Check out our 2024 date! Add it to your calendar today!

_Save the Date:

2024 WSU Learn Local 12th Annual Conference will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2024

Proposals due:
November 15, 2023

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

Outstanding Instructional Practice Award Nominations

Do you see fantastic work and excited students on your team, in your school or district, or down the hall? Consider submitting an Outstanding Instructional Practice Award nomination for the 2024 WSU Learn Local Conference for an individual, team, school, or district. Nominating a colleague is a great way to show your appreciation for the efforts and dedication of educators in your district. Please visit the link below to find more information about the awards and to nominate the outstanding work at your school/district. Nominations are due by December 8, 2023.
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**Conference Sponsor**

Wright-Patt Credit Union, Inc.

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WSUNER Conference Committee

Amy Anyanwu – Assistant Superintendent, Montgomery County Educational Service Center

Tess Asinjo – Principal, Dayton Leadership Academy

Amy Elston - (Chair), Assistant Director, Office of Partnerships and Field Experiences, Wright State University
Betsy Gann - Director of Curriculum and Gifted, Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools

Dr. Michelle Fleming - Assistant Professor in Teacher Education, College of Health, Education, and Human Services, Wright State University
Kristine Gillespie - Teacher, West Carrollton City Schools

Katie Hartley - Curriculum Director, Milton-Union Exempted Village School District
Valerie Herdman – Assistant Principal, Fairborn City Schools
Matthew Housh – Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Huber Heights City Schools
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Dr. William Slattery - Professor, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, College of Science and Mathematics, Wright State University
Dr. Sheri Stover - Professor, Department of Educational Leadership, College of Health, Education, and Human Services, Wright State University
Lesha Wallace – Human Resources Supervisor, Huber Heights City Schools

Melissa Williams – Instructional Data Analyst & Coach, Fairborn City Schools
1st Floor Allyn Hall
WSU Learn Local Conference: Supporting the Whole Child

Kickoff Presentation: *Student Success: A Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child approach*

**Presented by:** Kevin Lorson, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the Physical Education Licensure Program and 2018 Chancellor’s Award winner for the Ohio Department of Education for the work with the HOPE Curriculum and the HOPES in Schools Project. It was the first time the award was given to a faculty member. Additionally, Lorson received the 2018 Outstanding Contributions to Health Education Award by the Ohio Society for Public Health Education.

**Description:** Student success and health are inextricably linked and key to student realizing their fullest potential. We’ll kickoff the conference with an overview of the Ohio Whole Child Framework that captures a coordinated whole school, whole community approach to support healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged students.

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**The Five Tenets of Ohio’s Whole Child Framework**

**Whole Child Learning Domains**

- **Four Learning Domains**
  - Foundational Knowledge & Skills
  - Well-Rounded Content
  - Leadership & Reasoning
  - Social-Emotional Learning

  - **Foundational Knowledge & Skills**
    - Literacy, numeracy and technology
  - **Well-Rounded Content**
    - Social studies, sciences, languages, health, arts, physical education, etc.
  - **Leadership & Reasoning**
    - Problem-solving, design thinking, creativity, information analytics
  - **Social-Emotional Learning**
    - Self-awareness & management, social awareness, relationship skills, responsible decision-making
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Presentation Summaries

1st Session
(8:45-9:30)

The Multi-Disciplinary Team’s Role in a Multi-Tiered System of Support

Susan Seelig, Derrick Thomas, and Jenna Caudill – Northridge Local Schools

Overarching Topics: Foundational Knowledge & Skills

Audience: Grades Pre-K-12

Content: Language Arts

Are you working hard to intervene and not seeing improved student outcomes? We were too! Thanks to the work of the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) and the development of our intervention system, we are now starting to see the results we had once just hoped for! Let us show you how we created our system! In this session, we will discuss MDT member selection and development, the intervention curriculum selection process, decision rules, and a process for intensifying interventions when data indicates a need.

Integrating PBIS & Financial Literacy Skills

Maurice Sadler – Troy City Schools

Overarching Topics: Social-Emotional Learning, Classroom Management, School-Community Partnerships, School Culture and Climate, Financial Literacy Skills

Audience: Grades Pre-K-5

Content: SEL and Financial Literacy

Financial Literacy is defined as the ability to read, analyze, manage, and communicate about personal financial conditions that affect one’s material well-being. It includes the ability to discern financial choices, discuss money and financial issues without (or despite) discomfort, plan for the future and respond completely to life events that affect every day financial decisions, including events in the general economy. Heywood School uses these concepts of school-wide PBIS to provide tangible real-world applications of Financial Literacy concepts in a safe, learning environment.

