



MMSD Leadership Conference "Yes, We Can ... Together!"

Session Catalogue: Middle Level

East High School, 10:30-3:00

Session #1 (10:45 - 11:45) Large Group

This large group session is for all participants and is the only option in this time slot.

Session Title: "Teacher Interpretation Research Presentation"

Description of Session: Sara Hagen will share results of her research on MMSD teachers' interpretations of standards-based grading during the first semester of implementation.

Presenter(s): Sara Hagen

Sara Hagen recently completed a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For her Master's thesis project, she interviewed and surveyed MMSD middle school teachers about the first semester of implementation of standards-based grading. Ms. Hagen is a National Board Certified Teacher of Spanish, which she taught at the high school and middle school levels in Bloomington, Indiana, and Chantilly, Virginia, for eight years.

Session #2 (12:45 – 3:00)

The choices in this section are two hours in duration. If you select a Session 2 option, it will represent both Session 3 and Session 4 in your schedule.

301 Session Title: "Boost Yourself and Learn Spanish"

Description of Session: Spanish for Educators is a workshop that will give all participants an opportunity to learn 30 to 40 Spanish phrases that are essential to greet and direct students in a school building. Participants will have fun, gain cultural experience, and gain teaching skill.

Presenter(s): Rafael Gomez

Rafael Gomez is currently a counselor at Cherokee Middle School. He also is an educational consultant and researcher in the private sector, as well as an instructor for Viterbo College Extension in Middleton. Rafael began teaching adults to speak Spanish

when he was a Spanish teacher for Los Fresnos High School and a bilingual consultant in South Texas.

302 Session Title: "Uncovering Student Thinking in Math"

Description of Session: Participants in this session will read and discuss student responses to middle level math questions using the text *Uncovering Student Thinking in Mathematics*. The group will also develop assessment tools related to 6th grade CMP Units using Bloom's Revised Taxonomy and MMSD standards as a guide to developing differentiated assessments.

Presenter(s): Christine Jensen

Christine is a sixth grade math teacher at Cherokee Heights Middle School. She has served on the CMP academy where she has helped develop standards based grading guides.

303 Session Title: "Robocrobes!"

Description of Session: Learn how to use the LEGO NXT robot to design, build, and test a "living" creature capable of surviving an inhospitable environment. Can you engineering this critter? Learn about basic engineering and programming principles as well as the role robotics and automation play in the world around us. Sponsored by BadgerBOTS Robotics, www.badgerbots.org

Presenter(s): Benjamin J. Senson

Ben Senson is a science teacher at Memorial High School and lead mentor for BadgerBOTS Robotics, the district wide robotics program.

304 Session Title: "Standards Based Assessment in Music"

Description of Session: The presenters will share their ideas and successes with standards based assessment. Participants will gain practical applications and suggestions for how to integrate standards based assessment, and make it work for a large middle school performance ensemble. All three disciplines—band, orchestra and choir—will be addressed.

Presenter(s): Mark Saltzman and Katherine Punwar

Mark Saltzman teaches Band at Whitehorse Middle School. He has been teaching since 1989 and taught in Benton, Beaver Dam and Milton before coming to Madison in 1994 when he received his Master's Degree from the UW-Madison. Mark helped start the Madison All-City Honor Band in 1994 as well as the Madison Wind Ensemble, and the Acme Brass Quintet. He has also conducted bands at UW-Madison and Edgewood College.

Katherine Punwar has been teaching various combinations of choir, orchestra, general music and band for 25 years, first in the Anoka-Hennepin School District in Minnesota, and currently at Sennett Middle School in Madison. She has been a facilitator and member of the WSMA Comprehensive Musicianship Through Performance Project as well as an active composer and arranger.

305 Session Title: "Librarians and Teachers Unite!"

Description of Session: Participants will learn how the services and materials in the school and District libraries meet the needs of all learners—students and staff. The session will address how the MMSD middle school library media specialists promote

student learning through collaboration with teachers in planning units that are standards-based and inclusive.

Presenter(s): Maureen Conklin, Julie Weis, Laura Holt, Pamela Hoadley, Alex Phelps, Kelli Ballwahn

Maureen Conklin has worked for MMSD for 18 years, nine years in the Library Media Department in the Doyle Building and for the last 9 years as the Library Media Specialist at Sherman Middle School.

Julie Weis has been with the MMSD for over 30 years, 23 years as a teacher. For the last 10 years, Julie has been the Library Media Specialist at Hamilton Middle School. Julie especially enjoys collaborating with teachers and having a busy LMC.

Laura Holt has been the Library Media Specialist at Cherokee Middle School since 1991. Laura believes that the LMC is the "common classroom for the entire school."

Pam Hoadley has been a librarian for almost thirty years and has worked as the Library Media Specialist at Akira Toki Middle School since 1997. Reading and connecting children with great literature is her passion. Before coming to MMSD, Pam worked at the UW in campus libraries.

Alex Phelps is a 20 year veteran of MMSD. He worked for 17 years as an elementary and middle school teacher at Mendota, O'Keeffe, and Hamilton. For the last three years he has been the Library Media Specialist at Sennett Middle School.

Kelli Ballwahn has been the Library Media Specialist at Whitehorse Middle School for the last three years. Prior to that time, she was a special education teacher in Columbus, Middleton, and Madison.

