

DESCRIPTION OF CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GROUP 1:

Stimulus Spending: Ask Your Questions

This session will allow participants to ask questions about the stimulus bill, the different possible funding sources within the bill and any other questions related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Presenters:

Louisiana Department of Education Staff

Paul Pastorek, State Superintendent of Education

Beth Scioneaux, Deputy Superintendent of Management and Finance

Patrick Dobard, Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs

Tasha P. Anthony, Supervisor of School Improvement

Bernell Cook, Supervisor of Title I, Part A & D

Susan W. Batson, Director of the Division of Educational Improvement and Assistance

Ken Bradford, Division of Leadership and Technology, Title IID

Judy Stracener, Division of Nutrition Assistance, School Food Service

Terry Simoneaux, Division of Dropout Prevention, Adult and Family Services

GROUP 2:

Designing the 21st Century Classroom Through Technology Support

Technology, combined with the key elements of the state's literacy, numeracy, and high school redesign initiative, can provide districts and schools with the capacity to build learning environments without limits. Through this powerful combination, local district and school redesign efforts can be strengthened and empowered. Through the infusion of advanced and emerging technologies students and educators can gain increased access to educational tools and resources that promote high expectations for all learners, rigorous curricula, data-driven decision-making, highly qualified teachers, information literacy, and personalized learning that can result in increased student academic achievement.

(11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

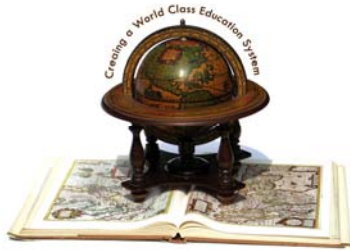
Through an aggressive infusion of technology, high quality professional development, and 1-to-1 laptop initiative, St. James Parish has made great strides in academic achievement through the use of 21st Century technology resources.

Presenter:

Alonzo (Lonnie) R. Luce, PhD

Superintendent

St. James Parish School System



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GROUP 2:

Designing the 21st Century Classroom Through Technology Support (cont.)

(1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Jefferson Parish School system will share best practices with respect to funding and system standards that have been created for the entire district. Jefferson Parish has optimized convergence resources for technology projects that support the 21st Century schools initiative. Achievement gaps are being closed by creating world class 21st century schools.

Presenters:

Dr. Diane Roussel
Superintendent
Jefferson Parish Public School System

Dr. Mable J. Moore
Chief Technology Officer
Jefferson Parish Public School System

(2:05 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.)

Did you know you can utilize a free resource to improve student achievement and academic opportunities by providing students and teachers with increased access to required courses, a rich curriculum, enrichment programs, and professional development opportunities utilizing 21st century technology tools via the Department of Education's Louisiana Virtual School?

Presenter:

Allen C. Grant, Ph.D.
Educational Technology Consultant
Division of Leadership and Technology
Louisiana Department of Education

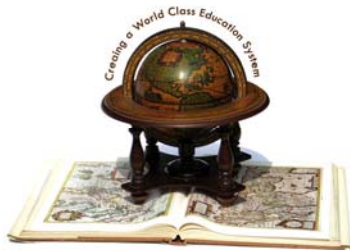
GROUP 3:

Replacing Retention with Early Intervention (RTI)

In 2007, a transition class was started in West Feliciana Parish to enable low performing students entering 2nd grade to become fluent readers and effective learners. The intent is to provide intervention in a nurturing environment at an early age for students who are at risk of failure. The explicit and systematic instruction given is in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, and hands-on exploration in math and science. Also, social skills development plays a valuable part in the success of the transition class.

Presenters:

Bains Elementary School
Dorothy Temple, Principal
Lorraine Beckham, Teacher
West Feliciana Parish School System



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Lloyd Lindsey, Superintendent

GROUP 4:

Professional Learning Is Not A 'One Stop' Shop

A critical component of the Teacher Advancement Program (T.A.P.) is the job-embedded professional growth that provides teachers the collaborative opportunity to identify specific student needs based on data. As you will learn from this overview of T.A.P., Master Teachers then find research based strategies to target those needs, do field testing with students in the building, model the strategies for other teachers and follow up with classroom visits to offer support. Forest Hill Elementary has experienced great success by following the T.A.P. model. Join us as we show how a high poverty school strengthened teacher instructional capacity, increased student achievement and became a four star school – aiming toward five!!

Presenters:

Forest Hill Elementary School

Nancy Rials, Principal

Vicki Younger, Assistant Principal

Nicole Bolen, Master Teacher

Rapides Parish School System

Gary Jones, Superintendent

GROUP 5:

Navigating Best Practices in Literacy and Numeracy Instruction

This session, *Best Practices in Literacy and Numeracy Instruction*, is designed to address research-based practices proven to improve student achievement. These practices will serve as a map to develop world class education for all students.

Presenters:

Louisiana Department of Education Staff

Kerry Laster, PhD

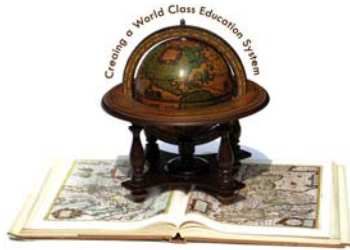
Executive Director

Literacy/Numeracy, PreK and High School Redesign

Shenoa T. Webb

Education Consultant – Professional Development

Literacy and Numeracy Initiative



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GROUP 6:

Innovations in the Middle Grades: Kicking It Up A Notch

Dularge Middle School is kicking it up a notch to provide innovations in the middle grades to reach higher levels of academic success. Through bi-weekly professional learning community sessions, the faculty is kept abreast on a consistent basis of deep curriculum alignment issues such as: alignment of planning, instruction, testing, and appropriate depth of knowledge throughout all three areas. This time is also utilized for studying test data and looking at specific school-wide student weaknesses and strengths to drive instruction. During this presentation, the presenters will reflect on curriculum, instruction in the classroom, and the unique infrastructure as a platform for the successes and continued successes.

- Full-time master teacher
- School Improvement Plan developed with whole faculty
- PLC meetings
- Methods for individualizing reading needs
- Immediate feedback for students
- A focus on writing
- DIBELS
- Classroom walk-throughs
- Part-time reading interventionist

Presenters:

Dularge Middle School
Cheryl DeGruipe, Principal
Amanda Robertson, Master Teacher

Terrebonne Parish School System
Ed Richard, Superintendent