

 November 30, 2017



 ***Focus on Change:
Making the Shifts
Happen***

Conference Schedule & Descriptions

8:30-9:00 – Welcome & Remarks from Director Ryan Wise

9:00-9:50 – General Session— *Shifting into Action*—Sue Beers

With all of the attention on state tests, ESSA regulations, accountability systems, new standards and more, it's easy to be distracted from the single most important part of education – instruction! To ensure that teaching and learning aligns with content standards and that it prepares students for college, careers and citizenship, key shifts in instruction must be in place. In this interactive session, groups will work with these instructional shifts and discuss how they form the foundation of work in classrooms.

10:00-10:50—Breakout Session 1

Standards: Implementation - 3 Shifts in Mathematics—April Pforts, Dept of Ed

Do the standards still feel like a mile wide and an inch deep? Do the standards still seem like disconnected topics? Does Rigor mean Harder? If the answer to any of these is yes, then Focus, Coherence, and Rigor may be missing from implementing the standards. In this session, we will look at the 3 Shifts for mathematics and the many resources we know have for coaches and professional development. The Shifts focus on implementing the standards in a viable way.

Leadership in the 21st Century...It's not about YOU! - Jeff Herzberg, Prairie Lakes Chief Administrator

And it never has been but we should, more than ever, be more focused on those we serve than ourselves. We will explore Servant Leadership, Leaders Eat Last, Other Duties as Assigned, Recognizing Others, and the Gallup Q12 Survey in our quest to be prepared to lead in today's educational landscape. This interactive session will challenge you to move the spotlight from yourself to those who you are entrusted to serve and give you strategies to use tomorrow in your leadership role as a teacher, as an instructional leader, as an administrator, or whatever it might be.

Making the Shift Happen from a Fixed to a Growth Mindset—Shelly Vroegh

Growth mindset is important for both teachers and students. Explore with Shelly the value of a growth mindset and how shifts in what we say and what we do in the classroom can impact student engagement and motivation. This interactive session will include tools and resources teachers can use immediately to enhance teaching and learning.

Analyzing Science Instructional Materials - Tips and Tools—Kris Kilibarda

Many districts are beginning the process of designing or selecting instructional materials for the new science standards. However, it can be difficult to determine if materials are truly aligned to both the content and the intent of the standards. This session will provide an opportunity to share tips and explore tools for analyzing science materials.

Writing Tasks in the Content Areas—Ann Bartelt

This session will support teachers of all disciplines in designing writing tasks that address the literacy shift of reading and writing grounded in evidence from text. Learn how to apply the task templates from the Literacy Design Collaborative to deepen students' disciplinary literacy skills and content knowledge.

Overview of Iowa's New Social Studies Standards—Stefanie Wager, Dept of Ed

This session will provide an overview of Iowa's new social studies standards. Participants will learn how the standards were written, the architecture of the standards, instructional shifts, and resources that are available in order to implement the standards.

11:00-11:50—Breakout Session 2

Instruction: Principles to Actions-8 Effective Teaching Practices—April Pforts, Dept of Ed

Research tells us what the 6 Guiding Principles in mathematics classroom are. We also know the 8 Effective Teaching Practices for classroom instruction. In this session, we will look at the 6 Guiding Principles and the 8 Effective Teaching Practices and the many resources we know have for coaches and professional development. The Principles and Practices focus on student-centered classrooms and access and equity for all.

Plugged In Literacy—Ann Bartelt

As teachers increase students' use of technology, learn the latest research about the impact of reading on the screen. This session will include a discussion of using technology effectively and appropriately to address the shifts and fulfill the standards.

Session Descriptions (continued)

11:00-11:50—Breakout Session 2 (continued)

Adults Are Just as Scary to Work With As Students: Skills and Tips To Help Guide Conversations—Becky Hacker-Kluver & Jaymie Randel

Want to run and hide when you are supposed to confront an issue with a peer? This session will bring together many different aspects of adult learning, including tips on having conversations with adults, shifting the conversation from student blame to student growth, and moving from teacher-centered to student-centered focus. Learn how to put adult learners at ease and frame questions about what students are accomplishing, rather than focusing solely on what the teacher is doing. If you are a PLC leader, an instructional coach, or an administrator, or just interested in this topic; this session is for you.

Shifting to Standards Based Grading—Jason Shaffer & Keisha McHargue, Shenandoah CSD

We are a 5-8 Middle School that has shifted from traditional grading to Standards Based Grading over the past four years. We did not jump in head first, but have slowly added, adopted and altered practices, guidelines and standards to meet the recent push into Standards Based Grading. Numerous speakers, individual research, design, pilot programs, district meetings and finally decisions have led us to a head first approach to assure our building is a Standards Based Grading School. We implemented a four point scale, reduced set standards (Iowa Core) for reporting purposes, 21st century skills reporting, ZAP, Report Card and classroom learning targets.

NGSS Lesson Screener - Your Power Tool! - Kris Kilibarda, Dept of Ed

Implementing the new Iowa Science Standards involves more than ensuring content alignment with the standards; it also involves conceptual shifts and innovations in teaching and learning. As districts work to implement the full intent of the standards, educators need tools to help guide conversations focused on these shifts. In this session, through collaborative conversations and practice, participants will discover how the NGSS lesson screener can be a power tool in their implementation toolbox.