306 Session Title: "Exploring Math Grading Guides"

Description of Session: Participants will be given middle school math grading guides. They will discuss how to implement them and how to align the curriculum to grade level standards. Participants will also cooperatively create an end of unit assessment using the grading guides. Participants will leave with the math grading guides, a planned first math unit and a unit assessment.

Presenter(s): Mary Ploeser and Laura Godfrey

Mary Ploeser has been teaching middle school math for over 30 years. The last 13 have been at Spring Harbor Middle School. She has been a member of the MMSD Math Leadership team since its inception and is a National Board Certified Teacher.

Laura Godfrey taught middle school math at Toki and Wright for 15 years. She has spent the last two years as a middle school math resource teacher.

Session #3 (12:45 – 1:45)

These sessions are one hour in duration. When making a selection from this section, you must also select an option from the list under Session 4 below. Also note that sessions with an asterisk are repeated options in Session 3 and Session 4.

401 **Session Title: "Boys Gone Wild"**

Description of Session: "Boys Gone Wild" is about the growing population of boys and young men who are struggling in today's society. Sub-topics include: statistics, information about the differences in male and female brains, the male role in our society past and present, and how we can help boys and young men to thrive.

Presenter(s): Patti Lowe, Sennett MS, Kathy Brandt, and Julie Frentz, Allis Elementary

Patti has taught for 20 years in Wisconsin, the last seven years in MMSD. She has taught elementary and middle school, regular education and special education. Patti currently teaches at Sennett Middle School.

Kathy Brandt is currently a special education teacher at Sennett Middle School.

Julie Frentz is the Principal at Frank Allis Elementary School

402 **Session Title: "Cultural Differences and Language: Code Switching"**

Description of Session: Students come from many backgrounds and cultures. While they do speak English, many students speak a different language from their instructors. The teacher's skill in handling these differences can and will significantly impede or enhance the effectiveness of student learning. Since members of the classroom have a common language, it is assumed that the language has common meanings. Meanings however, can be determined by one's perspective culture so word meanings vary as students' cultures vary. This session will give teachers background information to help them begin to develop effective communication with students of color.

Presenter(s): Barbara Rogers and Michael Hibbler

Barbara Rogers has been a teacher for thirty-two years. She taught pre-school, special education and regular education in Chicago for seventeen years prior to teaching special education in elementary schools in Madison. She currently teaches sixth grade at Toki Middle School. Barbara received a Bachelor's degree with a double major in Special Education and Elementary Education with a minor in psychology from Chicago State University. She also holds a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from National Louis University.

Michael Hibbler has been a teacher at both the elementary and middle school level for more than twenty years in Madison Metropolitan School District. He is currently teaching seventh grade at O'Keeffe Middle School. Michael received a Bachelor's degree with a double major in both Preschool and Elementary Education and a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from National Louis University.

403 **Session Title: "Crossing Generations"**

Description of Session: A unit of study building cross-generational connections within our community will be shared in this presentation. The unit connects "Best Time Ever" writings, students' reflections on writings by elders, interviewing, communicating, and

reading skills, culminating in cross-generational interviews at a neighborhood senior independent living center. This unit could be the launching pad for a community service learning project.

Presenter(s): Joan Flynn and Jen Vena Lavesque

Joan Flynn has been a 6th grade teacher at Spring Harbor for two years, and before that taught 8th grade Language Arts and U.S. History at Sherman Middle School. Her expertise is Drama in Education and Writing. She received her Master's degree in 2006.

Jen is a graduate of Madison Public Schools and has a BA in Economics and Environmental Studies as well as a BS in Elementary Education from UW-Madison. She began teaching at Sandburg Elementary School and has been teaching Language Arts and Social Studies at Spring Harbor Middle School for two years.

404 Session Title: "Mad City Challenge"

Description of Session: Challenge your students with an urban race throughout downtown Madison! Students watched the Patagonia Eco-Challenge video where they learned about the incredible geography of the area and also about the collaboration that was needed for the teams to complete the race. I wanted my students to have a similar experience with an adventure that required them to work in teams to complete challenges. Now our whole seventh grade participates. Students are divided into teams, and use city buses or walk to navigate their way to various downtown locations. At each location, they must fulfill challenges to earn points. Participants in this session will receive all of the materials necessary to run a Mad City Challenge.

Presenter(s): Cindy LaPoint

Cindy has taught all academic areas in 6th and 7th grades over the last 20 years. For the last four years, she has been the Learning Coordinator at Jefferson Middle School.

405 Session Title: "Multi-Media Warm-Ups"

Description of Session: Opening lessons with a warm-up grab students' attention and enhance classroom discussion. Warm-ups allow students to voice their concerns, opinions and questions about social and political issues connected to the curriculum. We regularly use warm-ups including music, writing, science and math warm-ups along with podcasts, videos from youtube, MTV, and CNN and learning reflections. In this session, we will model what we do every day in our classroom.

Presenter(s): Kate Jorgensen, Litler Matson, and Vera Naputi

Kate, Litler, and Vera are 7th grade teachers at Sherman Middle School. They share responsibility for all students in their classroom, teaching all subjects and managing classroom behavior.

