

7 Steps to Successful Retirement

(VPK-12) Everything you need to know about DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plans). Topics covered include decisions required before entering the program, what choice is the best for you, payment options, and long-term goals.

From New York, *Michael T. Lucenti*, CLTC, is pleased to be a part of Community First as a CFS* Financial Advisor, with over 18 years of financial advisor experience. Michael holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Rider University. His specialties include Retirement Planning, 401K Rollovers, IRA Consolidation, Life Insurance, Long Term Care and Business Group Benefits. His licenses include CLTC Designation, Series 7, 63, 66 & 24, and Life, Health, and Annuity Insurance.

Autism Spectrum Disorders & the Educational Environment

(VPK-12) This presentation will provide a diagnostic overview of autism spectrum disorders and appropriate recommendations for the educational and home environments.

Marlena Jenkins, M.S., BCaBA is a board-certified assistant behavior analyst with over 15 years of experience working with students with developmental, cognitive, and behavioral diagnoses. Marlena holds a master's degree in developmental disabilities, a bachelor's degree in special educator, and has served as a private school administrator and educational consultant. Marlena currently coordinates the Pediatric Assessment and Intervention Program and the Multidisciplinary Assessment Team through the University of Florida Developmental Pediatric Center. In addition, she is a clinician with the UF/Jax Center for Autism and Related Disabilities. Marlena is knowledgeable in the areas of school recommendations, special education law, parent training, and outpatient therapeutic services.

Effective Communication: Cracking the C.O.D.E. to Impacting Youth in the Classroom

(VPK-12 and Pre-Service Teachers/Early Career) This interactive workshop will educate and empower educators/educational leaders who desire to develop or enhance their communication skills as they work with students and families. Educators discover ways to effectively communicate with youth and parents through effective tactics, real-life application, and dialogue to get

desired results in the classroom/school. The workshop is provided by a passionate facilitator in an exciting, engaging, and comfortable environment.

Nekeshia Doctor, Ed.D. is a passionate educator of sixteen years, author, educational consultant, and CEO of JALIA Consulting, Inc. Nekeshia is a sought-after speaker, leader, and facilitator who presents workshops and trainings around the world in areas such as effective communication and classroom management. Nekeshia, affectionately known as the “Communication Catalyst,” helps teachers, administrators, parents, and community youth leaders discover how to impact and effectively communicate with youth using her C.O.D.E, a strategic system for connecting and communicating with youth.

How I Wonder What You Are: Science Engagement Through Inquiry & Investigation

(K-12) All students wonder about the endless curiosities they encounter every day. When students visit the Museum of Science & History (MOSH), we have precious little time to make an impact and leave them wondering about science. Learn some of the tricks we developed to create those memorable, wonder-filled experiences.

Eddie Whisler, B.A. graduated from UNF and began teaching science for Duval County, Richland County (S. Carolina), and Hawaii Public School systems. Returning to Jacksonville after several years teaching out of state, Eddie took a School Programs Manager position that opened up at the Museum of Science & History, where he has been ever since. Currently, Eddie is the Director of the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium.

Florida Virtual School: Innovative Options for Students

(K-12) Are you confused about the many online options available for students? Please join us as we discuss the different online choices and help you find the best program to meet your student’s needs. We’ll also take a look at some of our most popular courses such as World Languages, AP, and courses from Mawi Learning. You won’t want to miss seeing what we have available for your students.

Jiminda Thompson, M.Ed. joined the Florida Virtual School Team, as a District Relations Manager, and continues to express her excitement about sharing the valuable choice of virtual education through FLVS serving Duval,

Clay, Volusia, and St. Johns Counties. Jimminda attended Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University where she earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education and continued to quench her thirst for learning by earning a master's degree in educational leadership from American College of Education.

Facilitating Student Talk, Thinking, & Interaction

(VPK-5) Learn practical strategies that support teachers in the use of facilitation skills. Reflect on how to create classrooms in which students lead the talking, thinking, interaction, and learning.

Claire Riddell has served as a classroom teacher, school and district based instructional coach, and assistant in research at FSU. She received her M.Ed. in elementary education at the University of Oregon. She has facilitated professional learning at the local, state, and national level and has written curriculum at the national level. In Claire's role as an education consultant with the Center for the Collaborative Classroom, she supports the work of educators around the state of Florida as they look to facilitate academic and social emotional learning among their students.