Choosing Different Glasses

Morgan Gill – Hamilton County Educational Service Center

Overarching Topics: School Culture and Climate, Social-Emotional Learning, Struggling Students

Audience: Grades Pre-K-12

Content: Open to all content areas

As humans, we all have needs and wants. Our behaviors are simple a way to obtain those needs and wants. But what if those behaviors have a negative impact on others? This session is going to focus on the need for control. The need for comfort. And the need for inclusion. What if kids are not “just being mean?” If we look at behavior through a different lens, could we end bullying?

Bringing Stories to Life: The Power of Interactive Read Alouds for Literacy and SEL

Sarah Walters and Randall Walters – Troy City Schools

Overarching Topics: Content Focused Instructional Practices, Curriculum Design and Lesson Planning, Social-Emotional Learning

Audience: Grades K-6

Content: Language Arts

Join us for an exciting and informative presentation on Interactive Read-Alouds and how they can enhance your students' literacy and social emotional learning! Discover how to incorporate SEL mentor texts into your daily lesson plans, with a focus on vocabulary instruction, strategic stopping points, and key ideas from Ohio's SEL Standards and the CASEL framework.

Say goodbye to endless hours of preparation, as we showcase ready-to-go materials that will save you time and effort. Get inspired and learn how you can make reading a joyful and enriching experience for your students. This presentation is perfect for teachers looking to add a new dimension to their instruction, and it's also great for anyone who wants to learn more about how to promote literacy and social emotional growth in the classroom.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to transform your teaching and positively impact your students. Come and experience the magic of Interactive Read-Alouds with us!
### Supper Club - An Opportunity to Network & Connect  
Allyn Hall 240

Jenny Britton, Camryn Liming, Kevin Nkundinka, Harper Madges, and Jon Schoone – Kettering City Schools  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Social-Emotional Learning  
**Overarching Topics:** School-Community Partnerships, School Culture and Climate, Student Engagement and Motivation  
**Audience:** Grades Pre-K-12, College Level, and Community  
**Content:** Open to all content areas, Social-Emotional Learning/Community Building  
Supper Club is a program created by Kettering Fairmont to provide students an opportunity to network and meet adults from the Dayton area. The program promotes engagement of Fairmont students with adults in the community and allows students to practice being in a business setting. Supper Club is designed to engage a diverse mix of students including students who are known leaders, students who want to network, and students who attend in lieu of discipline. Learn how to begin the program, ideas to fund the program, and hear about lasting impacts for students and adults in the community.

### Coordinating a Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Approach  
Allyn Hall 242

Kevin Lorson – Wright State University  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Well-Rounded Content and Social-Emotional Learning  
**Overarching Topics:** Equity, School/Community Partnerships, School Health, School Climate, SEL  
**Audience:** Grades K-12  
**Content:** Open to all content areas  
Implementing the Ohio Whole Child Framework uses a systems-thinking, systems-change approach to coordinate policies, programs, and practices to support the whole child. We will share the journey and success stories of building local capacity to plan and implement a coordinated whole school, whole community approach through a strategic planning process that addresses healthy eating, physical activity, mental health, and social-emotional learning.

### Meeting Your Students Where They Are: If you want to know how your students are doing, just ask them  
Allyn Hall 255

Jesse Kohls, Aidan Zebertavage, and Kurtis Hawkins – Loveland City School District and Abre  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Social-Emotional Learning  
**Overarching Topics:** Classroom Management, School Culture and Climate, Social-Emotional Learning  
**Audience:** Grades 3-12  
**Content:** Open to all content areas, Mental Health and Social Emotional  
If you want to know how your students are doing, just ask them. Student mental health & social emotional needs will continue to be a pressing concern that need to be supported by districts. Asking the direct question of students “How are you?” and “How can we help?” allows staff and administrators to identify needs and address issues quickly and effectively while fostering improved student-staff relationships. Timely delivery of Wellness Check-Ins can enable staff to better understand overall student wellness, respond accordingly, and leverage this information to drive enhanced insights at the individual student, building, and district levels.