406 Session Title: "Language Arts Grading Guides and Rubrics"

Description of Session: The Middle School Language Arts Committee has put together many rubrics and grading guides. This presentation will showcase these tools that you can use immediately to create new rubrics for your specific classroom assignments. They can also be used to switch over from a traditional point-based assessment. Bring an assignment that needs rubrics.

Presenter(s): Betsy Sato

This is Betsy's 20th year teaching, her 6th with MMSD. She is currently an 8th grade Language Arts Teacher at Hamilton Middle School. During her career, Betsy has taught at all levels as both a regular classroom teacher and an ESL teacher.

Maria Covarrubias is a 6th grade language arts and science teacher at Jefferson Middle School. She has participated in several MMSD classes and committees focusing on language arts best practices. Being a second language learner herself, Maria has many insights to share. She holds an education certification in grades 1--8 for regular education and 1-9 for Spanish.

Becky Kilzer worked as a reading specialist/teacher at Toki Middle School for 11 years. She has spent the last two years as a secondary literacy resource teacher.

407 Session Title: "National Board Certification"

Description of Session: The National Board Professional Teacher Certification is a professional development opportunity that revitalizes and refocuses the lens a teacher uses to view kids and learning. This session will introduce the NBPTS process and trace the journey of one teacher. Learn about the benefits of becoming a National Board Certified Teacher.

Presenter(s): Jill Cohan

Jill is a computer and careers teacher at Wright Middle School. She was previously an academic teacher at Sennett Middle School. She received National Board Certification in 2007.

408 Session Title: "Using Fine Arts Projects to Assess Student Understanding of the Standards (for Math and Social Studies)"; "Around the World in 172 Days"; "Differentiation of Language Arts Assignments"

Description of Session: This session includes three teachers discussing four subjects—social studies, math, language arts, and world cultures.

"Using Fine Arts Presentations to Assess Student Understanding of the Standards" deals with specific academic (Math and Social Studies) standards in a format that allows students to pursue a project at their level of interest and ability. The presenter will also share an informal assessment of understanding percentages.

"Around the World in 172 Days" speaks to the importance of teaching world cultures along with the associated languages. Multiple cultures and languages will be addressed and examples of student hands-on projects will be shared.

"Differentiation of Language Arts Assignments" provides examples of how assignments can be differentiated to increase the success of all students in a language arts classroom.

Presenter(s): Pat Gardner, Jennifer Peters, and Drew Kreuser

Pat Garner is a 6th grade Social Studies and Math teacher at Black Hawk Middle School.

Jennifer Peters is a 7th and 8th grade French and World Cultures teacher at Black Hawk Middle School.

Drew Kreuser is a 7th grade Language Arts teacher and former ESL teacher at Black Hawk Middle School.

409 Session Title: "Brain and Senses"

Description of Session: In this session, presenters and participants together will share planning strategies and hints and tips associated with the FOSS Science unit, Brain and Senses. Come to share what you do and learn from others as well.

Presenter(s): Brenda Abitz and Shawn Rogers

Brenda Abitz has taught at Sennett for all of the 21 years she has worked in MMSD. Since Sennett is a multi-age school, she has taught science at the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade levels. She hopes that some of the tips and strategies she has learned along the way will help make your year go a bit more smoothly and she hopes to hear ideas from you as well.

Shawn Rogers teaches math, science and language arts at Sennett Middle School in House 5 with Brenda. They co-plan for science with a special education teacher.

410 Session Title: "Psychologists Working Together"

Description of Session: The opportunities we have to create and encourage meaningful interventions at the middle school level are immense and intense. As middle school psychologists, the time we have to actually problem-solve and share ideas with each other is at best, very limited. Starting the school year with an hour together will allow us to share ideas, strategies, and create a framework for more on-going collaboration. It could be the next best thing to still being on the beach!

Presenter(s): Mary Rhoades

Mary is the School Psychologist at Sennett Middle School. "After 4 years as a special education teacher, 8 years as a school psychologist/doctoral student/sub teacher/tutor/homebound teacher, 7 years as a rural k-12 school psychologist, 13 years as a middle school psychologist and a very limited clinical practice over the last 18 years, I find my heart is in middle school. Or, maybe it is my mentality?"

411 Session Title: "Designing and Implementing a Homeroom Curriculum Based on Data"

Description of Session: A staff committee at Black Hawk Middle School created a curriculum outline for Homeroom which they will implement in 2009-2010. Based on their students' data, the Homeroom curriculum strives to improve students' reading, writing, and behavior.

Presenter(s): Jerim Des Jarlais

Jerim is the Positive Behavior Coach at Black Hawk Middle School.

412 Session Title: "Teaching Math and ELL's Successfully at the Middle School Level"

Description of Session: This session will provide middle school math teachers with a working model of a successful CMP classroom with an emphasis on ELLs. The session will start with tips and strategies for supporting ELLs followed by a modeled CMP lesson in which participants will role play students. The session will end with a discussion on efficient and effective standards-based assessments.

Presenter(s): Jon Keppel and Tally Kruger

Jon is a fifth year middle school math and science teacher at Sennett Middle School in House 4.

Tally Kruger teaches in House 1 at Sennett Middle School. Sennett has a large population of students who are English Language Learners.

