

Thursday, April 16, 2020

10:00 am – 11:30 am Session A

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A1

**Let children know what they experience: communication that helps children manage distress**

Adults must supplement children's understanding of what happened and provide meaning that can mediate the negative effects of trauma and stress. This essential communication must be useful to the child, but also reassuring. In this workshop we will practice hard conversations to illustrate how to be most helpful

*Anne Gearity, PhD, Independent Mental Health Practice and Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota*

A2

**Preschool Inclusion 20/20**

Join the preschool inclusions 20/20 session for an in-focus over-view of preschool inclusion. What are the requirements? What are the barriers? What can be gained with a united understanding across settings?

*Sue Thomas, Part B/619 Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Education*

A3 (Repeated B3)

**Transitioning to a Gender Inclusive Practice**

We all want to make a space that is safe, inclusive, and affirming for all of our students. Learn about best practices for children of all genders and how your support of Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming children supports all of our children.

*Jason Bucklin, LGBTQ Program Coordinator, Minneapolis Public Schools - Out4Good*

A4

**Adverse Childhood Effects (ACEs) in Early Childhood and How to help children develop resiliency**

Come learn more about Adverse Childhood Effects specifically how it pertains to Early Childhood and learn some techniques you can use to help children develop resilience. Participants will learn what ACEs are, why they are important and how we, as educators, can help.

*Sarah Grimm, Early Childhood Coordinator, Westonka Public Schools*

A5

**Using Seesaw in Early Childhood Programs for Communication, Assessment, and Learning**

Good parent communication and authentic assessment are two keys aspects of a successful early childhood program. The Seesaw app assists staff with building learning portfolios, present e-learning, parent communication, authentic assessment and more. Learn about how it can be used in ECFE, preschool, and childcare.

*Kelly Kazeck, Early Childhood Coordinator; Sarah Fritsch, Parent Educator, Big Lake Schools ECFE*

A6 (Repeated B4)

**Connected and Kind: Parenting with Empathy in a World of Excess Screen Time**

Interactive workshop helping educators and parents understand the allure of screentime, the impact on developmental milestones, and practical tips on parenting with screens and social media.

*Eric Skanson, Elementary Principal, Cold Spring Elementary School*

A7 (Repeated C7)

**Strategies for working with Dual Language Learners**

We will look at the 4 stages of Language acquisition for Dual Language Learners: Home Language Use, observational, formulaic, and productive Language. Using video clips, we'll look at the characteristics of each stage and explore strategies for supporting children at each point in their language acquisition journey.

*Darcy Rodriguez, Early Childhood Coordinator, Stillwater Public Schools- ISD 834*

A8

**Language and Literacy in B-3 Home Visits**

We will introduce you to the evidence based practices in language and literacy for birth to three. You will hear practical ideas for how we implement them during home visits and how to coach parents to use them as well.

*Anne Muenchow, Language and Literacy Coach, Saint Paul Public Schools*

A9 (Repeated B8)

**A Change in Perspective: Engagement Begins with "Welcome"**

A welcoming environment is as important for families as it is for children when it comes to engagement. Walk through a practical "Welcome" inventory that suggests ways to create a culturally-inclusive, person-centered community. Change your perspectives - and the practices they guide - to make school welcoming for everyone!

*Deborah Ottman, Director, Online Professional Development, Center for Early Education and Development - UMN*

A10 (Repeated B9)

### **Puppets Talk, Children Listen**

Have you thought about adding puppets to your classrooms but aren't sure where to start? In this session we will share our experience promoting puppets. We will discuss some of the challenges and successes. Come join us to get some puppet practice that you can bring back to your classes.

*Melissa Schmidt, ECFE/School Readiness Lead Teacher and Parent Educator; Amy Yocom, Behavior Specialist, Albert Lea Early Learning*

A11 (Repeated B12)

### **Expanding Parent Education-Pre-K to Grade 3**

Come and join the statewide conversation about expanding parent education to include elementary school families. Learn how to be part of this multi-district collaborative, contribute ideas, and help to put the foundation in place for years to come.

