
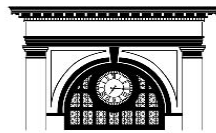


Celebrate	INSPIRED SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM	Achieve
Honor		Inquire
Connect	<i>Connecting Educators, Inspiring Achievement</i>	Share
Recognize	Hosted by:  The Rhode Island League of Charter Schools <i>Expanding Education's Reach</i>	Listen
Speak	An event of exchanging ideas in public school innovation.	Analyze
Motivate		Collaborate
Move	Monday, October 5, 2009 3:45pm – 7:00pm The Crowne Plaza, Warwick	Grow
Learn	<i>For Rhode Island Charter Schools and Their Host Districts</i>	Craft



THE RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION

Sponsored By



Nellie Mae
Education
Foundation

Opening Doors
to Tomorrow

Celebrate

Honor

Connect

Recognize

Speak

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Learn



The Rhode Island League of Charter Schools

Expanding Education's Reach

presents the

INSPIRED SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM

Monday, October 5, 3:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

The Crowne Plaza, Warwick

- 3:45 – 4:00 Refreshments & Registration
- 4:00 Welcome by Steve Nardelli
Executive Director, RI League of Charter Schools
- 4:10 – 4:35 Keynote Address by Nelson Smith
President, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools
- 4:35 – 4:45 Remarks by Deborah Gist
RI Commissioner of Education
- 4:45 – 5:00 Refreshments
- 5:05 – 6:00 Session I workshops
- 6:05 – 7:00 Session II Workshops
- 7:00 – 8:00 Hot Hors D'oeuvres, Cash Bar

Nelson Smith, President of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, will discuss the national issues that confront America's charter schools as well as the Alliance's strategies for meeting those challenges.



Session I Workshops 5:05 – 6:00 pm

1. A National Perspective on Current Charter School Issues

Nelson Smith, President, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

Through Q & A, the RI charter experience will be explored to determine alignment and commonality with national trends. This two way discussion will examine RI's challenges through a national perspective as well as pose RI initiatives and approaches to a national charter school leader.

❖ For All Audiences

2. Senior Projects & Internships: Integrating Writing, Research and Career Experience

Denise M. Burke, Internship Coordinator, Textron Chamber of Commerce Academy

This workshop is designed to teach secondary teachers how to run a successful and rewarding Internship / Senior Project class while integrating writing, research and college credit.

❖ For 9th- 12th grade Educators, Administrators

3. A View Of (Math) Instruction From The Back Of The Room **James Bierden, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Secondary Education, Rhode Island College**

This workshop will focus on methods, strategies, suggestions and admonitions about classroom instruction gleaned from notes taken during observations in more than forty different Rhode Island high school math classrooms over the past several years. These activities will be linked to standards, expectations and assessments.

❖ For 9th- 12th grade Educators, Administrators

4. Critical Friends Groups: Supporting Student Achievement **Gene Thompson-Grove, Brookline Public Schools / National School Reform Faculty**

This session will explore the role of Critical Friends Groups (CFGs) in facilitating adult dialogue and collaboration that results in higher levels of learning for all students. We will consider questions such as: What is the role of risk-taking in adult learning? How do adult collaboration, reflective discourse, and de-privatized practice support student achievement? What are the conversations that make a difference?

❖ For K – 12 Educators and Administrators

5. Constructed Response: Strategies for Improving Student Proficiency

Diane Treichler, Literacy Coach, Pawtucket Public Schools

This workshop will group participants by grade level (elementary, middle and high school) and analyze types of constructed response questions. Examples of fiction and non-fiction literature will be used, and information can be used immediately in classrooms. Handouts provided.

❖ For 2nd – 12th Grade Educators, Specialists, Coaches

Achieve

Inquire

Share

Listen

Analyze

Collaborate

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Celebrate

6. Integrating Problem-Based Learning, Construction Technology, and the World of Work in a Secondary Curriculum
Bob Scaffardi, New England Laborers' / Cranston Public Schools
Construction and Career Academy

This session will highlight how our school has integrated academics, construction technology and career exploration to promote high level thinking and problem solving skills for all kids. Instruction is delivered through a cross-curricular literacy component. A panel of faculty and administrators will discuss our program.