- *413 Session Title: "Behavior and Classroom Management Strategies"**
Description of Session: This session will provide behavior and classroom management skills and techniques to help teachers start the year on a strong note. The emphasis will be on a proactive, prepared start with tools in place to be a reflective practitioner as the year progresses.
Presenter(s): Dawn Noon
Dawn has been an educator for 19 years. She has a Master's degree in Special Education, Emotional Disabilities. She has been working with challenging youth for more than 28 years.
- *414 Session Title: "Inclusive Practices for ELL's in Middle School Classrooms"**
Description of Session: English Language Learners are increasing in our schools. This session will highlight ideas for providing programming for ELL students, and share strategies Sherman staff members use to provide support. The use of WIDA progress profiles will be included.
Presenter(s): Jennifer Sidell and Shannon Longworth
Jennifer Sidell has been a Bilingual Resource Teacher at Sherman for 6 years. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in general Education and Spanish. In May of 2007, she completed a master's program in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in ESL/Bilingual Education at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Jennifer has team taught various content areas in both 6th and 7th grade.
Shannon Longworth has been an 8th grade Bilingual Resource Teacher at Sherman Middle School for two years. In 2006, she received an undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Elementary Education. She is currently working on a master's degree at Edgewood College in Education with an emphasis in ESL/Bilingual Education.
- *415 Session Title: "Health 101: Common Childhood Chronic Illnesses"**
Description of Session: School nurses will provide an update for school staff on four of the most common childhood chronic diseases, including asthma, life-threatening food allergies, diabetes and seizures. Nurses will give an overview of each disease, current medical management, and strategies for working with students in the classroom.
Presenter(s): Elly Chybowski and Bonnie Ohm
Elly is the School Nurse at Cherokee Middle School and the Nurse Coordinator for UW Nursing Students. She is also a diabetes specialist in MMSD.
Bonnie is the School Nurse at Lincoln Elementary and Wright Middle School.
- *416 Session Title: "Redesigning the 7th Grade Data Distributions Math Unit to Capture Student Interest Using Real World Connections"**
Description of Session: Are you feeling like the "real world" connections in CMP aren't always very "real" for students? Are you looking for math activities that connect to students' interests and to Madison? In this session, see how one teacher redesigned Data Distributions and taught the math standards while working with MMSD enrollment data about racial diversity.
Presenter(s): Kris Howard
Kris Howard teaches at Sherman Middle School. A special educator with expertise in inclusive strategies, Kris works in a collaborative 7th grade teaching team. Kris serves on

MMSD's middle school Learning Leadership Committee, leads professional development, and has been a leader in the transition to standards-based grading. She is a graduate of Lawrence University and holds a Master's degree from UW-Madison.

***417 Session Title: "Making Middle School Math Work"**

Description of Session: Learn tricks of the trade that are organizational, structural and motivational in nature. This session is great for new teachers or the experienced "pro" looking for a few fresh ideas. "Making Middle School Math Work" has been presented with high evaluations at the Green Lake State Math Conference, and is newly updated with lots of great standards-based grading ideas.

Presenter(s): Don White

Don is an 8th grade math teacher at Black Hawk Middle School. He has also taught 7th grade math in inner city Baltimore as part of the Teach for America Program.

***418 Session Title: "Lets "Talk About Books: Creating a Community of Readers"**

Description of Session: Participants will learn strategies to engage all students in reading. In this session, we will address how to manage successful book groups, design creative assessment strategies, and how to get students talking about books. The strategies will also include ideas for involving other staff members in your experiences with literature.

Presenter(s): Mary Ann Feutz and Karen Vieth

Mary Ann and Karen have team taught for the past four years in an inclusive classroom at Sennett Middle School. Mary Ann is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Reading through Concordia University. Prior to working in MMSD, Mary Ann spent two years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Lesotho, a small country in Southern Africa.

Karen has worked at Sennett Middle School for eight years. She received a Masters degree in Educational Psychology from the UW-Madison and is currently enrolled in the Educational Administration Master's program at Concordia University. Karen is also the facilitator of Sennett's Equity Team and is a member of MMSD's Strategic Planning Committee.

***419 Session Title: "Yes! Assistive Technology Can Support Students Struggling With Reading"**

Description of Session: New legislation mandates that students with a print disability receive instructional materials at the same time as their peers. This session is full of low to high tech ideas for regular education and special education teachers to use to provide access to written instructional materials for struggling readers. Ideas for using the strategies presented in the workshop in your classroom will be included.

Presenter(s): Marcy Worzala and Barbara Corsi

Marcy has been employed in MMSD since 1991 as an Occupational Therapist. She currently works 50% as an Occupational Therapist in middle and high schools and 50% as the Program Support Teacher for Assistive Technology supporting schools and staff implementing assistive technology with students who have disabilities.

Barbara Corsi joined MMSD in 1992, working in middle and elementary schools. She is currently a special education teacher at Marquette Elementary School supporting 5th grade students using accessible materials.

***420 Session Title: "Creating Quality IEPs"**

Description of Session: The Quality IEP process was developed to integrate curricular standards into the IEP process for students with disabilities. Overall the Creating Quality IEP process improves IEPs in four ways: increasing parent involvement, creating strength based perspectives, aligning IEP goals with standards-based curriculum and instruction, and improving legal compliance.

Presenter(s): Sue Addamo and Mary Beth Rolland

Sue Addamo has worked in the Department of Educational Services in MMSD since 2001 as a physical therapist and a Program Support Teacher. She received an undergraduate degree in physical therapy from the UW-Madison in 1986 and her PhD in physical therapy from St. Ambrose University in 2008. Sue has particular interests in working with early childhood students and families and providing professional development for special education staff.