Susan Somers, ECFE Parent Educator, Prenatal-Grade 3 Alignment Committee (Advocacy); Diane Tich, ECFE School Readiness Coordinator, Prenatal-Grade 3 Alignment Committee (Practical Implementation)

A12 (Repeated D12)

### **Creating a Multicultural and Multilingual Milieu**

Preparing for an equitable and inclusive early childhood classroom includes being equipped with the knowledge and skills that are needed to teach multilingual and multicultural students. Learn how to create a multicultural and multilingual milieu with effective strategies and methods

*Deborah Wheeler, Professor in Child & Family Studies, St. Cloud State University*

A13 (Repeated C12)

### **ECFE Home Visiting**

This presentation will provide information on the ECFE Home Visiting Program being implemented within Minneapolis Public Schools. I will share information on how we grew our ECFE home visiting program. I will also discuss home visiting practices, referral sources, and data collection along with other aspects of ECFE home visiting.

*Kari Sawyer, ECFE District Program Facilitator, Minneapolis Public Schools*

**Thursday, April 16, 2020**

**1:00 pm – 2:30 pm      Session B**

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B1 (Repeated C1)

### **Parents ARE Sex Educators!**

In this workshop we will discuss and practice effective methods for supporting parents of kids in their role as sex educators for their children (birth through teen). Parent educators will leave with an understanding of important key concepts, as well as a few activities, handouts, and ideas for further resources.

*Hadija Steen Mills, Training Manager, Family Tree Clinic*

B2 (EPL)

### **Oral Health Fun for your School**

You can set up a fun, educational, and interactive presentation for the students at your school.

*Cris Gilb, Executive Director, Minnesota Oral Health Project*

B3 (Repeated A3)

### **Transitioning to a Gender Inclusive Practice**

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*Eric Skanson, Elementary Principal, Cold Spring Elementary School*

B5

### **Advocacy 101**

There are no silly questions here. This session will convince you that advocacy is essential to our profession. You will learn how to create an advocacy plan for your program. You will be inspired to find your teacher leader voice and to use it. #ECFEAdvocacy

*Katy Smith, Parent Educator, Smith Consulting*

## 2020 MNAFEE Breakout Session Information

B6 (Continued C6)

### **Talk, Sing, Read, Write and Play...Everyday: Supporting Early Literacy through Intentional Interact**

Explore why it's important for children to get ready to read, starting at birth. Learn to integrate the five early literacy practices and components that prepare children to learn to read into your childcare curriculum and environment. Hear how your local library can support you in your early literacy efforts.

*Dawn LaBrosse, Youth Services Coordinator, Washington County Library*

B7 (Repeated C8)

### **Why Do They Do That?**

Wet sleeves and shirt collars? Meltdowns at clean up time? Explore the "why" behind common behaviors that tend to be labeled "misbehaviors" in your classrooms. Educators will be equipped with tips and tricks to help ease the frequency or intensity of these behaviors ranging from shirt chews to transition meltdowns.

*Katie Hansen, S.M.A.R.T. Mentor; Alisha Prange, Pre-K Teacher, S.M.A.R.T. Presenter, A Chance To Grow, Inc.*

B8 (Repeated A9)

### **A Change in Perspective: Engagement Begins with "Welcome"**

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*Melissa Schmidt, ECFE/School Readiness Lead Teacher and Parent Educator; Amy Yocom, Behavior Specialist, Albert Lea Early Learning*

B10 (EPL)

### **Responding To Difficult Questions About Differences and Disabilities**

Your response to a difficult or awkward question is crucial to how a child will interact with people who are different from them. In this presentation, I will share positive ways to respond to questions that young children may ask about their classmates that may have differences.

*Gina Schmittiel, Board Member, Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota*

B11 (Repeated C11)

### **How to Talk WITH Kids about Race**

How To Talk WITH Kids about Race is an opportunity to support adult-allies with tools they may need to have proactive and reactivate conversations about race and racism with the children in their lives.

*Alicia Sojourner, Racial Equity Manager, City of St. Louis Park*

B12 (Repeated A11)

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Come and join the statewide conversation about expanding parent education to include elementary school families. Learn how to be part of this multi-district collaborative, contribute ideas, and help to put the foundation in place for years to come.

*Susan Somers, ECFE Parent Educator, Prenatal-Grade 3 Alignment Committee (Advocacy); Diane Tich, ECFE School Readiness Coordinator, Prenatal-Grade 3 Alignment Committee (Practical Implementation)*

B13 (Repeated D10)

### **Embedding Self-Regulation in the Preschool Classroom**

A dive into understanding the science behind the executive functioning system in early learners. Explore ways to embed practices/tools/techniques into every area of your classroom. Participants will leave with deeper knowledge of how to help build self-regulation in children as well as tools for immediate use.