❖ *For 9th – 12th Grade Educators, Administrators*

Honor

7. Differentiating Instruction in the Elementary Grades
Cathy Derouin and Lindsay Correia, The Learning Community Charter School

In this workshop participants will gain an understanding that differentiated instruction is a process in which teachers enhance learning by matching student characteristics to instruction and assessment. Participants will learn that differentiated instruction allows all students to access classroom curriculum and that differentiated instruction is not a single strategy but rather it is an approach to instruction that incorporates a variety of strategies.

❖ *For K – 5th Grade Educators, Specialists, and Administrators*

Connect

Recognize

8. Tightly Woven Social Support Safety Nets: Catching Kids Before They Fall
Maryellen Butke, Director of Organizational Development at The Met School; Organizational Consultant

This workshop on social support safety nets addresses non-academic student needs as a prerequisite for all students being ready and able to learn. Often, our students come to us with mental health, behavioral, and unresolved family issues that impede their learning and development. This workshop provides a design for using the “Response to Intervention” (RTI) model and expanding it in to encompass the social and emotional needs of our students on multiple levels. Our intention is to “catch” students at each stage of need, in order to provide appropriate intervention. Strategies for developing a system using both internal and external supports will be discussed.

❖ *For K – 12th Grade Educators, Specialists, and Administrators*

Speak

Motivate

Move

Learn

9. Teaching and Living Environmental Sustainability
Allen Zipke, Director, The Compass Charter School

The Compass School views education through the lens of environmental sustainability. It is integrated into the curriculum as well as into everyday life. From grades K-8 students learn what environmental sustainability means and how they can incorporate its meaning into their lives. Learn how to define environmental sustainability for your students at various grade levels and integrate the concept across subject areas.

❖ *For K – 8th Grade Educators, Administrators*



Achieve

Inquire

Share

Listen

10. Rethinking After School: A Model for Change and Success
Dana Borrelli, Expanded Learning Time Director, Highlander Charter School

This workshop will focus on innovative approaches to connecting school-day learning to after school programming. We will explore the logistical aspects to creating a 21st Century Community Learning Center site, as well as the national landscape for expanded learning day models. Learn how teachers, principals, and after school providers can work together to provide strong, integrated out-of-school-time programs.

❖ *For All Audiences*

Analyze

11. Virtual Education: Transforming Teaching and Learning for Students of Both Choice and Circumstance

Rob Pilkington, Director, Beacon Charter High School for the Arts
 Virtual education exists in abundance in areas other than the Northeast. Some states have separate laws for the creation of virtual schools and traditional charter schools. Given that virtual education is not as advanced in RI as it is in more rural and Midwestern states, this workshop is a primer on the basics of virtual school design, the varying types of students that can benefit from a virtual education and an overview of the Village Green School which is RI's only virtual charter school application and initiative.

❖ *For 9th – 12th Grade Educators, Administrators*

Collaborate

12. Assessment: Using NECAP Data to Improve Instruction at the Elementary / Middle Grades

Ellen Hedlund, Director, Center for Analysis and Use of Educational Data, EBEC

The NECAP Item Analysis Reports provide extensive information about individual and group achievement. Workshop participants will begin to use several strategies with their own reports to analyze the strengths and needs of their own programs – including alignment of curriculum, instructional strategies and assessments.

❖ *For K – 8th Grade Educators, Administrators*

Grow

Craft

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13. Going Beyond Our Walls, Professional Development.

Christine Wiltshire and Abi Wilson, the Learning Community Charter School

We are driven by the belief that all children deserve the highest quality education. This workshop will explain the Learning Community's unique strategy for making an impact on public schools beyond our four walls, through tailored, classroom-based professional development. We will share examples and evidence of current successful work with our neighborhood public schools, as well as models for how the Learning Community can be a direct resource for your school.

❖ For All Audiences

14. Using "Art Integration" to Enhance Student Learning

Alison Santerre, Grade 5; & Karen Stackow, TA for Art Integration; Kingston Hill Academy Charter School

Improving student learning and retention of concepts can be accomplished with the integration of art projects that support instruction. Curriculum areas of language arts, math, science, and social studies can come alive with hands-on activities that directly relate to the teacher's lessons. Curriculum mapping, co-planning, and a demonstration of a recent activity will be covered in this workshop.

