

11:00 AM - 12:20 PM Breakout Sessions focused on topics with our Keynote Speakers

1.1 Teaching Children of Poverty: Capacity-Building through Action Planning

Salon A&B

The Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty has identified eight star strategies that are designed to assist schools and communities in their efforts to transform the opportunities for under-resourced children by bridging the achievement gap that commonly exists between this historically low-performing population and their wealthier peers. This presentation will offer an overview of a capacity-building model for professional development that encourages schools to consider the eight strategies through an action planning lens.

Dr. Tammy Pawloski is the Director of Francis Marion University's Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty.

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1.2 The Realities, Risks and Rules that Can Sink Charter Schools

Greystone

An upbeat, proactive approach to driving achievement and success in charter schools, this presentation focuses on the operational practices of highly successful charter schools. It advocates taking control of practical factors at the board and leadership levels and leveraging charter autonomy. This includes how to manage the regulatory factors and authorizer relations that can have a huge impact on success, as well as empowering the board and school leader to develop and use a dashboard to set and achieve goals and to drive instruction. Passive schools don't win, and kids suffer. They don't have to.

Paul T. O'Neill is an education attorney, advisor, professor and author with extensive experience in guiding education organizations through challenges and growth.

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1:45 PM - 3:05 PM Breakout Sessions 2

2.1. Early College High School Initiatives: Reflections from a SC Charter Program

Salon C

This session will present information on a successful early college high school initiative program at Greenville Technical Charter High School in Greenville, SC. The early college high school strategies being implemented by Greenville Technical Charter High School can be considered to be best practices for improving and maintaining student achievement, high school completion and post-secondary education rates.

Dr. Howard V. Coleman is an Associate Professor in the Educational Leadership Department at UNC Wilmington in Wilmington, NC and has served as a high school principal, a superintendent and a supervisor of 9 charter schools in SC. Fred Crawford is Principal of Greenville Technical Charter High School in Greenville, SC and has over 20 years experience in public schools and is engaged in school reform efforts at both the state and national levels including the Coalition of Essential Schools, Annenberg Principals.

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2.2. Cyber Bullying, Cyber Safety and Violence Prevention: Emerging and Evolving Exposures for Schools

Salon D

This program will define what bullying is and how cyber-bullying and cyber-harassment are similar and in other ways very different from "traditional" bullying. The various ways cyber-bullying occurs will be defined, and the impact on individuals, the school community, and society will be examined. The dynamics of why cyber-bullying is a fast growing form of social cruelty will be explored, and why educators, administrators, and parents must take this form of social cruelty serious will be explained. Leave with strategies and resources to develop a comprehensive approach to address cyber-bullying.

Ms. Ingham holds a Masters of Science degree in Economic Crime Management and a Bachelor's degree in Communication Arts from Utica College. She completed the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program Training of Trainers and has received training in the Bully Proofing Your Schools Program.
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2.3. Common Core State Standards with Your Data

Salon A/B

NWEA is ready to provide Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Assessments for your school. We are on track to provide these assessments now for grades 2+; and in the Fall of 2012 we will include Common Core Assessments for grades K-1.

Sue Madagan is a former Beaufort County School District educator (20 years) and is now a Regional Manager for Southeast at NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association). Tamika Chambers is a former Charter school Principal and Director from Indiana with 10 years in the charter school movement. She is now a Senior Account Executive managing Charter School Organizations at NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association).

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2.4. Understanding Your Charter's Responsibilities in Special Education – Part I

Salon E

This session will provide information, guidance, and updates regarding the mandates set forth in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, federal and state regulations, and policies and procedures pertaining to the education of students with disabilities. We will cover the basic requirements for ensuring that charter schools and authorizers provide students with disabilities, who need special education and related services, a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in charter school programs. We will discuss the requirements for who can legally provide educational services to students with disabilities, placement and service-delivery options, and the roles and authority of charter school personnel and authorizers in complying with federal and state requirements under the IDEA.

Barbara A. Drayton serves as deputy general counsel for the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), providing legal assistance in the area of special education. Her duties include providing training, consultation, and assistance to the SCDE, the State Board of Education, and school districts/agencies regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and other matters related to the education of students with disabilities.

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2.5. Top 10 List of Things all Charter Schools Should Understand about State Finances

Salon F

Come count down the top ten financial facts all charter schools should understand about their state finances. Your cash flow depends on understanding how your funding is generated.

Mellanie Jinnette is the Financial Systems Manager in the Office of Finance at the South Carolina Department of Education. Melissa Austin is the Audits Manager at the South Carolina Department of Education.

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2.6. Taking Charge of your own Professional Development

Consulate Board Room

Taking charge of your own learning requires a process of assessment, goal-setting and planning. No matter where you are in your career your continued growth will benefit your students. Come and join the discussion and start your plan today.