### Incorporating Classroom Technologies to Enhance Students’ Learning  
Allyn Hall 270

Allie Roberts – Fairborn City Schools and Sheri Stover – Wright State University  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Foundational Knowledge & Skills  
**Overarching Topics:** Assessment and Grading, General Instructional Practices, Technology  
**Audience:** Grades Pre-K-12 and College Level  
**Content:** Open to all content area  
New cognitive research shows us that many of the learning strategies our students are using are highly ineffective. Participants will learn specific strategies and educational technologies they can incorporate into their classroom to incorporate this new science of how people learn to enhance their students’ long-term memory.

### Gardening Connections with the Whole Child  
Allyn Hall 410

Michelle Fleming and Colleen Saxen – Wright State University  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Well-Rounded Content and Social-Emotional Learning  
**Overarching Topics:** Cultural Responsiveness, Preserve/New Teacher Preparation, School-Community Partnerships  
**Audience:** Grades K-5th, College, Community  
**Content:** Health, Science, Social Studies, integrated, cross-curricular content  
School gardens and outdoor classrooms are living, responsive, and dynamic spaces that offer rich opportunities for collaboration, learning, and health. These spaces connect to several areas of Ohio’s Whole Child Framework, including community engagement, family, social-emotional learning, nutrition, physical activity, etc. Join this session to explore the question: How do outdoor classrooms connect and transform students, community, and the environment? Participate in the conversation.
**The Dayton Lit-E Potentially Gifted program**

Sharon Goins and Leah Williams – Dayton Public Schools  
*Whole Child Learning Domain(s):* Leadership & Reasoning  
*Overarching Topics: Project Based Learning, Cultural Responsiveness, Equity, Literacy*  
*Audience: Grades 2-3*  
*Content: Open to all content areas*  

The Dayton Lit-E Potentially Gifted program is led by Sharon Goins and Leah Williams from Dayton Public Schools. This program focuses on leadership and reasoning, with overlapping topics such as project-based learning, cultural responsiveness, equity, and literacy. It is open to students in grades 2-3. Participants will share how they detail their collaboration with Project invention to engage learners and parents.

**What the Tech? Apps that Enhance the Whole Child**

Sarah Ahmad and Brittney Fries – North Dayton School of Discovery  
*Whole Child Learning Domain(s):* Foundational Knowledge & Skills and Well-Rounded Content  
*Overarching Topics: Curriculum Design and Lesson Planning, Student Engagement and Motivation, Technology*  
*Audience: Grades Pre-K-12*  
*Content: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies*  

Apps to enhance the whole child through collaborative, engaging, and meaningful lessons. Join Sarah Ahmad and Brittney Fries as they introduce you to websites and apps that will take any of your normal lessons and kick it up a notch. These apps will help any child to be successful no matter their starting point. Participants will be able to walk away with the ability to implement these resources into their classroom immediately. Resources include: Peardeck, Mote, Pixton, Slip-n-Slide, and many others!

**Easy Strategies for Scaffolding Instruction for Diverse Learners**

Jennifer Arling – Troy City Schools  
*Whole Child Learning Domain(s):* Well-Rounded Content  
*Overarching Topics: Differentiation, English Language Learners, Struggling Students*  
*Audience: Grades Pre-K-12*  
*Content: Open to all content areas*  

As a former English Learner teacher and EL Coordinator, this presentation will ask participants to change their perception of what it means to "differentiate" instruction. It will provide easy-to-implement strategies and activities, based on the SIOP model, to make Ohio Learning Standards and rigorous content more comprehensible for all learners, including English learners and students with learning differences.

**Perils of Executive Functioning in the Classroom**

Azure Hickman – Dayton Regional STEM School  
*Whole Child Learning Domain(s):* Social-Emotional Learning  
*Overarching Topics: Differentiation, General Instructional Practices, Inclusion, Social-Emotional Learning, Special Education, Student Engagement and Motivation*  
*Audience: Grades Pre-K-12 and College Level*  
*Content: Open to all content areas*  

It takes a long time and a lot of practice to develop them, but as an educator do you understand Executive Functioning and how it affects your students in the classroom. In this session, you will learn what Executive Functioning is, how it affects the brain and how your student's success is predicated on their ability to learn, practice and sustain these skills into adulthood.