*Rachel Starkweather, ECFE Teacher, Mounds View Public Schools*

**Thursday, April 16, 2020**

**2:45 pm – 4:15 pm      Session C**

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C1 (Repeated B1)

### **Parents ARE Sex Educators!**

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*Hadija Steen Mills, Training Manager, Family Tree Clinic*

C2

### **Unpacking early math in parent educator discussions: DREME Family Math**

Early math skills are fundamental for later academic success, however many parents are uncertain what early math includes and how to incorporate it into their routines. This presentation will guide parent educators through facilitator modules that demonstrate how to integrate math content in discussions and in-class activities with parents. OR Early math is a critical component of children's later academic success, however many parents are unclear about what early math includes and how to incorporate it into their parenting routines. This presentation will train parent educators to incorporate early math content in parent educator discussions, through modules and in-class activities.

*Alisha Wackerle-Hollman, Assistant Research Professor; Michele Mazzocco, Professor, ICD; Megan Onesti, Graduate Research Assistant; Jasmine Ernst, Graduate Research Assistant, University of Minnesota*

C3 (EPL)

### **Outdoor Learning and Nature Play – You Can Do It Too!**

Are you interested in the idea of incorporating nature play into your program, but aren't sure how to overcome common barriers to do so? Participants will leave this session with solutions to the challenges, as well as the resources and skills necessary for taking the next steps with their program. Following a short presentation on risky play (What is it & Why children need it), participants will engage in conversations about the challenges/barriers for incorporating risk into early childhood programs, as well as solutions for navigating those challenges in a way that balances the need for safety and risk simultaneously.

*Anna Dutke, Nature Preschool Teacher, Jenny Hanlon, Jeffers Foundation*

C4

### **Early Childhood Screening Program Leadership**

Early Childhood Screening Program Leadership will provide an interactive session highlighting best practices in parent engagement, standards, approved instruments, review of the new annual report, data use for strategic program improvement, Multilingual learners, cultural considerations and other topics. Navigate the differences between problem feeders and picky eaters while working through what makes meal time so difficult for so many children. Learn how to help children tackle the obstacles at meal time and become a happy and healthy eater for life!

*Margo Chresand, Early Childhood Screening Specialist, Minnesota Department of Education*

C5 (EPL)

### **Crushing Cavities at School: A Student-Focused Oral Health Prevention Initiative**

A child with dental disease, such as cavities, may experience loss of appetite, sleeplessness, and decreased self-confidence – all of which may negatively impact school performance. Learn how to incorporate creative and fun interactive oral health activities in the classroom to support student well-being and academic success.

*Alesha Angel, Consultant; Cris Gilb, Executive Director, PHN, Minnesota Oral Health Project*

C6 (Continued from B6)

### **Talk, Sing, Read, Write and Play...Everyday: Supporting Early Literacy through Intentional Interactions**

Explore why it's important for children to get ready to read, starting at birth. Learn to integrate the five early literacy practices and components that prepare children to learn to read into your childcare curriculum and environment. Hear how your local library can support you in your early literacy efforts

*Dawn LaBrosse, Youth Services Coordinator, Washington County Library*

C7 (Repeated A7)

### **Strategies for working with Dual Language Learners**

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*Darcy Rodriguez, Early Childhood Coordinator, Stillwater Public Schools- ISD 834*

C8 (Repeated B7)

### **Why Do They Do That?**

Wet sleeves and shirt collars? Meltdowns at clean up time? Explore the "why" behind common behaviors that tend to be labeled "misbehaviors" in your classrooms. Educators will be equipped with tips and tricks to help ease the frequency or intensity of these behaviors ranging from shirt chews to transition meltdowns.

*Katie Hansen, S.M.A.R.T. Mentor; Alisha Prange, Pre-K Teacher, S.M.A.R.T. Presenter, A Chance To Grow, Inc.*

C9 (EPL)

**Developmental Affirmations: A versatile coaching tool**

Educators will discover the history and benefits of using Developmental Affirmations. Research grounded developmental affirmations encourage individuals to develop the attitudes and skills that are appropriate for them to be learning at each/any age. This versatile coaching tool can be used to support parent potency, family relationships, and child development.