Mary Beth Rolland is a Speech/Language Clinician at Randall Elementary School.

***421 Session Title: "Introduction to Web 2.0"**

Description of Session: Learn web based tools to help create, collaborate, plan and share information such as social bookmarking sites, blogging, wiki's, podcasting, Moodle, Google and more. At the end of the session, teachers will have a chance to try some of these tools with the help of the instructors. Web based tools can help transform the way we teach and the way students learn.

Presenter(s): Staci Limberger and Stacy McCullough

Staci Limberger teaches Instructional Technology and Careers for grades 6 and 7 at Cherokee Middle School. She has a Bachelor's degree in education from the UW-Milwaukee. Prior to her work in MMSD, she taught Instructional Technology for 8th graders in Stoughton.

Stacy McCullough has taught Instructional Technology at Cherokee Middle School for the past two years. Previously she taught REACH-Technology for 7 years at Schenk, Kennedy, and Glendale Elementary Schools. She received a Master's degree in Technology Enhanced Education from UW-Whitewater in 2003.

***422 Session Title: "Google Docs"**

Description of Session: Participants will learn how to use Google Docs with their classes. Google Docs is a tool that contains word processor and presentation modules that can be used to help build collaboration skills.

Presenter(s): Jill Olsen

Jill is a 13 year veteran of MMSD and currently teaches at Jefferson Middle School. She has been using technology in her classroom for the past 30 years.

***423 Session Title: "Increasing Student Understanding of Standards-Based Learning"**

Description of Session: Participants will explore ways to increase student knowledge of standards-based learning. Discussion will include using standards-based language in class, incorporation of standards in assessment, providing examples of student work and developing portfolios. Focus will also center on giving students opportunities to demonstrate in-depth learning.

Presenter(s): Jenni Zupan

Jenni has taught for 15 years in MMSD. She is currently a French and Reading teacher at Toki Middle School. Jenni graduated from the UW-Madison in 1993 with a Bachelor's

degree in Education and in 2006 from Cardinal Stritch with a Master's degree in Education.

***424 Session Title: "PBS in Your Class"**

Description of Session: Come to this session and get ideas that you can incorporate in your classroom using Positive Behavior Supports. We will provide you with tools that you can use on a daily basis with all students, including proactive behavior management strategies (Cool Tools), ways to teach replacement behaviors, and how to use team teaching to encourage positive behaviors.

Presenter(s): Becky Kundert, Monique Carpenter, and Kyle Jenson

Becky Kundert has been teaching in the MMSD for 9 years. She has taught at Sherman Middle School for the past 8 years. Initially she was employed as a cross categorical team teacher and has since been the Positive Behavior Coach at Sherman.

Monique Carpenter has been teaching for six years in the MMSD. She has spent all six of those years as an 8th grade cross categorical team teacher at Sherman Middle School.

Kyle Jenson has been teaching for 8 years in the MMSD. She has team taught at Sherman for the past 7 years. Kyle is part of the looping pilot at Sherman.

Session #4 (2:00 – 3:00)

These sessions are one hour in duration. When making a selection from this section, you must also select an option from the list under Session 3 above. Also note that sessions with an asterisk are repeated options in Session 3 and Session 4.

501 Session Title: "Achieving Your Technicolor Dream"

Description of Session: Have you lost sight of your vision, become discouraged about your dream? Counselor and Novelist Sherry Lucille will present motivational tools to get you moving toward destiny again. This session focuses on inspiring participants to take up their dreams and goals and get going. "Achieving Your Technicolor Dream" will revive and refresh your approach to your life, your goals and your overall perspectives. Participants will experience motivational tools which can easily be applied to an educator's goals.

Presenter(s): Sherry Lucille

Sherry Lucille has worked as a School Counselor for MMSD since 1988, first at Lincoln Elementary and currently at Spring Harbor Middle School. She is also a Professional Life Coach and Novelist. During her presentation, Sherry gives a brief overview of the meaning and significance of the publication of her novel, talking about the journey and foundational elements that propelled her to destiny. Through taking this step, Sherry has found many open doors that keep her on her chosen path. She believes her story will encourage others to find and follow their own path.

502 Session Title: "National History Day"

Description of Session: More than a day, National History Day is a research framework, perfect for a research unit of study for history or language arts teachers. It promotes student learning, meets MMSD standards, and is inclusive for all students, from the strongest academics who may take their work to a contest level (there is a

national contest if you or your students wish) to the struggling student who may find the spark that makes them want to learn.

Presenter(s): M. Vincent Busenbark

M. Vincent Busenbark currently teaches 8th grade history at Hamilton Middle School. "As a child, I never enjoyed history. I could read the textbook, but never saw the fun of exploration and discovery that is history."

503 Session Title: "Divergence of Immigrants' Cultural Values and their Adopted Country's Norms : an Open Ground for Educational Disengagement"

Description of Session: Addressing the root causes of Hispanic student educational underachievement requires focusing on differently prioritized cultural values and eliminating misunderstanding by communicating with parents in their language of competency: Spanish. This session will discuss the effect of the Hispanic culture and the underachievement of Hispanic students in the United States.

