

Thursday, April 15, 2021

10:00 am – 11:15 am Session A

A-1

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Anne Gearity, PhD, University of Minnesota

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.

A-2

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

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

Preschool Inclusion 20/20

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

A-3

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Darcy Rodriguez, Early Childhood Coordinator, White Bear Lake Area School District

Strategies for working with Dual Language Learners (repeat C)

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.

A-4 CANCELLED

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Melissa Schmidt, ECFE/School Readiness Lead Teacher and Parent Educator, Albert Lea Early Learning

~~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.~~

A-5

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

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

Creating a Multicultural and Multilingual Milieu (repeat D)

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

Thursday, April 15, 2021

12:15 pm – 1:30 pm Session B

B-1

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements]

Lindsey Hoskins, Training Manager, Family Tree Clinic

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.

B-2

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Eric Skanson, Elementary Principal, Cold Spring Elementary School

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.

B-3

Katy Smith, Parent Educator, Smith Consulting

What We Have Learned - Pandemic Early Childhood & Parent Education

Whew what a year! Pivot is hardly the word for what was asked of programs this year. Join Katy Smith in a session designed to highlight the best practices learned from the work programs all across our state in this time of Covid-19. There is much to celebrate and much to consider as we reimagine our work in families and communities on the other side of distance learning. ...hmmm, is there another side?

B-4

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

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

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!

B-5

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Kelly Kazeck, Minnesota Department of Education

Meet the new Components of the Knowledge and Competency Framework for Early Childhood Professionals: Cultural Responsibility and Practice, Trauma Informed Care and Practices, and Working with Multicultural Children and their Families

Spend some time getting to know the new components of the Early Childhood Knowledge and Competency Framework (KCF). Learn about why the new components are important to you as program leaders and how you can apply them in your everyday experiences. Discover how these components contribute to building equity for young children, their families, and the early childhood educators that serve them.

Thursday, April 15, 2021

1:45 pm – 3:00 pm Session C

C-1

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Alisha Wackerle-Hollman, Assistant Research Professor, University of Minnesota

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.

C-2

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Anna Dutke, Nature Preschool Teacher, Jeffers Foundation

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.

C-3

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Darcy Rodriguez, Early Childhood Coordinator, White Bear Lake Area School District

Strategies for working with Dual Language Learners (repeat A)

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.

C-4

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements]

Lisa Krause, Parenting Coach

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.

C-5

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]
Dawn LaBrosse, Youth Services Coordinator, Washington County Library

Every Child Ready to Read: Supporting Early Literacy Development

Learn why it's important for children to get ready to read starting at birth and the unique role you play in supporting their early literacy development. You'll learn to incorporate the five early literacy practices and five early literacy components that prepare children to learn to read into your childcare environment.

Friday, April 16, 2021

10:00 am – 11:15 am Session D

D-1

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]
Jessica Nagel-Nnebedum, Music Therapist - Board Certified, Child and Family Music Therapy

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.

D-2

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]
Deborah Wheeler, Assistant Professor in Child & Family Studies, St. Cloud State University

Creating a Multicultural and Multilingual Milieu (repeat A)

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

D-3

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements]
Lisa Krause, Parenting Coach

It's not what you say, it's the way that you say it. Using the Developmental Highway

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.

D-4

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]
Rebecca Wong, Parent Educator, District 279

Implicit Bias: Do we really see all children the same?

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.

D-5

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements]
Sue Somers, Parent Educator with St. Paul Public Schools ECFE

Developing a Virtual Home Visiting Program

Have you found a decrease in home visits since the onset of the pandemic? Are you struggling with how to best serve families in a virtual format? Are you looking for some tips to get your virtual home visiting program off the ground? Join us for a presentation and discussion that will address what strategies work, what to avoid, and how to structure a home visit that will keep parents coming back for more. Goal setting and action steps with common sense resources all in the comfort of their own home will help parents see the value of connecting regularly with your program. This discussion will help you maximize your home visiting efforts.

Friday, April 16, 2021

11:30 am – 12:45 pm Session E

E-1

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements]
Heather Cline, PhD, RDPED Trainer and Founder, Hourglass Perspectives, LLC

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

This workshop will help participants integrate Reflective Dialogue Parent Education Design (RDPED) videos and facilitation questions into topic-based lessons. Participants will experience a parent education lesson using new RDPED videos, and will leave with a lesson plan and access to the video needed to use in practice right away.

2021 MNAFEE Breakout Session Information

E-2

Sarah Holmboe, ECFE/SR/EC Screening Coordinator, Centennial School District

Screening During COVID - A Facilitated Discussion

Come discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on Early Childhood Screening programming. Come share what your district is doing, what is working well (or not so well!), and if there are any positive changes you plan on continuing into the next school year. Get ideas from other districts and feel supported as we navigate through the many challenges of programming in a pandemic.

E-3

Susan Walker, Associate Professor, University of Minnesota

PERFECT Connections

Come join us in PERFECT* Connections (*Parent and Early Educators are Really Fabulous at Electronic Communications and Technology) and meet colleagues from around the state for discussion, problem solving and inspiration. PERFECT Connections began last May when COVID-19 meant sudden change in practice and the need for support. Meetings have continued weekly without an agenda - and are a time for sharing 'joys and concerns' about anything and everything ECFE (not just using technology). So come, close out your conference experience with friends. Then continue to join us whenever you can.

E-4

Eric Skanson, Elementary Principal, Cold Spring Elementary School

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.

E-5

[Meets MN Teacher Licensure renewal requirements, Parent Aware]

Chrissy Mignogna, B.A., E-RYT 200, Lead Trainer and Director of Education, MoveMindfully®

Introduction to MoveMindfully® Early Education Workshop

During this interactive session, enhance your understanding of the impact of trauma and stress on both young children and adults. Develop practical, research-based interventions to assist young children with self-regulation, self-soothing, community connection, and overall well-being. Through hands-on learning, reflection and discussion (both large and small group) participants learn BREATHE-MOVE-REST techniques and social-emotional skill development activities to incorporate into daycare, preschool, pre-K, Head Start, and ESCE and ECFE environments.