“A Final Wave of the Hand”: Creating Student-Centered Public History Through Memories of the Holocaust

(9-12) Attendees will view two brief iMovies on the Holocaust and memory created by students following their interviews with survivors of the genocide. This session will explain the process involved, focusing on the often-difficult process of crafting meaningful questions, editing, and producing public history. This session will be useful for anyone who wishes to better utilize technology in the classroom, as well as providing an open forum of educators to share their experiences on how to best teach material as sensitive and as emotionally devastating as the Holocaust.

Joshua Stern, M.A. received his bachelor's in North American history from McGill University, in Montreal, Quebec. He earned his master's from York University, in Toronto, Ontario, for his work on sport and immigrant diaspora in Canada's largest city. He has been in education for ten years, teaching both TOEFL and U.S. history internationally. Last January, his students interviewed Holocaust survivors and used these testimonies to create deeply impactful works of public history which were presented at the Jacksonville Jewish Center with survivors and their families in attendance.

Hands-On Math

(4-12) Students learn best when they are engaged, so come experience tried and true math puzzles and interactive activities from my classroom. This session will provide concrete tips and tricks for making math lessons more interactive. Attendees will walk away with specific ideas to make math hands-on and fun and engage all students.

Amanda Dyal has been teaching secondary math for 10 years, with experience in both middle and high school. During the 2014 school year, she was chosen as her school's Teacher of the Year and was then selected as one of the five finalists for Duval County Teacher of the Year, in a district of more than 8,000 teachers. Mandy believes in making her classroom fun and engaging and loves using interactive notebooks and hands-on activities.

Conversation Techniques for Difficult Parents, Students, Teachers, and Administrators

(VPK-12) Conferences can be challenging, especially when the involved individuals have very different and/or challenging personalities. Attendees will be introduced to the four most difficult student, parent, and teacher/administrator personality types that, if not recognized, can take what should be a simple discussion into a battle of wills and non-productivity. This presentation is designed to help identify and prepare effective, non-confrontational conferences by providing identifiable characteristics and specific strategies to manage and diffuse in order to conduct conferences that produce constructive results.

Beatrice Lewis is an author, CEO of BEAHIVE Consulting, LLC, and a retired educator with 36 years of experience. Bea has presented at many conferences including The Achievement Gap Conference in Chicago; The International Association for Laboratory Schools at Florida State University; Teach Better Together Conference in Jacksonville, FL (2015); the 44th Annual Conference of The National Alliance of Black School Educators for 2016 in Tampa, FL; and The University of Northern Iowa's 2017 African American Children and Families Conference, Cedar Falls, Iowa. This presentation along with her book, *Really? Apples Don't Fall Far from the Tree - Understanding the Behaviors of Parents and Students* examines challenging experiences with students and adults that are familiar to many. Bea's direct "keep it real" style, infused with humor allows her to speak from the heart with conviction and authority to impart common sense advice.

Tips to Keep Teachers Talking

(VPK-12 and Pre-Service Teachers/Early Career) Teachers are at high risk for voice problems. Although 4% of the work force are teachers, 20% of patients at voice clinics are teachers. Vocology is the study of healthy voice production. This interactive session provides helpful information about your voice and tips and strategies to keep it functioning at maximum efficiency.

Judy Wade, B.S. has been teaching and performing music for more than forty years. About ten years ago she became interested in the science of healthy voice production. At that time she studied at the National Center for Voice and Speech and received her certification in Vocology. She is a member of NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing), and PAVA (Pan American Vocology Association). She has presented at the Voice Foundation Symposium in Philadelphia and led workshops in the First Coast area on various vocal topics.

Integrating FSA ACCESS POINTS, Life Skills, & IEP Goals for Successful Student Outcomes

(VPK-12) If you are a teacher of special needs students, this is the session for you. As a teacher of students with intellectual disabilities in a self-contained classroom setting, I have worked diligently to successfully integrate Life Skills, Florida State Standards Access Points and student IEP goals. My presentation condenses 29 years of experience into useful, successful strategies for teachers working with self-contained students, as well as those mainstreamed in the general education program.