Presenter(s): Magdalena Coll-Palombi, Beth Olson, and Gina Lewandowski

Magdalena Coll has a Master's degree in Spanish from the UW-Madison. She has worked to build bridges between cultures by serving as a liaison for parents, students and the MMSD and teaching Spanish and Hispanic literature to a variety of students of diverse backgrounds. Magdalena has been a Bilingual Resource Specialist in MMSD since 1993, currently working at O'Keeffe Middle School. She is also a faculty member of the World Languages Department at Edgewood College and at MATC since 2000.

Beth Olson is an ESL teacher at O'Keeffe Middle School where she has worked for the last 6 years. She has an undergraduate degree from Luther College in Spanish and Teaching English as a Second Language (1996) and a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from the UW-Madison (2003). Beth also teaches English in the degree completion program at West High School.

Gina Lewandowski has been a teacher for 21 years, working at all levels K-12 and at the college level. She is currently an ESL teacher at O'Keeffe Middle School. Gina has a Master's degree in Foreign Language Education from Ohio State University and is presently in a doctoral program in Curriculum and Instruction at the UW-Madison.

504 Session Title: "Standards-Based Grading and Differentiation in Algebra 1"

Description of Session: In the spring of 2006, the Algebra 1 team at Madison Memorial was faced with a dilemma. Although we had been planning mutual lessons for several years by then, we were not passing enough freshmen through Algebra 1 and we were experiencing an ever-widening achievement gap. The time for a textbook change arrived and we were offered time away from school to begin looking at some options. Thus began our journey to standards-based grading and differentiation. In this presentation, we will share the story of our "work in progress."

Presenter(s): Signe Carney and Stacey Hartsfield

Signe Carney has taught mathematics in the MMSD for 14 years at James Madison Memorial High School. She has a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the UW-Madison. In addition, she has been a member of the Algebra Leadership Team for the last three years.

Stacey Hartsfield taught mathematics for 4 years at the middle school level in Alabama. For the past 9 years, she has been teaching math at Memorial High School. Stacey

recently earned her Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the UW-Madison. She has been on Memorial's Equity Team and has taught the PEOPLE program during the summer for the last 6 years.

505 Session Title: "General Music for Middle School Students"

Description of Session: Come and receive some tried and true general music curriculum ideas from a 12 year veteran general music teacher. General music can be fun and engaging for students when it is active, varied, and allows for different learning styles. Participants will receive outlines and lesson plans for several different general music units.

Presenter(s): Rhonda Chalone

Rhonda Chalone is the general music and choral music teacher at Toki Middle School. Prior to working at Toki, Rhonda taught general music at Hamilton Middle School, Thoreau Elementary and Muir Elementary Schools in the MMSD. She is dually certified in choral and general music. Rhonda has been creating standards-based curriculum for her students since 2000. She has interest and experience in teaching low income students from diverse communities.

506 Session Title: "Trauma Informed Classroom Practice"

Description of Session: When students are experiencing trauma symptoms such as intrusive thoughts and images, numb and disconnected feelings, etc., they have difficulty learning. Trauma symptoms affect attention, memory, concentration, participation, feelings of belonging, and higher level thinking. When teachers can look at student behavior through a trauma-informed perspective they can respond in ways that are helpful to students. This session will present concrete examples of how trauma affects students and the classroom supports that teachers and student services staff can use to help.

Presenter(s): Julie Wilke and Kathy Halley

Julie has been the Social Worker at Sherman Middle School for 20 years. Julie has a wide range of experience and expertise in intervening with students who have experienced trauma.

Kathy Halley is a Program Support Psychologist who previously worked at Sherman Middle School with Julie. Kathy has treated trauma survivors in her private practice and in school settings. She presents locally and nationally on trauma.

507 Session Title: "The 2010 Middle School Science Research Symposium"

Description of Session: Madison Middle Schools are invited to take part in a science research symposium for student researchers which will take place in the spring of 2010 in Madison. Attend this session to learn background information about the Symposium and strategies for soliciting and guiding independent student research. The research model proposed for the Symposium moves away from the "science fair" style of research and toward a model that is local, based on student interests and dedicated to responding to an issue or question affecting the community.

Presenter(s): David Ropa

David Ropa is a 7th grade teacher at Spring Harbor Middle School.

508 Session Title: "What's Happening in the Field of Social Work"

Description of Session: In this open forum session, Middle School Social Workers will share ideas and plans for the upcoming year. Topics may include attendance, proactive support group work, FBA and anything else hot off the presses!

Presenter(s): Xanda Fayen and Debra Farrar-Simpson

Xanda Fayen has been a School Social Worker at Sennett Middle School for the last 7 years. She also worked for one year as the AODA and Violence Prevention Coordinator at Sennett.

Deb Farrar-Simpson started her School Social Work career in Marathon County Department of Special Education where she worked for 3 years. She then spent 6 years as a rural K-12 School Social Worker—the only School Social Worker in all of Iowa County! For the last 6 years Deb has worked at Sennett Middle School, first as an AODA and Violence Prevention Coordinator and then as a School Social Worker.

509 Session Title: “Vernier Science Probes with Middle School Science and Math”

Description of Session: Learn how to use Vernier science probes, interfaces and software in the context of FOSS units and Connected Mathematics concepts. This session will focus on 6th grade units—Weather and Water and Force and Motion—and how to create probe-driven graphs that link to Connected Math topics.

