day is a daily ritual that builds community and relationships. Students benefit from hearing not only fluent reading, but reading from a wide variety of genres, topics, and sources. During this session many adaptations of this ritual will be shared, including ways to display and have students interact with the books.

Mandy Blackburn, West View School (all)

Derthick Hall Room 208

5. Setting the Stage for Inquiry: Science and Literacy Integration

Description: Integrated science units are a great way to ignite enthusiasm and excitement in every classroom! This session will highlight a super-engaging integrated unit created by K-2 teachers and curriculum specialists. Participants will take part in a sample inquiry-based lesson, and will learn how to easily create discovery-based science units that integrate standards across the curriculum. Walk away with a FREE unit to use in your classroom!

Dr. Chris Bowen & Dr. LaDonna Boone, Johnson City Schools (PK-6) **Derthick Hall Room 209**



1. Book Report Alternatives: Using tech tools to engage students as they read independently

Description: This session will give examples of how teachers can utilize tech tools such as Instagram, Adobe Spark, Google Slides, and Flipgrid to encourage students to share books they read independently.

Sarah Brackins, Library Media Specialist (PK-6)

Derthick Hall Room 208

2. Grades or Feedback? Re-think your approach to marking writing

Description: How does your marking of students' writing take them forward in their learning? Do you and they have a common understanding of what you are marking for? Are the students actively engaged in assessing their own work? This session will look at how writing is marked; how effective alpha/numeric grades are; how feedback is given; how to turn marking from a largely negative process to a positive one. You will leave this session understanding the use of success criteria, and with a very clear and easy technique for marking which truly focuses on next steps. You will also learn how to engage the students in self assessment, peer assessment, and student led target setting.

Jo Cullen, Principal, Jeremiah School (all)

Derthick Hall Room 202

3. AASL Best Apps & Websites for Teaching & Learning (American Association of School Librarians)

Description: The 2019 Best Apps and Websites for Teaching & Learning are of exceptional value to inquiry-based teaching and learning. The digital tools recognized by AASL foster the qualities of innovation, creativity, active participation, and collaboration and are user friendly to encourage a community of learners to explore and discover.

Dr. Johnnie Sue Hawley, Liberty Bell Middle School, TASL Holston River Representative, AASL, ALA, TLA (all)

Derthick Hall Room 210

4. Makerspaces and Literacy: Creating a School Culture for Innovation

Description: This session highlights the transformation at Anderson Elementary from a traditional model to a school of innovation and a three-year journey from one Makerspace to a school-wide initiative where teachers have expertise in literacy, coding, robotics, digital arts, and STEM labs. As a Title 1 School, where 80% of students receive free and reduced lunch, we embrace innovation and cross-curricular connections. Participants will learn about vision, strategic plans, grant opportunities, professional learning, trauma informed care, and a university partnership. Achievement and growth scores continue to rise and in 2019 Anderson earned a 5 in school-wide literacy. Join our journey from poverty and trauma to hope and healing.

Dr. Ginger Christian, Bristol City Schools (K-6, admin.)

Derthick Hall Room 207

5. Small Group Activities for Differentiating Instruction

Description: This interactive session provides an overview of differentiated instruction, characteristics of a differentiated classroom, and connections to the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model (TEAM) rubrics. Attendees will receive a packet with ideas for small group activities for differentiating instruction. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss different ideas and ways to implement differentiated small group strategies in their classrooms.

Dr. Tausha Clay, Milligan College (all)

Derthick Hall Room 209

