

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

Theme: Motivating the Unmotivated Student

Keynote: Carl Olson, Life Long Educator, Author, Coach

Energize Your Educational Environment

Be prepared to leave this workshop with many practical ideas to liven up your class, team or group. An engaged group will learn better and both the instructor and student enjoy the process. Carl Olson believes that energizers are calisthenics for the mind. He feels that we need to stimulate the mind in order to enhance effective learning.

In this presentation he will advocate the experiential model for learning. Many hands on practical examples will be given. The workshop has application to all grade levels. It will be fast paced, hands on and inspirational. Carl Olson draws on his 34 plus years of experience and varied background to build a case for experiential instructional methods.

When students are actively involved in the learning process achievement is elevated. The teacher's role is more enjoyable and career fulfillment is a result. This presentation will cause you to look at teaching as a valuable asset to our society. Resources will be presented for further study. Be ready laugh, learn and enjoy the experiential process.

Carl Olson, Life Long Educator, Author, Coach

Amazing Ways to Amaze

Have you ever had that 5 to 10 minutes at the end of class and would like to have something up your sleeve to occupy that time while building rapport with your class? Attend this session and go away with your own bag of tricks to liven up your classroom or for making personal connections. The activities are applicable to students at all levels. Olson feels that we need to make connections with our students in order to enhance learning. The tricks and activities taught in this workshop will help establish learning. The tricks and activities taught in this workshop will help establish the connection that leads to effective learning.

Carl Olson, Life Long Educator, Author, Coach

The Magic of Teaching

Teachers are truly magicians. In order for a magician to be effective they have to be able to engage their audience. They have to establish trust, make connections and inspire confidence. In this session, Olson will use magic and magic concepts to give teachers ideas for use in the classroom and for enhancing their presentation. Olson feels that teachers need a toolbox of ideas to make the impact. Magic and magic concepts are an ideal way to create metaphors that enhance learning. The session will be hands on and fast paced, participants will leave with ideas and resources to go back to their work setting and truly work magic.

Al Summers, National Middle School Association

NMSA Annual Conference Coming to Indiana

Join representatives of NMSA and IMLEA to discuss the 2009 NMSA Annual Conference that will be in Indianapolis November 5-7, 2009. Called "Making a World of Difference" the conference will highlight globalization and will continue an emphasis on technology that is being initiated at the Denver Conference this October 30-November 1. Discussion will center on possibilities for speakers, presentations, school visits, action labs, etc. Also, possibilities for conference volunteers will be discussed.

Al Summers, National Middle School Association

Student Led Conferences- A Career Changing Strategy

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

This session will focus on the basics of student led conferences and offer a step by step implementation guide. The presenter's school doubles their parent participation in conferences from 40% to 80% with the initiation of student-led conferences. He calls it "a career changing strategy." Hear about the benefits of student led conferences

Jeff Doebler, Valparaiso University

I Learned More in My First Year of Teaching than in 4-Years of College!

At the end of my third year of teaching, I prepared an outline of items I didn't remember learning in college, as well as items I didn't consider important when they were first presented to me in college. Through my ten years as a public school teacher and fifteen years supervising student teachers at the university level, I have been updating this outline annually. It describes points that I consider to be important for first year music teachers. Nearly all of the information is equally applicable to any music teacher at any level.

Brian Cadle, Wilson Middle School, Assistant Principal

Bell to Bell Instruction: Finally. . . Time to Teach

In this session, administrators will learn powerful early-intervention strategies for eliminating 80-90% of low-level misbehaviors in every classroom. Through lecture and interactive activities, educators will learn strategies that can be implemented in classrooms, buildings and schools tomorrow! Learn how to avoid power struggles; ideas for building relationships and organizing learning environment; Teaching expectations systematically. Participants will be equipped with the strategies to maximize student behavior and classroom management, allowing time to teach, finally!

Perry Riffel, Valparaiso University

Film Clips for Character Education

The participants in this session will hear how "Film Clips" can be used as in an advisory program or integrated into the middle grades curriculum areas. DVD clip samples will be shown, and sample mini-lesson plans will be demonstrated from several of the areas of character education. Topics may include Honesty, Cooperation, Respect, Perseverance, Sportsmanship, Bullying Prevention, Citizenship, etc. A web link will be explored which provides additional support materials for educators.

