Attention: Building Leaders & Behavior Team Leaders

Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders

Conference on Behavior Issues for School Leaders

October 9–10, 2014

KU Edwards Campus BEST Conference Center • 12600 Quivira Road, Overland Park, Kansas

Register today: http://www.mslbd.org/school_leaders_conference_register_links.htm

Building Leaders and their teams will not want to miss this year’s Conference on Behavior Issues presented by Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders. Note two exciting keynote addresses. Also a new strand focusing on legal issues related to student behavior.

AUDIENCE AND CONFERENCE GOALS

Intended Audience: This conference is designed specifically for Principals, Assistant or Associate Principals, Deans of Students, Lead Teachers, Behavior Teams, Special Education Directors or Coordinators, and other building leaders.

Conference Goal: The conference will provide practical evidence-based information and practices to effectively improve student behavior and work effectively with students with behavioral challenges and their families.

Focus of Sessions: Sessions will be tailored specifically for the needs of building leadership teams who are working to build positive student behavior, reform disciplinary procedures, improve school climate and meet the needs of students with behavioral needs in the schools.

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

How to Coach Teachers to Improve Classroom Management

Richard Van Acker, Ed.D., Emeritus Professor of Special Education University of Illinois at Chicago

Success for students with behavior challenges does not happen by accident, it requires intentional efforts by school personnel beginning with the school leaders. Leaders need to provide meaningful coaching for teachers that is individualized to the teacher’s strengths and weaknesses. Dr. Van Acker will discuss key ideas on coaching teachers to improve classroom management based on his 40 years of experience as an educator, researcher, advocate, and consultant.

It’s Bigger Than That: A District Leader’s Perspective on Inclusion

Jerry D. Weast, Ed.D., Founder and CEO Partnership for Deliberate Excellence, LLC, North Potomac, Maryland

Dr. Weast has spent 35 years as a school superintendent in districts small and large. His perspective on meeting the needs of students with behavior disorders is not based on direct classroom experience and admits that the horizon looks different from that vantage point than it does at the schoolhouse level. “What I hope you will take away from our time together is a fuller understanding of the complexities and competition inherent in meeting the needs of every child, and potential solutions to the structural and cultural obstacles to the singular challenges of delivering on that promise for children with special needs, from preschool to high school.”

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Extra fee applies; participants choose one session to attend 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Thursday. Lunch included in fee.

1. **Empowering Teachers to Prevent and Manage Problem Behavior: Putting Theory into Practice.**

   **Phillip Nordness, Ph.D.,** Associate Professor of Special Education, University of Nebraska at Omaha and **John Cannon, Principal,** USD 405, Lyons, Kansas

   The focus of this presentation is putting theory into practice. This presentation will explain the theory behind effective principles of behavior management and then explain how those principles work in practice. These principles will include effective strategies for school-wide positive behavioral supports and how to empower teachers to prevent and manage problem behaviors within their own classrooms.

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*PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOPS*

If attending a preconference workshop, please indicate your 1st choice as well as an alternate choice.

1. Empowering Teachers to Prevent and Manage Problem Behavior; Nordness & Cannon
2. Forty Intervention Strategies for Building Student Engagement to Reduce Disciplinary Exclusion and Dropout; Peterson
3. Putting the Pieces Together: Promoting Academic, Behavior, and Social Success for Students with Autism; Hardinger

SOCIAL EVENT – Thursday 6:00-9:30 PM

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DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

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PAYMENT

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HOTEL RESERVATIONS MADE SEPARATELY

Please contact Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham Overland Park; Phone: 913544-8100; www.hawthorn.com.

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2. Forty Intervention Strategies for Building Student Engagement to Reduce Disciplinary Exclusion and Dropout
Reece Peterson, Ph.D., Professor of Special Education, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Reducing the use of exclusionary discipline consequences (suspension and expulsion), and reducing student dropout are national goals and are related. This session suggests over 40 strategies, which schools use as part of a school improvement planning process for both goals. “Strategy briefs” describe each intervention strategy, identify how the strategy fits a three-tiered model of intervention, and describes evidence regarding effectiveness. Strategies describe many interventions needed to improving student behavior and graduation rates.