Dr. Reed developed her classroom and central office experience in Fairfax County VA. From 1999-2001, she was loaned to the U. S. Dept. of Education as the Technology Teacher in Residence. Currently - Vice-President, CaseNEX-DataCation.
dreed@casenex.com

2.7. Sustainable Facilities and Management Planning with Facilities Finance Panel

Greystone

This session will provide leaders and boards with essential lessons in determining school facility budgets. In preparation for long term facility solutions - Look at the decisions you are making today on leases and contracts, reviewing management companies, and establishing viable boards. Panelists will help highlight red flags that could derail sustainability.

This session will be facilitated by Jane Ellis with Self Help. Panelists include: Scott Rolfs is Managing Director and Group head of Religion and Education Finance at Ziegler. Daniel Smith with BB&T. Russ Caldwell with Davidson and Co. Jane.Ellis@self-help.org

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM Breakout Sessions 3

3.1. Designing an Integrated Unit with a focus on Service Learning

Salon C

Teachers will learn how to plan "with the end in mind" and use a "big idea" to integrate content areas, the arts, technology, and service learning. Moving beyond themes, Riverview's first grade team will explore enduring understandings and essential questions, and guide teachers step by step through a model unit called "from farm to table".

Teammates, Elizabeth Sanders, Dominique Heyward, and Jennie Baldwin, are first grade teachers at Riverview Charter school and model teachers in the field of education. Their passion for their students and for learning, along with their collaborative approach, celebrate the whole child and provide experiential learning opportunities for all. ambowden@riverviewcharterschool.org

3.2. Common Core Standards in ELA: Where we are and where we are going

Salon D

Participants will unlock the Common Core standards and compare them with the 2008 ELA standards as we prepare in SC for full implementation by 2014-2015.

Marcia Baxter is a Reading Interventionist/Literacy Coach at SCVCS and Holly Sasser is a HS English Teacher at SCVCS. Both of us have been attending the ELA coordinator's monthly meetings to work on implementation. mbaxter@scvcs.org

3.3. Partnerships Enable Charter Schools to Meet Goals in Time for Renewal

Salon A/B

Learn about successful school turnaround partnerships that helped some of South Carolina's persistently low-performing rural middle schools achieve Adequate Yearly Progress for the first time ever. Discover how charter schools that are struggling while facing renewal can benefit from the same type of partnership.

Dr. Monica Henson, a longtime charter and district school administrator on the East Coast, shares the story of EdisonLearning's South Carolina success. Monica.Henson@edisonlearning.com

3.4. Understanding Your Charter's Responsibilities in Special Education – Part II

Salon E

Continued from session 2.4 with Barbara Drayton, SCDE

3.5. Integrating IT with your School's Mission

Salon F

Can technology adoption be painless? Is your charter school utilizing technology as a learning tool throughout the curriculum? Come take the first step in developing a technology plan that makes sense for your school's student achievement and budget.

Patrick McCrea is the account manager for group purchasing program between Paragon and the Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina Charter. have been in the IT industry for over 11 years.
pas@paragonmicro.net

3.6. Understanding the Common Core State Standards in Math

Consulate Board Room

Explore the common core state standards in mathematics for your students. Identify some next steps you need to take as a classroom educator for the bridge year of 2012-13 and beyond.

Gayle Hinton is a education consultant with Educational Resources Group.
erghinton@gmail.com

3.7. Improving your Bottom Line

Greystone

Are you allocating your resources effectively? Is your budget aligned to the mission of your school? What are the conversations that need to take place between staff, administration, and the board so that a budget will be in place to achieve the goals of the school? Come join in the conversation of how to develop a strategic budget based in reality.

School Leaders: Courtney Francher with Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success. Jody Swanigan with East Cooper Montessori Charter School. Mike Sinclair with Brashier Middle College. Michelle Jones with Elliott Davis will discuss steps school leaders and boards need to take when they receive their audit.
jane.taylor@sccharterschools.org

Saturday

9:00 AM - 10:05 AM Breakout Sessions 4

4.1. Financial Reality Check for your Middle Schoolers

Salon C

Interested in creating financially savvy citizens? Come find out how to East Cooper's Middle School Financial Project may work at your school. During Week 1: Students are immersed in the working world and everyday financial trials and tribulations complete with credit cards, checking account, home purchase and other valuable experiences. During Week 2: Simulation is made real through internships within local companies. Come learn how to bring this very important aspect of the curriculum to life while building partnerships in your community.

Anna Chandler is a National Board Certified MS Montessori Teacher with 12 years of educational leadership experience. Lara D'Eugenio is ECMCS Gifted and Talented Coordinator.
anna@montessoricharterschool.com
laradeugenio@gmail.com

4.2. STEM Education, What Form, What Function

Salon D

Much has been written and discussed regarding STEM Education. Presented in it's most basic form, learn what true interdisciplinary, differentiated STEM content should look like and how to support the various components.