Targeted Audience: Teachers, Counselors, Curriculum Coordinators, and Administrators working with Advisory Programs.

Susan Sanders, Kathy Press, Dana Adams, Kouts Middle School

Learning for All: Differentiated Instruction

Middle School teachers will share sample lessons of what they have used in math and social studies classes to differentiate instruction. One size does not fit all. Learn to differentiate lessons, units and assessments.

Targeted Audience: Math, Social Studies and across the curriculum

Jodi Tobias, Kankakee Valley Middle School

Classroom Management Strategies to Boost Student Motivation

Much of what makes a successful middle-level educator is the ability to meet the unique needs of this very unique group of students. This presentation will discuss the unique

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

characteristics of middle school students and explore classroom management strategies that help meet these needs and motivate these students in the classroom.

Participants will exam the educational and social needs of middle level students. Participants will explore hands-on examples of classroom management strategies that are conducive to student motivation and how to incorporate these strategies into your classroom.

Targeted Audience: Across the curriculum

Language Arts Strand

Courtney Gordon, Smekens Education Solutions, Inc.

The 6 Traits of Good Writing and Mini-Lessons to Teach Them

The objective of this session is to learn the six traits of all good writing, and obtain ready-to-use lessons to teach these traits to students and improve their writing. Sometimes writing can be such a daunting task, for kids and teachers. But help is here! This session will briefly identify the six ingredients of all quality writing – the 6 Traits of Writing. Attendees will then obtain classroom-tested, mini-lesson ideas that they could take back to their own classrooms and apply immediately to teaching these traits.

Targeted Audience: Language Arts and across the curriculum

Courtney Gordon, Smekens Education Solutions, Inc.

The Top Five Strategies to a Successful Nonfiction Classroom

The objective of this session is to learn the key differences between fiction and nonfiction reading as well as learn strategies for teaching nonfiction to students and creating successful nonfiction readers. In today's world the need for strong nonfiction readers is huge!

Unfortunately the resources are not. Have you ever felt the need for your students to read more nonfiction material but weren't quite sure how to make this happen? Attend this session for powerful strategies to help you introduce and teach nonfiction in your classroom. Leave today with plenty of ideas and handouts that you can use tomorrow to open a whole world of nonfiction to your students.

Targeted Audience: Language Arts and across the curriculum

Lydia Brauer, Valparaiso University

Media Education: Approaches & Resources

Students are engaging with a wider range of media than ever before- media that not only inform their identities and social worlds, but that are part of larger democratic and political processes. This presentation will provide an overview of emerging media education approaches, resources, and state standards for educators in the United States and address the relevancy of (indeed, imperative for) media education across multiple disciplines.

Targeted Audience: language arts, fine arts and social studies

Jessie Panko, St. Xavier University

Population Connection, Hands-on Activities for a Very Popular Planet

As the world population grows, so does competition for natural resources and the challenges to protect the environment. Engage in lively, interdisciplinary curricula that explore impacts of human activities on land use, ecosystem and health. Presented activities address content

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

standards in life science, mathematics, and geography for integrated instruction. Demonstrated techniques include problem-solving exercises, role-playing simulations and concept-mapping that engages your gifted students. Take home a free CD-ROM of lesson plans.

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

Mathematics and Science Strand

Angela Buck, Kankakee Valley Middle School

Motivating Math Students with Differentiated Projects

Participants will leave with hands-on activities, alternative assessment ideas and projects that motivate students. Assessments may vary in length of time required, number of standards covered and levels of difficulty. This is a fun way for students to take an active approach in their learning.

Targeted Audience: 6th through 9th grade math.

Nathan Keith, Westlane Middle School

Bungee Barbie- New Approach to Math Instruction

Barbie, the daredevil, will help you teach linear equations in a real world. Collecting data, participants will use rubber bands as bungee cords to determine how far Barbie can jump without causing a head injury. The linear relationship will be demonstrated.

Targeted audience: math and science

Brian Forist, Dunes Learning Center and Kim Swift, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Nurturing Young Scientists

Participants in this workshop will explore science concepts and issues from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and engage in activities designed to help their students enhance critical thinking and research skills used in the scientific process.