Presenter(s): Jeff Horney

Jeff is currently the Learning Coordinator at Cherokee Middle School.

510 Session Title: “Middle School Physical Education Open Forum”

Description of Session: Members of the Middle School Physical Education Leadership Team will facilitate conversation around issues of interest and concern to physical education teachers working in middle school settings. Topics may include: helping students understand standards-based proficiency scores, implementing the grading guide, encouraging students to change clothes for class, and promoting participation and positive behavior.

Presenter(s): Susie Deadman, Marj Kutsche, Sandra Robinson, and Phil Friedl

Susie, Marj, Sandra, and Phil are all members of the Middle School Physical Education Leadership Team. Susie Deadman currently works at Sennett Middle School as a Physical Education Teacher. Marj Kutsche is the Physical Education Teacher at Cherokee Middle School. Sandra Robinson is the Physical Education Teacher at Whitehorse Middle School. Phil Friedl currently works at Spring Harbor Middle School as the Physical Education Teacher.

511 Session Title: “Growing Your Idea with Grant Funds”

Description of Session: This interactive presentation will cover topics including grant-writing basics, searching for and locating grants, grant implementation, and how MMSD teachers are using grants to improve programs and services for students. There will be a special focus on MMSD mini-grants from the Foundation for Madison’s Public Schools, the Evjue Foundation, the Aristos Program, and the Madison Downtown Rotary Foundation. These competitions award funds exclusively to MMSD teachers and certified staff and any MMSD teacher or certified staff member is welcome to apply.

Presenter(s): Marcie Pfeifer-Soderbloom and Susan Hamblin

Marcie Pfeifer-Soderbloom is a social worker turned grant writer with 6 years of experience in the grants profession. She has obtained over \$10 million in grants from the US Department of Education, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and national and local corporate and family foundations.

Susan Hamblin is an Instructional Resource Teacher in the area of Social Studies. She has been the lead author on numerous successful grant applications.

***512 Session Title: "Behavior and Classroom Management Strategies"**

Description of Session: This session will provide behavior and classroom management skills and techniques to help teachers start the year on a strong note. The emphasis will be on a proactive, prepared start with tools in place to be a reflective practitioner as the year progresses.

Presenter(s): Dawn Noon

Dawn has been an educator for 19 years. She has a Master's degree in Special Education, Emotional Disabilities. She has been working with challenging youth for more than 28 years.

***513 Session Title: "Inclusive Practices for ELL's in Middle School Classrooms"**

Description of Session: English Language Learners are increasing in our schools. This session will highlight ideas for providing programming for ELL students, and share strategies Sherman staff members use to provide support. The use of WIDA progress profiles will be included.

Presenter(s): Jennifer Sidell and Shannon Longworth

Jennifer Sidell has been a Bilingual Resource Teacher at Sherman for 6 years. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in general Education and Spanish. In May of 2007, she completed a master's program in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in ESL/Bilingual Education at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Jennifer has team taught various content areas in both 6th and 7th grade.

Shannon Longworth has been an 8th grade Bilingual Resource Teacher at Sherman Middle School for two years. In 2006, she received an undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Elementary Education. She is currently working on a master's degree at Edgewood College in Education with an emphasis in ESL/Bilingual Education.

***514 Session Title: "Health 101: Common Childhood Chronic Illnesses"**

Description of Session: School nurses will provide an update for school staff on four of the most common childhood chronic diseases, including asthma, life-threatening food allergies, diabetes and seizures. Nurses will give an overview of each disease, current medical management, and strategies for working with students in the classroom.

Presenter(s): Sara Parell and Geri-Ann Strigel

Sara Parell is a Program Support Nurse and School Nurse at Hamilton Middle School and Van Hise Elementary School.

Geri-Ann Strigel is the School Nurse at Black Hawk Middle School and Gompers Elementary School.

***515 Session Title: "Redesigning the 7th Grade Data Distributions Math Unit to Capture Student Interest Using Real World Connections"**

Description of Session: Are you feeling like the "real world" connections in CMP aren't always very "real" for students? Are you looking for math activities that connect to students' interests and to Madison? In this session, see how one teacher redesigned Data Distributions and taught the math standards while working with MMSD enrollment data about racial diversity.

Presenter(s): Kris Howard

Kris Howard teaches at Sherman Middle School. A special educator with expertise in inclusive strategies, Kris works in a collaborative 7th grade teaching team. Kris serves on MMSD's middle school Learning Leadership Committee, leads professional development, and has been a leader in the transition to standards-based grading. She is a graduate of Lawrence University and holds a Master's degree from UW-Madison.

***516 Session Title: "Making Middle School Math Work"**

Description of Session: Learn tricks of the trade that are organizational, structural and motivational in nature. This session is great for new teachers or the experienced "pro" looking for a few fresh ideas. "Making Middle School Math Work" has been presented with high evaluations at the Green Lake State Math Conference, and is newly updated with lots of great standards-based grading ideas.

Presenter(s): Don White

Don is an 8th grade math teacher at Black Hawk Middle School. He has also taught 7th grade math in inner city Baltimore as part of the Teach for America Program.