Laurie Corcoran, M.S., N.B.C.T. has been a teacher in North East Florida for 30 years. She holds National Board Certification in special education as well as a master's degree in educational leadership. As a teacher of students with intellectual disabilities in a self-contained classroom setting, she has worked diligently to successfully integrate Life Skills, Florida State Standards Access Points and student IEP goals. This presentation condenses her years of experiences into useful, successful strategies for teachers working with self-contained students, as well as those mainstreamed in the general education program.

0 Bullies: 4 Me

(VPK-12) What is your score when it comes to bullies in your life? This session has two goals. The first goal is to promote awareness of the prevalence, potential dangers, and lifelong effects of bullying. The second goal is to provide assistance with suggestions and strategies for prevention and intervention based on research driven data. Whether you are a parent, teacher, student, bully, victim, or average Joe, you've been affected and need to know the score.

Betty J. Bennett, Ph.D. has 15 years of experience in K-12 education as a teacher, administrator, coordinator for at risk high school student program, and district trainer of beginning teachers. She was employed at the University of North Florida for 19 years, as an Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership including teaching in UNF's Belize M.Ed. program and in her most recent post as the EPI Director. Betty is a certified martial arts instructor and through this venue has taught anti-bullying to children and women's self-defense. She is considered UNF's expert on bullying. Her passion is creating safe learning environments for all students.

From Numbers to Knowledge: Prioritizing Student Learning During Science Fair Projects

(1-12 and Pre-Service Teachers/Early Career) Science fair projects have been an annual tradition in science classrooms for many years. However, they unfortunately come with a reputation for being overly time-consuming and cumbersome. In addition, they often measure a student's ability to conform to procedures rather than their ability to conduct scientific inquiry. This session will provide teachers with an overview of why science fair projects are important and how to structure (and assess) them so that they maximize a student's engagement with the authentic practices of science.

Scott Sowell, Ph.D. is embarking on his twenty-second year as an educator, teaching science at Darnell-Cookman Middle/High School. Scott has worked at the elementary, secondary, and college level, with a focus on increasing science literacy, maximizing students' understanding of the nature of science, as well as researching issues of equity within science education. Since being selected as the 2012 Duval County Teacher of the Year, Scott has been involved with science teacher professional development and teacher leadership.

Pathways to Success for Our Students & Community

(VPK-5 and Pre-Service Teachers/Early Career) By 2020, it's estimated that 60% of jobs will require some post-secondary education. Today, roughly 40% of Duval County's workforce meets this goal. To ensure a vibrant, healthy Jacksonville community, accelerating our current students' college, career, and work readiness is imperative. Come gain insights into how curricula and community can engage every student in thinking about and planning for their future. Walk away ready to deliver research-based practices and strategies to inspire every student to create a post-secondary mindset. Because affordability is a critical issue, we will share valuable insights into financial resources to pay for postsecondary education.

Rebecca A. Schumacher, Ed.D. is a former teacher, school counselor, and district-level administrator at all school levels, currently teaches in the UNF School Counseling (SOAR Program) and serves as the Executive Director for the Florida School Counselor Association. She has extensive experience working with Jacksonville's most challenged schools with emphasis to close information and opportunity gaps, and highlight the urgency for postsecondary planning. State-wide, she is involved in college access and career readiness programs for every school level student and family. Locally she serves on the College Goal Sunday Steering Committee and advisory council for DCSP FAFSA Challenge. Previously, she represented Florida at the White House for The FAFSA Summit, served on the Florida team for the First Lady's Reach Higher Initiative, conducted over 200 presentations and trainings across the county, and authored on school counseling issues.

Wendy Dunlap, M.Ed. has served as an educator in Duval County Public Schools for seventeen years. After working as a school counselor at the high, middle, and elementary levels, she transitioned to a district level position to support the work of school counselors in the field. She completed her first year as Director of School Counseling this past school year. Wendy is a huge believer that education is the great equalizer and strives daily to work hard to ensure that school counselors have the tools and support to help develop students ready for life, college, and career.

Catherine Bekkedal, M.Ed. is a district Supervisor in the School Counseling Department with Duval County Public Schools. She has served as a school counselor for nine years. Catherine spearheads programs and district initiatives that drive graduation rate and college and career readiness. Currently, she is the Project Contact for the FAFSA Completion Challenge Grant. Jacksonville is the only city in Florida to have been awarded this national grant. She believes in equity and access for all students and strives to

provide all educators with the skills and knowledge needed to implement efficient and effective programs that support student achievement.