3. Putting the Pieces Together: Promoting Academic, Behavioral, and Social Success for Students with Autism
Shari Hardinger, M.S.Ed., MSSL, Autism Behavior Specialist, Shawnee Mission Kansas School District

As the prevalence of individuals diagnosed with Autism continues to rise, school leaders need to be equipped to respond to student, staff, and parent needs. This session will focus on communication, and behavioral needs of students with Autism, as well as how these impact their academic progress. The session will also include effective, research-based practices for educating students with Autism. Community resources available to school and parents will be explored. The importance of power of having open, honest, and respectful relationships with parents will be discussed. Finally, a variety of legal and ethical issues that exist regarding the education of students with Autism will be presented.

SPECIAL LEGAL STRAND
(See special insert for details)

Behavior Intervention Plans: A Legal Analysis of Issues.
Susan Larson Etscheidt, Ph.D., Professor of Special Education at the University of Northern Iowa and served as an administrative law judge for special education appeals in Iowa from 1991 to 2010.

What Color is Your Discipline?
Cynthia Lutz Kelly, Esq., Toppeka Public School, House Counsel and Linda J Geier, School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Coordinator, Tula Public Schools

The Legal Consequences of Clicking “Send”.
Karen Haase, Esq., Harding & Shults, P.C., L.L.O, Lincoln, NE

Understanding the Legal Implications for Students with Disabilities Related to Bullying and Harassment.
Michael G. Norris, Esq., Norris & Kemplinger LLC, Kansas City, MO area and Erin Dugan, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Olathe Public Schools, Olathe, KS

REPEATED BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Integrating Reading, Math, Behavior and Social Supports to Achieve Positive Student Outcomes.
Linda Willkerson, M.S.Ed. Tertiary Behavior Support Coordinator TASN and Kelsey Schmitz, M.S.Ed., Behavior Specialist, TASN, Lawrence, KS

Comprehensive, Integrated, Three-tiered (CI3T) models of prevention address academic, behavioral, and social supports and interventions. When designed, implemented, and evaluated with high fidelity, CI3T models are associated with positive student outcomes. Schools that embrace academic, behavioral, and social supports on a continuum within prevention-based models benefit from general and special education collaboration, universal screening of academics and behavioral data; based decision making, and professional development opportunities.

Obesity and Asthma and Headaches, Oh My! Physical Health Problems of Youth with Behavioral and Emotional Difficulties.
Tori Van Dyk, M.A., Doctoral Candidate, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The psychosocial challenges facing youth with behavioral and emotional issues are well-documented; however, the physical health of these youth has been largely overlooked. This session will describe the complex interplay between behavior, emotion, and physical health. We will review recent research examining physical health problems among youth with emotional and behavioral difficulties and consider the possible implications of comorbid mental and physical health problems in school settings. Recommendations for working with youth with both behavioral and medical issues will be provided, including practical suggestions for collaborating with medical professionals; incorporating physical health problems into individualized education plans; and educating administrators, teachers, and families on how to address physical health problems within an educational setting.

Innovations = Meaningful Outcomes.
Sean Smith, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Special Education, University of Kansas, Lawrence.

Technology innovations increasingly are viewed as the critical tool for student success from everything to the Common Core to state assessment. This session will focus on innovations including Apps, mobile devices that increasingly are seen in behavior, social emotional development, adaptive skills, and of course, academic achievement. Participants will explore how frameworks like Universal Design for Learning, when aligned with innovative solutions, can alter meaningful inclusion for struggling learners and those with disabilities. Participants will leave with a list of innovative solutions, ideas to embed them in educational interventions, and ways to further evaluate learner outcomes as a result of the technology tools.

The Effect of Disability, Race, and SES on the Length of Time Until Suspension, and What To Do About It.
Mickey Losinski, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.

This presentation presents survival, and hazard rates of disciplinary exclusions of students with and without disabilities. These results provide information on the amount of time that passes within a school year for certain groups to receive a suspension. These results are then used to inform times necessary to screen students within a multi-tiered system and planning interventions.

Friday Lunch and Learn: Alternatives to Disciplinary Consequences Panel Discussion.
Lunch will be provided to participants who join us to continue the conversation on finding alternatives to exclusionary practices in discipline. School leaders are charged with ensuring a safe learning environment for all students. At the same time, it is the responsibility of schools to reach and teach students who, sometimes, present extremely challenging behaviors. This discussion will allow participants to join in a “real” discussion centered on putting theory into practice: How do we put the alternatives demonstrated throughout the conference into place in our unique settings? Panel: Susan Larson Etscheidt, Cynthia Lutz Kelly, and Reece Peterson, Moderator.

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