*Lisa Krause, Parenting Coach*

C10 (EPL)

**Play, observe, reflect: using Anji Play approaches to enhance play and parenting education**

Observing and reflecting on play is a critical component of parental learning. Through family play sessions at city parks and school sites, Kaitlyn is working on bringing the Anji Play approach to early learning in China to children and families this summer in Duluth, Minnesota.

*Kaitlyn McKechnie, ECFE Teacher, Duluth ECFE*

C11 (Repeated B11)

**How to Talk WITH Kids about Race**

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*Alicia Sojourner, Racial Equity Manager, City of St. Louis Park*

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*Kari Sawyer, ECFE District Program Facilitator, Minneapolis Public Schools*

**Thursday, April 16, 2020**

**4:30 pm – 5:30 pm EPL**

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**Eat, Ponder, Learn (EPL)**

**Terry Haws Room**

*Join in table discussions with workshop presenters / experts for interactive learning and sharing*

*Appetizers provided by MNAFEE.*

*Check out our exhibitors – Chat with exhibitors!*

*No charge, but please pre-register so we can plan for you!*

**EPL Table Topics:**

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- Crushing Cavities at School: A Student-Focused Oral Health Prevention Initiative**
- Pursuing a Teaching License in Parent and Family Education and/or Masters in Family Education at UMN**
- Developmental Affirmations: A versatile coaching tool.**
- Play, observe, reflect: using Anji Play approaches to enhance play and parenting education**
- Responding To Difficult Questions About Differences and Disabilities**
- Outdoor Learning and Nature Play – You Can Do It Too!**

Friday, April 17, 2020

9:30 am – 11:00 am Session D

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D1 (Repeated E10)

**Music Therapy to Support Executive Functioning Outcomes**

Music therapy interventions may improve executive functioning outcomes among early childhood populations. This session describes music therapy services that have been provided in two early childhood centers where a music therapist has collaborated with classroom teachers to provide weekly sessions focusing on self-regulation, working memory, shifting attention, and communication.

*Jessica Nagel-Nnebedum, Music Therapist - Board Certified, Child and Family Music Therapy*

D2 (Repeated E3)

**Building Healthier Parent Child Relationships Through Coaching Parents**

We will focus on a coaching program for ECFE. We will share how direct coaching and real time practice on specific skills can help parents master and generalize skills. We will share ideas behind this model, how the class has been modified and how parents learn and maintain new skills.

*Tricia Weber, Supervisor, Anoka Hennepin ECFE; Kristin Baden, PhD, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, Anoka Hennepin ECSE*

D3 (Repeated E8)

**It's not what you say, it's the way that you say it**

Using the Developmental Parenting Highway, explore how words, actions, and self-awareness, keep us centered on the parenting road by providing balanced nurture and structure without veering into the unhealthy shoulders and ditches. In this interactive breakout caregivers will use this information to create personalized developmental maps for children.

*Lisa Krause MA CFLE, Parenting Coach/Adjunct Professor*

D4 (Repeated E2)

**Use RDPED videos & methods to add transformative learning to your parent education sessions**

Want to integrate Reflective Dialogue Parent Education Design (RDPED) into topic-based parent education? Come experience it for yourself with NEW parent-child interaction videos. You'll leave with a lesson plan and video to use right away. And, hear about new opportunities for support in implementing RDPED to promote parent development.

*Heather Cline, Lecturer, University of Minnesota*

D5 (Repeated E5)

**Minnesota Inspired Parent Education Practice in Iceland**

The parent education program, modeled on University of Minnesota program, was offered first in 2015 at the University of Iceland. The first students have graduated and are starting to work as parent-educators, with ECFE as a role model. We will discuss opportunities, challenges, and the need for parent-education in Iceland.

*Hrund Ingudóttir, Assistant Professor, University of Iceland, School of Education*

D6 (Continued E6)

**Implicit Bias: Do we really see all children the same? Race, Equity, and the Achievement Gap**

This workshop will take an in depth look at implicit bias...where does it come from, who are we as racial beings, what's the impact in our work with families and our expectations of students, and how do we get past it.

*Eric Hansen, Program Manager; Gretchen Dullinger, Program Assistant; Rebecca Wong, EC&FE Parent Educator; Therese Thieschafer, EC&FE Parent Educator, Osseo Area Schools Early Childhood and Family Education programs*

D7 (Repeated E9)

**Easier Said Than Done: [SOMETIMES] Successful Strategies to Manage Difficult Classroom Behaviors**

Managing classroom behaviors is a lot like solving a puzzle. Each child and each situation is unique but implementing some base line expectations and using best practices for guidance, behaviors can be minimized. Learn about how the environment, relationships, SEL, and acceptance all play a role in success. Sometimes.