***517 Session Title: "Lets "Talk About Books: Creating a Community of Readers"**

Description of Session: Participants will learn strategies to engage all students in reading. In this session, we will address how to manage successful book groups, design creative assessment strategies, and how to get students talking about books. The strategies will also include ideas for involving other staff members in your experiences with literature.

Presenter(s): Mary Ann Feutz and Karen Vieth

Mary Ann and Karen have team taught for the past four years in an inclusive classroom at Sennett Middle School. Mary Ann is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Reading through Concordia University. Prior to working in MMSD, Mary Ann spent two years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Lesotho, a small country in Southern Africa.

Karen has worked at Sennett Middle School for eight years. She received a Masters degree in Educational Psychology from the UW-Madison and is currently enrolled in the Educational Administration Master's program at Concordia University. Karen is also the facilitator of Sennett's Equity Team and is a member of MMSD's Strategic Planning Committee.

***518 Session Title: "Yes! Assistive Technology Can Support Students Struggling With Reading"**

Description of Session: New legislation mandates that students with a print disability receive instructional materials at the same time as their peers. This session is full of low to high tech ideas for regular education and special education teachers to use to provide access to written instructional materials for struggling readers. Ideas for using the strategies presented in the workshop in your classroom will be included.

Presenter(s): Marcy Worzala and Barbara Corsi

Marcy has been employed in MMSD since 1991 as an Occupational Therapist. She currently works 50% as an Occupational Therapist in middle and high schools and 50% as the Program Support Teacher for Assistive Technology supporting schools and staff implementing assistive technology with students who have disabilities.

Barbara Corsi joined MMSD in 1992, working in middle and elementary schools. She is currently a special education teacher at Marquette Elementary School supporting 5th grade students using accessible materials.

- *519 Session Title: "Creating Quality IEPs"**
Description of Session: The Quality IEP process was developed to integrate curricular standards into the IEP process for students with disabilities. Overall the Creating Quality IEP process improves IEPs in four ways: increasing parent involvement, creating strength based perspectives, aligning IEP goals with standards-based curriculum and instruction, and improving legal compliance.
Presenter(s): Sue Addamo and Mary Beth Rolland
Sue Addamo has worked in the Department of Educational Services in MMSD since 2001 as a physical therapist and a Program Support Teacher. She received an undergraduate degree in physical therapy from the UW-Madison in 1986 and her PhD in physical therapy from St. Ambrose University in 2008. Sue has particular interests in working with early childhood students and families and providing professional development for special education staff.
Mary Beth Rolland is a Speech/Language Clinician at Randall Elementary School.
- *520 Session Title: "Introduction to Web 2.0"**
Description of Session: Learn web based tools to help create, collaborate, plan and share information such as social bookmarking sites, blogging, wiki's, podcasting, Moodle, Google and more. At the end of the session, teachers will have a chance to try some of these tools with the help of the instructors. Web based tools can help transform the way we teach and the way students learn.
Presenter(s): Staci Limberger and Stacy McCullough
Staci Limberger teaches Instructional Technology and Careers for grades 6 and 7 at Cherokee Middle School. She has a Bachelor's degree in education from the UW-Milwaukee. Prior to her work in MMSD, she taught Instructional Technology for 8th graders in Stoughton.
Stacy McCullough has taught Instructional Technology at Cherokee Middle School for the past two years. Previously she taught REACH-Technology for 7 years at Schenk, Kennedy, and Glendale Elementary Schools. She received a Master's degree in Technology Enhanced Education from UW-Whitewater in 2003.
- *521 Session Title: "Google Docs"**
Description of Session: Participants will learn how to use Google Docs with their classes. Google Docs is a tool that contains word processor and presentation modules that can be used to help build collaboration skills.
Presenter(s): Jill Olsen
Jill is a 13 year veteran of MMSD and currently teaches at Jefferson Middle School. She has been using technology in her classroom for the past 30 years.
- *522 Session Title: "Increasing Student Understanding of Standards-Based Learning"**
Description of Session: Participants will explore ways to increase student knowledge of standards-based learning. Discussion will include using standards-based language in class, incorporation of standards in assessment, providing examples of student work and developing portfolios. Focus will also center on giving students opportunities to demonstrate in-depth learning.
Presenter(s): Jenni Zupan
Jenni has taught for 15 years in MMSD. She is currently a French and Reading teacher at Toki Middle School. Jenni graduated from the UW-Madison in 1993 with a Bachelors

degree in Education and in 2006 from Cardinal Stritch with a Masters degree in Education.

***523 Session Title: "PBS in Your Class"**

Description of Session: Come to this session and get ideas that you can incorporate in your classroom using Positive Behavior Supports. We will provide you with tools that you can use on a daily basis with all students, including proactive behavior management strategies (Cool Tools), ways to teach replacement behaviors, and how to use team teaching to encourage positive behaviors.

Presenter(s): Becky Kundert, Monique Carpenter, and Kyle Jenson

Becky Kundert has been teaching in the MMSD for 9 years. She has taught at Sherman Middle School for the past 8 years. Initially she was employed as a cross categorical team teacher and has since been the Positive Behavior Coach at Sherman.

Monique Carpenter has been teaching for six years in the MMSD. She has spent all six of those years as an 8th grade cross categorical team teacher at Sherman Middle School.

Kyle Jenson has been teaching for 8 years in the MMSD. She has team taught at Sherman for the past 7 years. Kyle is part of the looping pilot at Sherman.