**Creating and Implementing a Wraparound Student Assistance Program**

Rebecca Huber and Alison Masters – Miamisburg City Schools  
*Whole Child Learning Domain(s):* Social-Emotional Learning  
*Overarching Topics: Administration, School-Community Partnerships, Social-Emotional Learning*  
*Audience: Grades Pre-K-12*  
*Content: Open to all content areas*  

Follow one school’s journey through the Ohio School Wellness Initiative and learn how to implement a Student Assistance Program. Kinder Elementary was an integral part of creating Ohio’s Model Student Assistance Program Manual and continues to lead the way through partnerships with the ODE, ADAMHS, MCESC and Miami University's School Based Mental Health Program. SAP’s integrate academic, behavioral, and environmental supports to meet the needs of not just the whole child, but the whole family. Leave with an Implementation Planning Guide that takes schools step by step through the creation and execution of a sustainable SAP.
Connecting with Families to Foster Student Success in the Classroom
Allyn Hall 242
Melissa Rahm – Troy City Schools
Whole Child Learning Domain(s): Social-Emotional Learning
Overarching Topics: School-Community Partnerships, Social-Emotional Learning
Audience: Grades Pre-K-12
Content: Open to all content areas
Effective communication with families can for some be incredibly daunting. It doesn’t have to be! In this session learn a variety of ways to build positive working relationships with families that will ultimately enhance students’ social, emotional, and academic growth. We will dive into the “Why” behind getting to know your students and their families, and then “How” to use this information in an effective way. When families trust the classroom teacher, the students win.

Student Engagement Through Content
Allyn Hall 255
Nate Doolos and Mary Marsh – Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools
Whole Child Learning Domain(s): Well-Rounded Content
Overarching Topics: Project Based Learning, Content Focused Instructional Practices and Student Engagement and Motivation
Audience: Grades 6-8
Content: Language Arts, Social Studies
Students engaged with content in a variety of ways. Take this opportunity to teach multiple different strategies to increase student engagement. We will discuss effective ideas to increase student intrinsic motivation. Some of the strategies we will incorporate are Personalized Learning Plans, Multi Genre Project, Museum Artifacts and many more activities that you can incorporate within your classroom.

Learning, Leading and Empowering with Motivational Interviewing
Allyn Hall 270
Jill Minor, Huma Bashir, and Josh Francis – Wright State University and Raiann Rohlfs -Wright State University Graduate Student in School Counseling
Whole Child Learning Domain(s): Social-Emotional Learning
Overarching Topics: Social-Emotional Learning, Struggling Students, Student Engagement and Motivation
Audience: Grades Pre-K-12
Content: School Counselors/Mental Health
How can school counselors use motivational interviewing to engage students in meaningful conversations on improving grades and attendance and maintaining healthy boundaries and positive relationships? Motivational interviewing is an evidence-based counseling approach that focuses on students’ own motivation to promote positive changes in their lives. Learn practical ideas and techniques to support student learning and positive mental health for the betterment of our school communities.
Fostering Creativity in the Secondary Classroom Through Graphic Design  
Austin Litteral – Tecumseh Local Schools  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Well-Rounded Content and Leadership & Reasoning  
**Overarching Topics:** Project Based Learning, Student Engagement and Motivation, Technology  
**Audience:** Grades 7-12  
**Content:** Language arts focus, but Open to all content areas  
Encourage creativity and higher-level thinking in the secondary classroom through graphic design! In today's digital world, educators are constantly looking for ways to both increase student engagement, and align to state standards in meaningful, impactful ways. Attendees will learn how to use the free graphic design website, Canva, as a form of assessment in any lesson. In just forty-five minutes you will receive the skill sets necessary to have your students create advertisements, videos, posters, and more in no time at all! While a specific focus is given to ELA standards, topics covered are applicable to all content areas.

Meeting English Learner's Needs in the General Education Classroom  
Wendy Grimm – Troy City Schools  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Well-Rounded Content  
**Overarching Topics:** English Language Learners  
**Audience:** Grades Pre-K-12  
**Content:** Open to all content areas, English Learners  
English Learners, like all students, have a variety of ability levels. While some are able to access the content taught in a classroom with little assistance, others need a great deal of support to be successful. We will discuss the different ability levels of English Learners, and what can be done to help them achieve in all general education classrooms.