❖ For K-5 Grade Educators and Administrators

Session 2 Workshops

6:05 – 7:00 pm

15. Assessment: Using NECAP Data to Improve Instruction in the Upper Grades

Ellen Hedlund, Director, Center for Analysis and Use of Educational Data; EBECRI

The NECAP Item Analysis Reports provide extensive information about individual and group achievement. Workshop participants will begin to use several strategies with their own reports to analyze the strengths and needs of their own programs – including alignment of curriculum, instructional strategies and assessments.

❖ For 9th – 12th Educators, Administrators

18. Successful Reform Impacting Urban Children

Elizabeth Keiser, Artistic Director; & Sarah Rodriguez-Beerman, Clinical and School Social Worker; Central Falls Schools

This workshop will provide an overview of three initiatives across grade levels that have demonstrated worth and sustainability in Central Falls. The Nurtured Heart Approach builds socialization in positive and impactful ways in the early childhood environment; TALL offers an arts-literacy approach to learning in elementary grades; and Teaming and Thematic Units have shown promise at the high school.

❖ For Pre-K – 12th Grade Educators and Administrators

16. Help! I have an Advisory. Now what do I do?

Brian Fong, Blackstone Academy Charter School

The foundation for the powerful student-teacher relationships at Blackstone Academy is the Advisory system. Workshop participants will learn how to create an advisory that supports the academic, social, and professional development of their advisees. Teachers and administrators will receive strategies for setting advisory goals, creating advisory routines, and defining their roles as advisors.

❖ For 7-12th Grade Educators and Administrators

19. Empowering Middle School Students to Build Communities within Middle School

Emily Hoyler & Lynn Prentiss; Paul Cuffee Charter School

Building upon our success with the Responsive Classroom approach to teaching in our Lower School, Paul Cuffee Middle School has begun to implement Developmental Designs, an approach developed by Origins. Developmental Designs is the extension of the Responsive Classroom model, but addresses the needs of older children. Participants will learn the basics of the Developmental Designs approach to teaching, learning, and classroom management, and hear about ways in which our school has found success using these methods.

❖ For 6th – 8th Grade Educators and Administrators

17. The Art of Science & Math: Creating Curriculum that Develops Student Researchers

Dan Bisaccio, Brown University

Integrating Art with Science and Math allows students to become active researchers. This workshop will focus on an interdisciplinary approach that combines ART, Math, and Science allowing students to become active researchers. Participants in this workshop will actually go through an interdisciplinary research cycle and create a "scientific poster" by the end of the workshop.

❖ For 9th – 12th Grade Educators and Administrators

20. Early ID and Intervention for Elementary Students with Multiple Learning Challenges

Jessica Robins Miller, Anna Johnson, Rosaline Granoff, Jennifer Martinous, The Wolf School

This workshop will help participants identify classroom and home behaviors that may be caused by underlying multiple learning challenges. Sensory processing, social skills and language development will be discussed as they relate to children ages 5 - 12.

❖ For Pre-K – 5th Grade Educators, Administrators

Celebrate

21. The Communications Council: A Constructive Channel for Staff Issues and Concerns in School

Ariana L. Wohl & Alicia Luzon, Paul Cuffee Charter School

Teachers, school administrators, and staff are familiar with arbitrating student conflicts and problems with authority. As educational professionals, what mechanisms do we have to constructively address our own concerns with supervisors or school climate? When faculty and staff have nowhere to go, issues and concerns can breed discontent and be destructive to a positive school culture. This workshop will explore the Communications Council model at Paul Cuffee School, how it facilitates conflict prevention and resolution, conditions necessary for a strong CC, and the way in which a CC can sustain effective listening and staff satisfaction.

❖ For All Educators, Administrators

Honor

Connect

22. Engaging Students Through Relevant Curriculum

Rob DeBlois, Director, The Urban Collaborative

This workshop will define and articulate the concept of student engagement, and explore strategies and ideas that have been implemented to promote student engagement at UCAP over the years. Central to high engagement levels has been the establishment of a relevant curriculum – a continuous journey at UCAP. The presenters do not hold themselves out as experts of student engagement. They will seek to initiate a discussion to enlighten all workshop participants above the essential issues regarding student engagement. *❖ For 9th – 12th Grade Educators, Administrators*

Recognize

23. Using the Digital Portfolio to Create a Paperless Classroom Environment

Rob Pilkington, Director, Beacon Charter High School for the Arts

As the success of schools like California’s High Tech High continue to mount, and state graduation requirements move schools towards electronic portfolios, how can classroom practices change to keep up with these demands? By walking participants through the Digication portfolio system a complete map of teacher organization, assignment tracking, student work, the submission of academic deliverables, and assessment strategies will emerge. The potential of an entire “face to face” classroom environment where both the teacher and student work is done in an online and paperless fashion will be demonstrated.