Presented by - Ken Smith- Author, Science Teacher, Curriculum Design Consultant. Full bio available at www.currtechintegrations.com/aboutus
Kensmith214@yahoo.com

4.3. Evidence of Learning

Salon A/B

Develop a culture where evidence of student learning is part of the fabric of your school. Participants will learn how to use their classrooms as educators; how to create and manage multi-media portfolios; how to develop report cards that reflect your school's educational philosophy; and how to host a Portfolio Night where students take their families through a gallery walk of their learning. Templates and ideas on how to showcase "evidence" will be provided.

AnnMarie Bowden, a middle school educator, is one of the founders of Riverview Charter School and is currently serving as Riverview's Curriculum Leader. Donna Haram, an educator of 22 years, worked as a first grade teacher at Riverview and is currently serving as Riverview's Instructional Leader. AK Harper, a Special Education teacher of 17 years, worked as Riverview's first Learning Specialist and is currently serving as Riverview's Assessment Leader.
ambowden@riverviewcharterschool.org

4.4. Hiring Effective Teams

Salon E

What is the difference between a good school and a great school? Simple, it's having the right people on the bus. Determine who the right people are for your school and translate the job description to a performance evaluation once you have them on the bus.

Renee Gordon engages schools and school districts across the country in developing highly effective teams with a constant focus on doing what is right for kids.
rgordon@esquared.us

4.5. Transition Planning and Building Capacity

Salon F

This panel will provide a case study of a public charter school that had been in crisis through a leadership transition and will provide lessons learned for boards and administrators. The panel will discuss signs and symptoms that schools should watch for and will apply their collective experience to help boards and administrators to act swiftly upon identification of symptoms that might be evident in your school.

Panel members include Dr. Wayne Brazell, (supt of the South Carolina Carter School District), Pauline Sternick (board president of SC Calvert Academy), Laura Blackmore (transitional administrator at SC Calvert, former SC Charter School Association board member, former Principal of the Year, and former founder of Wohali Academy), and Cindy Tucci, President of Charter Collaboration, LLC.

4.6. Designing Schools with Learning and Community in Mind

Consulate Board Room

Schools have a significant influence on the performance and development of students and teachers and are also an integral part of our community. We look at ways to design schools that accomplish both objectivities. Facility design to promote student achievement, Benefits of Community Based Design and the design process as a fundraising tool are only a few of the topics discussed.

John Shurley, AIA is one of the founding principals of Insight Architects, and have made it a company mission to design schools with education being the focus and not the architecture itself. Vince Ciccarelli, AIA comes from a family of educators and promotes designing schools that is in line with the schools fundamental mission and teaching philosophy.
jshurley@insightarch.com

4.7. New School Development – Understanding Finance

Greystone

Are you developing a new public charter school for 2013? Wondering where the funds come from? Join us as we dig deeper into understanding Charter School Financing.

Mellanie Jinnette is the Financial Systems Manager in the Office of Finance at the South Carolina Department of Education.

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10:15 AM - 11:20 AM Breakout Sessions 5

5.1. How to Infuse Laughter with Learning to Increase Attention, Learning Retention, and Have More FUN Teaching!

Salon C

Research and common sense tell us that when we're having fun, we learn more, are more motivated, and get along better with others. Learn many creative techniques for creating an atmosphere where you and your students use humor in a variety of ways that will help you laugh throughout the day and will certainly make you an effective, memorable teacher. It's not about being a stand-up comedian; it's about being Fun-Inspired. What are the 3 secrets to being Fun-Inspired? Another reason to join us! You're guaranteed some great take away ideas and a good time laughing and learning in this energetic, interactive breakout session.

Shannon McDevitt is the Founder and Director of Just Humor Me. She works with corporations and children on how to infuse more fun into their work, relationships, and how to use humor to improve communication and resolve conflict. She specializes in humorous, custom designed, Team Building; Meeting Breaks; Special Events and Staff Training. For more information about this program's instructor and her variety of services, please visit justhumorme.com. When you're there, be sure to challenge Miss Beauty, Just Humor Me's dog psychic with a challenge you're having. She gives interesting advice that's often also helpful.
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5.2. Beyond Test Scores: Comprehensive Self-Accountability Movement

Salon D

Successful public charter schools have to be high quality in all dimensions - Academics, operational compliance, good governance, sound fiscal management, and productive parent relationships. Come explore the importance of a comprehensive approach to self-accountability and performance management that extends beyond test scores. We will deconstruct and analyze the five categories of organizational management for school leaders and board members and will explain how and why each area impacts the success of the school. Attendees will leave the session with an arsenal of probing questions for themselves, and their policies and practices, in order to find any performance gaps. Importantly, the presenters will encourage leaders and board members to address their individual situations by learning how to find, and then fix, the common problems schools face during authorizer site visits and renewals.