Got to Love a Linguaphile

(1-12) Are your students inaccurate and somewhat lazy word collectors or are they accomplished wordsmiths who confidently use sophisticated words in speaking, writing, and reading assignments? Join me as we practice vocabulary strategies that will ignite in your students a love of language. Be prepared to “Personify It,” create a “BioWord,” “Connect Two,” “Compose with Three,” become a “Derivative Detective,” make “Contextual Elaborations,” compare “What do YOU Think?,” be a “Context Referee,” and conduct discussions with “Defining Formats.” Attendees will leave this session with a packet of activities that truly represent LAFS.910.RI.2.4 and LAF.910.L.3.4.

Patricia Melvin, M.Ed. is an experienced reading teacher and coach. Although recently retired from Terry Parker High School, she continues to teach reluctant readers. Pat has an extensive background both as a reading specialist, National Urban Alliance mentor, and trainer of secondary teachers. Her strongest assets are her understanding of the intricacies of the reading process; her experience as a diagnostician in developmental reading; her affinity for instructional lesson development; and her ability to work with adults who hesitate to implement academic changes in their personal teaching styles.

#SocialMediaJr: Using Social Media in the K-5 Classroom

(VPK-5 and Pre-Service Teachers/Early Career) In 2004, I graduated from the University of North Florida with a bachelor’s in communications. Never in a million years did I think my 12-year-old degree would prepare me to teach better in today’s world. Come see how I joined the social media revolution of K-5 educators using platforms such as Twitter, Facebook Live, and Instagram in unique ways to build digital learners and engage both students and parents in the classroom. Session will also give participants time to join the social media revolution.

Allison Hogan, M.Ed. is a Pre-K teacher at The Hockaday School in Dallas, Texas and holds a bachelor’s in communications from the University of North Florida and a graduate degree in education from Southern Methodist University. Prior to teaching in Dallas, Allison graduated and first taught in Duval County Public Schools. She has been recognized as both an Association

of Supervision and Curriculum Development Emerging Leader and a National Association of Independent Schools Teacher of the Future.

It's Never Too Early or Too Late

(VPK-12) People are living longer and pensions are being reduced or eliminated. Social Security may not last far into the future. When financially planning for the future, do you just give up or go look for answers? This session will help you find the answers you need to be financially stable in the future.

Ralph Wagner has been a financial advisor for over thirty-five years and currently manages the Investment Services department at Community First Credit Union. Ralph supports a solutions-based approach to investment and financial planning based on your needs, goals, and objectives.

Infinite Inspiration with Digital Resources from Florida PBS LearningMedia

(VPK-12) Expand the walls of your classroom with PBS LearningMedia's digital library of over 125,000 resources. Join Florida PBS for an exploration of innovative digital resources and brand-new productivity tools and student experiences. Discover how digital media can support your teaching and learn how to use Florida PBS LearningMedia to inspire, engage and personalize learning experiences for your students.

Michele Watson is currently serving as the FPBS Director of Education Services and is responsible for helping coordinate statewide education initiatives for Florida's PBS television stations. Having received a degree in early childhood education from Florida State University, Michele began her career as an educator for the Polk County School Board for eight years. With her background in early learning and education Michele has worked to bring the Florida PBS Learning Media solution to stakeholders so that they may experience the most dynamic digital platform of classroom resources available to educators today.

If Instruction Isn't Engaging, I QUIT!

(1-5) If students aren't engaged during instruction, they aren't learning at their highest level. Explore seven research-based strategies that every

teacher should immediately implement to increase student engagement. This highly interactive presentation is filled with music, movement, and fun learning.

Vincent Taylor, M.Ed. known as “The Rapping Teacher” in many school districts, has written a program that helps students in the area of comprehension called “Rhythmic Reading with Rap.” He has presented his highly sought-after workshop entitled “If Instruction Isn’t Engaging, I Quit” to over 60,000 educators across the country. Vincent is also the author of the popular children’s book series Cornbread. He is a graduate of UNF where he received his bachelor’s degree in elementary education. His professional growth led him to University of Florida where he earned his master’s degree in curriculum and instruction.