Social Studies is About Questions, Not Answers: Planning for an Inquiry Oriented Classroom—Stefanie Wager, Dept of Ed

Inquiry is at the heart of best practices in a social studies classroom. In this sessions participants will learn how inquiry is also at the heart of Iowa's new social studies standards. Special attention will be paid to how planning for inquiry is purposeful. Participants will leave with resources.

11:50-1:10 – Lunch

Shifting to Reflective Practice

2017 Teacher of the Year, Shelly Vroegh

The reflective process is a critical component of professional growth. Shelly Vroegh, Iowa Teacher of the Year, will share what she's learned regarding the importance of reflection in curriculum planning and designing instruction to better engage students and impact students' college, career and citizenship readiness.

1:10-2:00—Breakout Session 3

Exploring the Arc of Arithmetic to Algebra—Elizabeth Peyser, Curriculum Associates

How is “subitizing” connected to algebra? Join us to investigate the coherence in the K-HS progression that links subitizing and decomposition of number with area models and algebraic expressions. Participants will use a variety of manipulatives and tools (including algebra tiles), and receive math lessons showcasing the connections.

Rebooting Your PLC for Continued Success—Becky Hacker-Kluver & Jaymie Randel

This session will help you and your PLC reboot your focus for the school year around the three big ideas of student learning, collaborative culture, and results. The PLC process is increasingly recognized as the most powerful strategy for sustained, substantive school improvement. This session will give you a few tools to continue to implement this powerful process in your school.

Using Curriculum Manager as a Coaching Tool—Jamie Morgan

Curriculum Manager is a web-based curriculum mapping tool that is available to MISIC member districts for a small annual fee. This tool can be used to help ensure that you have a guaranteed and viable curriculum in your district. In this session we will examine how you can use this tool to help see patterns, pacing, horizontal articulation, vertical articulation, standards alignment and much more. This information can be used to help guide conversations between instructional coaches and classroom teachers.

Session Descriptions (continued)

1:10-2:00—Breakout Session 3(continued)

Analyzing Science Instructional Materials - Tips and Tools—Kris Kilbarda, Dept of Ed

Many districts are beginning the process of designing or selecting instructional materials for the new science standards. However, it can be difficult to determine if materials are truly aligned to both the content and the intent of the standards. This session will provide an opportunity to share tips and explore tools for analyzing science materials. (REPEATED SESSION)

Removing Barriers for Underserved Learners...Making Equity in Education Everyone's Business! - Juan Garcia, ACT Center for Equity in Learning

In this session we will review the findings of the newly released 2017 report and discuss the changes from the 2016 report Condition of College and Career Readiness among minority U.S. high school graduates who took the ACT test, which shows slow but steady improvement, particularly in the key areas of math and science. This has occurred as the number of test-takers continues to dramatically increase. We will also discuss ACT's new initiative to help ELL students with accommodations for testing. The session includes a discussion on the importance of working in the earlier grades to make sure students are taking rigorous classes and preparing themselves to succeed in high school.

The Head, Hand and Heart of Questioning in Social Studies Instruction—Dave Christensen

Civic engagement is the heart of social studies instruction. Compelling questions set the beat of that civic heart. This session will highlight the rationale and process for developing compelling questions.

2:10-3:00—Breakout Session 4

How to speak "Math"! - Elizabeth Peyser, Curriculum Associates

Join us in a demonstration of an instructional routine that will elevate the math discourse in your classroom. Participants will experience a lesson from Ready Mathematics and learn strategies for discourse facilitation from Dr. Gladis Kersaint's white paper.

Six Ways That Make Learning Stick—Becky Hacker-Kluver & Jaymie Randel

When you play most card games, there is one suit in the deck, or one card in the suit, that trumps all the others. The trump suit or the card is the best one to have--with it, you can win the game. This metaphor is an appropriate one for instructional strategies that work best for the learners. Come to this session to learn about and apply the six principles that make learning stick.

Getting the Most From Your MISIC Membership—Jamie Morgan

The MISIC Team has vetted and created hundreds of tools and resources that are available to you as a MISIC member. Whether you have been a MISIC member for a long time or you are new to the consortium, this session is designed to help you best utilize the MISIC website to find the resources you need to support the work you are doing in your district, school and classrooms.

How IPTV Serves Iowa's Educators—Angela Hiatt, IPTV

Do you use any of the thousands of free resources from IPTV and PBS? Are you aware there are resources for families, students and educators? Bring your device to our session to learn about the popular and hidden resources that are waiting to be discovered. We will even share how to have IPTV visit your school at no cost to you.

Teaching Evidence Based Argumentative Writing in the Elementary Classroom—Amy Walter

The first anchor standard in writing calls for "writing arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence." Argumentative writing is required and important in an elementary classroom, but can often be intimidating at these lower grade levels. We will look at different examples, ideas, and teaching strategies to make argumentative writing possible in all areas of an elementary classroom such as social studies, science, and literacy.

The Iowa Professional Development Model is Alive & Well....and Still Required!- Marietta Rives, Mary Jane Stites, AEA EQ Co-Lead & Linda Carroll, Dept of Ed

The Iowa Professional Development Model (IPDM) is a continuous improvement model mandated in Iowa Code and grounded in action research. This session will focus on the definition of professional development as identified in Iowa's policy language and how it links to and supports current Iowa initiatives. Join session facilitators as they dispel myths and answer audience questions about the current and future status of the IPDM.