Targeted audience: science

Jessie Panko, St. Xavier University

Population Connection, Hands-on Activities for a Very Popular Planet

As the world population grows, so does competition for natural resources and the challenges to protect the environment. Engage in lively, interdisciplinary curricula that explore impacts of human activities on land use, ecosystem and health. Presented activities address content standards in life science, mathematics, and geography for integrated instruction.

Demonstrated techniques include problem-solving exercises, role-playing simulations and concept-mapping that engages your gifted students. Take home a free CD-ROM of lesson plans.

Targeted audience: science, math & language arts.

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

Social Studies Strand

Linda Cronk and Molly Joll, Thomas Jefferson Middle School, Valparaiso

Economic Survivor: Teaching Real Economics to Middle Schoolers

This simulation demonstrates the real impact of land, labor, and skills on the American economic system. All participants start with "labor" , while others begin with "land" and "education". "Winners" have twenty minutes to accumulate land, clothing and food. Take with materials will be provided.

Lydia Brauer, Valparaiso University

Media Education: Approaches & Resources

Students are engaging with a wider range of media than ever before- media that not only inform their identities and social worlds, but that are part of larger democratic and political processes. This presentation will provide an overview of emerging media education approaches, resources, and state standards for educators in the United State and address the relevancy of (indeed, imperative for) media education across multiple disciplines.

Targeted Audience: language arts, fine arts and social studies

Ed Robson, Benton Central Jr.- Sr. High School

Using Deliberation to Integrate International and Civic Education

Using the *Choices US Immigration Policy* curriculum published by the Watson Institute at Brown University, this workshop will demonstrate how teachers can effectively engage students in deliberating on current issues from multiple viewpoints. In this interactive session, teachers will practice the deliberation process by identifying their values, defining an issue, investigating that issue from multiple viewpoints, deliberating in fish bowl on the trade-offs between those viewpoints, reflecting and developing a personal viewpoint and exploring civic outcomes that could be pursued. The deliberating process increases students' awareness of their own values and beliefs as well as how US policies impact the global community. In addition, it boosts students' self-confidence while developing their critical thinking and deliberation skills. Using these strategy teachers are able to integrate current issues with content standards in a student-centered environment.

Targeted Audience: Social Studies

Judy Donovan, Indiana University Northwest

Google Earth

Find out ways you can use Google Earth in your social studies classroom. The presenter will share some sample lessons, and online geography/map resources to use with your curriculum. You will also hear about what other teachers are doing with GIS technology in the social studies classroom.

Target Audience: Social Studies

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

Technology & Administrators

Al Summers, National Middle School Association

NMSA Annual Conference Coming to Indiana

Join representatives of NMSA and IMLEA to discuss the 2009 NMSA Annual Conference that will be in Indianapolis November 5-7, 2009. Called "Making a World of Difference" the conference will highlight globalization and will continue an emphasis on technology that is being initiated at the Denver Conference this October 30-November 1. Discussion will center on possibilities for speakers, presentations, school visits, action labs, etc. Also, possibilities for conference volunteers will be discussed.

Lydia Brauer, Valparaiso University

Media Education: Approaches & Resources

Students are engaging with a wider range of media than ever before- media that not only inform their identities and social worlds, but that are part of larger democratic and political processes. This presentation will provide an overview of emerging media education approaches, resources, and state standards for educators in the United States and address the relevancy of (indeed, imperative for) media education across multiple disciplines. Targeted audience: fine arts, social studies & language arts

Judy Donovan, Indiana University Northwest

Google Earth

Find out ways you can use Google Earth in your social studies classroom. Share some sample lessons, new online geography/map resources to use with your curriculum and hear about what other teachers are doing with technology in the classroom.

Special Education Strand

Maryann Dudzinski, Valparaiso University

RTI = RTI: Response to Intervention Equals Responsive Teaching

The 2004 reauthorization of the special education law requires that general educators use several levels of research-based effective instructional strategies with students prior to formal referral of a student for possible special education services. This presentation will provide middle school general education teachers with examples of research-based instructional strategies that can be used with all students in the process.

Targeted audience: general education classroom teachers

Jeannie Campbell, Porter County Education Service

The Real World of Autism

2008 Autumn Harvest Conference Breakout Sessions

Participants will learn more about autism and the challenges of having children with autism in the classroom. Although individuals with an autism spectrum disorder share common diagnosis, each will demonstrate characteristics in a different fashion.