Talk Less Listen More

(VPK-5) Listening is one of the most important tools in a teacher’s toolbox. In this session, we’ll explore a variety of rich mathematical tasks that provide authentic opportunities for us to learn to better listen to our students. We’ll also view video clips of students solving problems as an exercise in learning to truly listen.

Zachary Champagne spent 13 years as an elementary school teacher with a specialization in math and science. During this time, he received many state and national awards for excellence in teaching. After his time in the classroom, Zachary spent six years as a researcher at the Florida Center for Research in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (FCR-STEM) at Florida State University. He is currently serving as the Director of Advocacy and Program at the Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF) where he is working to celebrate and empower teachers in Duval County Public Schools.

Let’s Learn About ADHD

(VPK-12 and Pre-Service Teachers/Early Career) This will be a rapid, interactive dive into the world of ADHD and other mental health issues which greatly impact school and social experiences. Emphasis will be placed on strategies and treatments that can improve existing managements. Concepts to be covered include: “Your child is a ship,” “Your child is a Snowflake,” “ADHD is like Diabetes,” “You get the first year of life to...”. This lecture is derived from twenty-four years of experience in the trenches of general pediatrics, getting kids to be on A/B Honor-roll, citizens of the week, and on school patrols.

Iris Eisenberg, Ph.D., M.P.H. has been a pediatrician in Jacksonville for the past twenty-five years. She has had a long-standing interest and experience with all kinds of mental health issues, including ADHD.

Recognizing/understanding a few basic principles can lead to better outcomes for children, their families, and their education.

Qi Gong: Gentle Exercise for Classroom Cohesion & Calm Focus

(VPK-12) With Qi Gong, promote calm focus in your classroom. This simple practice - similar to Tai Chi - coordinates gentle movements with slow breathing to self-regulate emotions, enhance mental clarity, increase flexibility, and promote well-being. Managing stress is an essential part of the learning process and during this interactive session educators will learn techniques to use in their own classroom. In just a few short minutes, students will reap the benefits already seen worldwide.

Donna Henderson, L.Ac., R.N., B.S.N. is the author of “Let the Rain Fall Down: Qi Gong Song and Book for Children”, practices in northeast Florida, and leads Qi Gong classes for children and adults. Her basic style helps bring this timeless art easily into everyday life in the classroom and home. Her passion is sharing habits that bring ease and flow into life and Qi Gong is one of her favorites.

Games and Teachable Moments for Study Skills

(1-8) Learn easy to implement games and self-assessments to help students develop study and organizational skills (SOS) and test taking tips. Learn motivational skills and rationale so students will want to improve and how to use teachable moments and get their interest early. Hands-on demonstrations that are easy to implement will help teachers show students how to become better students and enjoy doing so. That’s why it is SOS!

Grace Wilhelm, M.A. is a Duval County Public Schools counselor with mental health and teaching experience. She has been recognized as ASCA National School Counselor of the Year Semifinalist and awarded a RAMP and PTSA-FLDOE Parent Involvement Award. She has published “Anger and Me”, “Stress Busting” and “Games and Play to Enhance Counseling and Teaching Strategies.” Speaking engagements have taken Grace as far away as Papua New Guinea. She speaks on topics that include anger control, stress management, study skills, play therapy, disaggregated data, and more.

Marcia Luettchau, M.Ed. has been a school counselor for over fifteen years in Duval County. She uses creative story-telling to present lessons for personal and social issues and character education. She is an advocate for school counseling and mental health issues and a big cheerleader for her peers in school counseling.

Let's Learn About ADHD

(VPK-12 and Pre-Service Teachers/Early Career) This will be a rapid, interactive dive into the world of ADHD and other mental health issues which greatly impact school and social experiences. Emphasis will be placed on strategies and treatments that can improve existing managements. Concepts to be covered include: "Your child is a ship," "Your child is a Snowflake," "ADHD is like Diabetes," "You get the first year of life to...". This lecture is derived from twenty-four years of experience in the trenches of general pediatrics, getting kids to be on A/B Honor-roll, citizens of the week, and on school patrols.

Iris Eisenberg, Ph.D., M.P.H. has been a pediatrician in Jacksonville for the past twenty-five years. She has had a long-standing interest and experience with all kinds of mental health issues, including ADHD.

Recognizing/understanding a few basic principles can lead to better outcomes for children, their families, and their education.