Jill Shahan is the Managing Director of Elevate Charter Schools. Taishya Adams is with the for the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools. Jane Taylor is the Director of Membership Services for the Public Charter School Alliance of SC.
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5.3. Exceptional Children in the Virtual Environment (Grades K-12)

Salon A/B

Exceptional children served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in the virtual environment are offered some unique opportunities for support. This presentation will review the resources available, types of assessments utilized, relationships with general education teachers and families, as well as participation in statewide testing. A time for questions and responses will be led by a panel consisting of an elementary, middle, and high school special education teacher and a special education administrator.

Natasha Weaver is a Certified Special Education teacher with SCVCS who currently serves 3rd and 4th grade students. Peggy Phillips is a Certified Special Education Teacher who currently serves 8th grade students. Mark Davis is a Certified Special Education teacher with SCVCS who currently serves 11th and 12th grade students. Donna Strom is the Director of Exceptional Children with SCVCS.
dstrom@scvcs.org

5.4. CCSS Vocabulary Instruction for Cross-Curricular Specificity in Writing and Clarity in Informational Reading

Salon E

Effective vocabulary instruction is vital for cross-curricular success with Common Core State Standards requirements. Studies have shown strong relationships between student achievement in comprehension/writing and the extent/depth of their knowledge of words (Benjamin and Crow, 2010; Quelette 2006; NiCHD, 2000). Learn about proven strategies for

teaching multiple meaning words/phrases, context clues, word parts and reference materials so that new, more stringent standards are met.

Diane Wheeler has been a professional educator for 37 years, serving as a National Literacy Consultant training educators across the United States for the past 17.
diane.wheeler@zaner-bloser.com

5.5. Understanding Your School's IRS 990 – Full Transparency – Full Disclosure

Salon F

Basic understanding of what is going to be your school's 990 – Your school's tax form. Why does the IRS want to know? Did you disclose conflicts of interest? Have you googled your 990? Who else is looking at your 990?

Denise Hill is an accountant with Elliott Davis who works with nonprofits across SC.
dhill@elliottdavis.com

5.6. New School Development – Round Robin

Greystone

Turning in a new charter school application by May 1st? Come join experts in all areas of the charter application process to discuss your next steps in fine tuning your application.

Mary Carmichael has been working with nonprofits in the education field for nearly 20 years. She has 10 years experience with charter schools and has developed a comprehensive charter incubation method based on national best practices.
Mary.Carmichael@SCCharterSchools.org

Consulate Board Room not used in session 5

11:25 AM - 12:30 PM Breakout Sessions 6

6.1. Charter School Strategic Planning – Advance your Mission

Salon A/B

Please join us for this interactive session which will explore next steps your board, administration, and staff can take with the information you have learned at the Conference. Leave with an action plan and resources to implement real change and advance the mission of your school.

Jane Taylor and Mary Carmichael are with the Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina.
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Mary.Carmichael@sccharterschools.org

6.2. Spring Term Know-How: Creating Real Project Based Learning

Salon E

Learn how to create an exciting and engaging Spring Term that combines interdisciplinary teaching and technology while meeting the new Common Core Standards. Presenters will explain the logistics behind creating a Spring Term and will share successful teaching practices that grab students' attention and tackle real project based learning.

Kathryn Pedings teaches math at Charleston Charter for Math and Science; she is the 2011 SC Charter School Educator of the Year. Mary Roueche Allen is a founding teacher and the English Department Chair at Charleston Charter for Math and Science.
mallen@charlestonmathscience.org

6.3. After School Achievement

Salon F

Langston Charter Middle School has finetuned their afterschool program to support student engagement and to further fulfill their mission. Come explore ideas on how to improve the afterschool offerings at your school.

Rob Venable is a Social Studies at Langston Charter Middle School and the After School Director. He will be joined by other Langston staff.

rvenable@langstoncharter.org

6.4. Understanding the Common Core – Introduction to Implementation at Your School

Consulate Board Room

Explore the overall steps your school needs to be taking for 2012-2013's "bridging year" and look to the future of what lays ahead. Leave with a clear plan for your school's next steps. A great overview for teachers, leaders, and board members.

Sylvia Ford is an educational consultant with Educational Resources Group.

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6.5. Overcoming Obstacles in your First Years - Making your vision a Reality

Greystone

Charter school developers and new leaders have to learn to do more with less. Let's face it- starting a charter school is a huge undertaking and it takes budgeting and creative planning to make it happen. Founders will share experiences and ideas for how to stretch your dollar farther.

Courtney Fancher is the Co-Founder and current Executive Director of Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success, a charter school best known for its outstanding first year success. Amber Rogers is a former school psychologist, the Co-Founder of Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success, owner of Creative Educational Consulting, and an advocate for educational reform.

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