Don't Let the Teacher Drive the Bus!  
Toni Holzapfel and Cam Van Leeuwen – Tri-County North Local Schools  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Foundational Knowledge & Skills and Social-Emotional Learning  
**Overarching Classroom Management, Differentiation, Student Engagement and Motivation  
**Audience:** Grades K-6  
**Content:** Language Arts, Math  
Who is driving the bus in your classroom? Are your elementary students encouraged to take control of their own learning? Come and see how to transform your teacher-led classroom to one where all students are challenged to create their own learning opportunities. Participants will be introduced to instructional resources and classroom management and organizational practices that help to promote a self-paced, independent student-led learning environment that encourages and supports all learners in the classroom. Are you ready to step aside and let your students drive the bus?!

Who I Am Matters: Putting the Whole Child at the Center of the ELA Classroom  
Christine Quiblat and Laura Harman – Centerville City Schools  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Well-Rounded Content and Social-Emotional Learning  
**Overarching Topics:** Cultural Responsiveness, Differentiation, English Language Learners, Social-Emotional Learning  
**Audience:** Grades 6-12, College Level, Community  
**Content:** Language Arts  
Have you ever wanted to create a classroom culture that meets the social emotional needs of your students but still focuses on rigor? Look no further. This workshop uses social and emotional activities to build safe places for all learners to engage in rigorous activities and access grade level material for creating lifelong learners. Workshop activities include Me-in-a-Bag, the Challenge Level Challenge (introducing differentiation), personality inventories, poetry writing, gallery walks, sketch notes and more!

Developing Authentic Relationships  
Tess Rivero, Daphne Le, Rachel Secody, and Emma DeWeese – Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools  
**Whole Child Learning Domain(s):** Social-Emotional Learning  
**Overarching Topics:** Inclusion, Special Education, Struggling Students  
**Audience:** Grades Pre-K-12, College Level, and Community  
**Content:** Open to all content areas  
Bellbrook Supportive Peers is geared toward promoting authentic relationships and inclusivity between BHS students (Lead Peers) and students within the district’s special education program (Peers). The pairs work together in the general education classroom, during specials, and at lunch and/or recess, depending on the schedule. We also have outside-of-school activities approximately once per month. This program has changed the culture of our community, and we would love to tell you about it!
Developing Healthy Behaviors across Social-Emotional Learning, Health, Education, & Physical Education

Kevin Lorson – Wright State University

Whole Child Learning Domain(s): Well-Rounded Content and Social-Emotional Learning

Overarching Topics: SEL, Equity, Curriculum, School Climate & Culture

Audience: Grades K-12

Content: Health Education, Physical Education, SEL

This session will highlight the learning opportunities across the social-emotional learning, health education, & physical education. The session will highlight examples of outcomes, learning activities, and cross-curricular experiences to build skills that lead to healthy behaviors. We will also highlight opportunities that align the efforts of health education, physical education and social-emotional learning within a whole school, whole community approach.

Tech Toolbox: Building and Supporting Executive Function

Becky Renegar – Milton-Union Exempted Village Schools

Whole Child Learning Domain(s): Social-Emotional Learning

Overarching Topics: Social-Emotional Learning, Struggling Students, Student Engagement and Motivation

Audience: Grades 4-12, College Level

Content: Open to all content areas

Frustration over completing (and submitting) assignments, using time effectively, procrastination, and managing space/materials are among the struggles of many who have difficulty with executive function skills. While we all wish for a magic wand that could remove these woes, there are strategies and tools that can help students and adults strengthen and cope with the difficulties of underdeveloped executive function skills. In this session, participants will learn about several free or inexpensive technology tools that can help students to plan ahead, manage time and materials, and increase focused and productive time on task.

Five Rivers MetroParks as Your Partner for Learning

Mary Towell and Shawna Balog - Five Rivers MetroParks

Whole Child Learning Domain(s): Well-Rounded Content and Social-Emotional Learning

Overarching Topics: School-Community Partnerships

Audience: Grades Pre-K-12, Community

Content: Open to all content areas

Do you want to incorporate nature-based learning into your classroom but not know where to start? Nature can be used as a tool to teach all subjects, and spending time in nature promotes independence in children and increases health and learning. This presentation will give methods used by Five Rivers MetroParks for connecting children with nature, and some of the resources that we provide for educators. As part of this presentation, we will have a live animal for you to meet!
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