*Stacey Bellows, Teacher, High Five, Minneapolis Public Schools*

D8 (Repeated E11)

**Give Kids the Example They Deserve...and Give Them Their Future!**

Learn to give kids the very best example you have inside you! Discover how solid care of self is the gift we can consistently offer in our daily work. Learn the difference between "you will" and "I will" messages to give kids their best shot in the real world.

*Andy Johnsrud, Teacher & Trainer, Warriors of the Open Heart Consulting*

D9 (Cancelled for this session, but presented at 11:15am E12)

### **Early Learning Scholarship Policy, Management, and Implementation**

MDE early learning scholarships staff will present on management of Pathway II scholarships from a policy perspective and within the ELSA system. Topics include creating and revising awards, billing, monitoring and documentation requirements, Parent Aware rating requirements, Pathway I scholarships, and will end with time for questions.

*Krista Solie, Early Education Specialist; Kendra Lewis, Early Learning Data Specialist, Minnesota Department of Education*

D10 (Repeated B13)

### **Embedding Self-Regulation in the Preschool Classroom**

A dive into understanding the science behind the executive functioning system in early learners. Explore ways to embed practices/tools/techniques into every area of your classroom. Participants will leave with deeper knowledge of how to help build self-regulation in children as well as tools for immediate use.

*Rachel Starkweather, ECFE Teacher, Mounds View Public Schools*

D11

### **Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System: What's New and What's Next**

Minnesota's Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System (ECLDS) launched in February 2016, and has since grown significantly. Learn about the ECLDS's newer features and how the Minnesota Service Cooperative in your region can offer technical assistance in using the ECLDS.

*Jennifer Verbrugge, ECLDS Lead, Minnesota Department of Education*

D12 (Repeated A12)

### **Creating a Multicultural and Multilingual Milieu**

Preparing for an equitable and inclusive early childhood classroom includes being equipped with the knowledge and skills that are needed to teach multilingual and multicultural students. Learn how to create a multicultural and multilingual milieu with effective strategies and methods

*Deborah Wheeler, Assistant Professor in Child & Family Studies, St. Cloud State University*

## **Friday, April 12, 2019**

### **11:15 am – 12:45 pm Session E**

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E1

### **Overview of Preschool Development Grant**

Share findings from the Preschool Development Grant cross-agency strategic plan and the plan for implementation. The grant focused on ways to better serve children and families facing racial, geographic, and economic inequities so they can be born healthy and thrive within their families and community

*Amanda Varley, Preschool Development Grant Manager, MN Department of Education*

E2 (Repeated D4)

### **Use RDPED videos & methods to add transformative learning to your parent education sessions**

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*Heather Cline, Lecturer, University of Minnesota*

E3 (Repeated D2)

### **Building Healthier Parent Child Relationships Through Coaching Parents**

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*Tricia Weber, Supervisor, Anoka Hennepin ECFE; Kristin Baden, PhD, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, Anoka Hennepin ECSE*

E4

### **Learn to BrainDance with Rhymes and Songs to Make a Difference With Your Young Students**

BrainDance is a great way to help your young students continue their brain development through movement. Learn purposeful movement that is natural and comfortable for both the adult and the child. Through participation you will learn how to use the BrainDance in a fun and rewarding way.

*Shana Wagner, BrainDance Educator/ Retired Elem. Music Teacher*

E5 (Repeated E5)

### **Minnesota Inspired Parent Education Practice in Iceland**

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E6 (Continued from D6)

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*Eric Hansen, Program Manager; Gretchen Dullinger, Program Assistant; Rebecca Wong, EC&FE Parent Educator; Therese Thieschafer, EC&FE Parent Educator, Osseo Area Schools Early Childhood and Family Education programs*

E7

### **The Art of Being Ugly**

"Change is hard, especially if you believe it is going to be perfect. Sometimes when we have new projects, work relationships, or experiences, they do not always go well. In this session, experience being ugly, explore failure as a positive, and learn how to set up cultures that embrace ugly."

*Eric Skanson, Elementary Principal, Cold Spring Elementary School*

E8 (Repeated D3)

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