❖ For 9th – 12th Grade Educators, Administrators

Speak

Motivate

Move

Learn



24. Connecting the Dots in a K-12 System

Jeri Thompson, Times Squared Academy

Times2 Academy is a K-12 charter school that started as a middle school grew to a high school and then implemented an elementary program. During this time the Academy initiated many positive structures that provided guidance and direction for each of the divisions. However, we slowly learned that these structures were disconnected and each division was had a somewhat different focus. Our aspiration has been to examine and rethink what and how we are shaping the three divisions so that the goals and expectations spirals between the elementary, middle, and high school divisions and truly create a K-12 school.

❖ For Administrators

Achieve

Inquire

Share

Listen

25. Understanding the Adolescent Brain

Rick Solomon, Co-Director/Clinical Psychologist, Delta Consultants; Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Rhode Island

This workshop uses the neurological processes of a developing brain as a framework for understanding the behavioral, social and academic changes experienced by children through a decade of maturity -- with a focus upon late childhood and adolescence. The discussion will explore how the maturing child and adolescent neurologically and psychologically perceives and understands his/her world.

❖ For 4th – 12th Grade Educators, Administrators

Analyze

26. Advancing the Charter School Mission in RI

Francis X. McMahon, Arianne Lynch, Advocacy Solutions

This workshop will explore critical points in public policy advocacy – and key advocacy activities -- for the purpose of advancing the Charter mission in the state of Rhode Island. Participants will discuss various forms of advocacy, understand their role as “grassroots influencers” and develop strategies for future activism.

❖ For Educators, & Charter School Board Members

Collaborate

27. Social Responsibility: A Focus at The Compass School

Allen Zipke, Director, The Compass Charter School

Social Responsibility is a total school effort at The Compass School in grades K-8. Class meetings/advisory meetings are part of the day. Approaches from The Responsive Classroom and William Glasser combine to create a positive atmosphere where students learn to accept responsibility for their learning and behavior, where relationships are valued, and where children enjoy learning and attending school. Learn about the approaches and philosophy that make this possible.

❖ For K – 8th Educators, Administrators

Grow

28. Project Enlightenment

Julie Nora, Director, The International Charter School

A team of administrators and faculty designed a culturally and linguistically responsive social studies curriculum based on national and state standards. Thematic units and lesson plans were developed using Backwards Design. Participants will learn about the process, see examples, and begin designing their own curriculum units and lesson plans.

❖ For K – 5th Grade Educators & Administrators

Craft

Celebrate

Registration Information

Registration Form

Achieve

Honor

The Conference will take place on October 5th at the Crowne Plaza at the Crossings, 801 Greenwich Ave, Warwick

Workshop assignments are made on a first come, first served basis. Please select both a first and second choice on your registration form. Final workshop assignments will be disseminated to participants at the conference on October 5. Workshops with less than 10 participants will be cancelled.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. To guarantee a place in a workshop, return your registration by **SEPTEMBER 25**. Registration confirmation will be made through email. Registration forms can be downloaded from the following websites:
www.richarterschools.com www.dunninstitute.org

To register:

- **Email** registration form information to sanfordcw@aol.com.
- **Fax** a completed copy of the registration form to 831-7327
- **Mail** completed registration forms to: Inspired Schools Consortium, c/o Dunn Institute, 16 Borinquen Street, Providence, RI 02905

3 PDCs offered from the RI Department of Education

Connect

Recognize

Speak

Motivate

Move

Learn

Name
Title
School
District
Email
I am a vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Session I (1 – 14) 1st Choice # ___ 2nd Choice # ___
Session II (15 – 28) 1st Choice # ___ 2nd Choice # ___
I am planning to stay for food, cash bar and networking from 7 – 7:45pm <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no

Inquire

Share

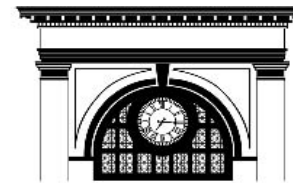
Listen

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