The Pennsylvania Department of Education
Bureau of Special Education
Annual Conference 2013

Making a Difference:
Educational Practices That Work!

Three days of intensive learning with educators who are making a difference for all students.

Wednesday, March 6 through Friday, March 8, 2013
Hershey Lodge and Convention Center
Are you wondering how to teach and to actively engage all of your students in the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards?

Do you want to learn about teaching strategies that have the greatest impact on student achievement?

Are you looking for ways to support student learning through the use of technology?

This is the conference for you.

Keynotes

Positive Exposure: The Spirit of Difference

Rick Guidotti

Insults, fear, discrimination, and hatred based on genetic, physical, and behavioral differences plague our society. In this session, Mr. Guidotti will explain how Positive Exposure attacks public fears about difference with positive images and powerful life stories. Utilizing photography and video interviews, Positive Exposure’s innovative approach challenges the stigma associated with difference. This presentation will make your reexamine your idea of beauty.

In 1998, Rick Guidotti founded Positive Exposure, a nonprofit organization that challenges stigma associated with difference by pioneering a new vision of the beauty and richness of genetic diversity.

How Leaders, Teachers, and Students Make Learning Visible

Brian A. McNulty, Ph.D.

Drawing on the largest body of international educational research ever created, participants will explore specific techniques for identifying the impact that leaders, teachers and, most importantly, students have on learning. During this interactive presentation, participants will have the opportunity to examine their own knowledge and beliefs about teaching and learning.

Dr. McNulty is vice president of leadership development for The Leadership and Learning Center. An author of more than 40 publications, Dr. McNulty’s most recent books include, Leaders Make It Happen, with Laura Besser and School Leadership that Works: From Research to Results, co-authored with Robert Marzano and Tim Waters.

The Future is Beautiful

Jesse Schell

Mr. Schell’s presentation will provide a description of four key 21st century trends (beauty, sharing, customizing, and authenticity) that are transforming the world, and that are necessarily transforming education along with it. Through the use of concrete examples, he will paint a picture of how technology will help to create the geniuses of the 21st century, and how we can all be a part of the revolution.

Mr. Schell is the CEO of Schell Games, the largest game studio in Pennsylvania and a member of the faculty at the Carnegie Mellon University Entertainment Technology Center.
Join Pennsylvania’s educators for the Bureau of Special Education’s signature event. This annual, statewide conference offers an opportunity to learn and engage with nationally-known speakers, as well as colleagues from across the state, highlighting effective instructional strategies and interventions designed to make an educational difference for all students.

Networking Events

Ask the Bureau
This is your opportunity to meet and talk with Bureau of Special Education advisors. You are encouraged to ask questions related to special education issues.

Exhibit Hall
Explore the Exhibit Hall to discover new resources, technology, and services for you and your students.
- Attend the Welcome Reception.
- Visit displays and demonstrations that will spark your imagination.
- Join your colleagues for lunchtime discussion.

Poster Sessions
These sessions will highlight effective practices used by local education agencies and programs throughout the state.
- Behavior
- Inclusive Practices
- Parent Engagement
- Natural Peer Supports
- Students With Complex Support Needs

Sessions
More information about the sessions and presenters is available at: tinyurl.com/pdeconference.

- Active Engagement and Discussion Structures in the Common Core State Standards
  Frank Smith
- Addressing Dropout Prevention Through School-wide Positive Behavior Support
  Tim Lewis, Ph.D.
- Building the Capacity for Effective Family-School Partnerships
  Karen L. Mapp, Ed.D.
- Common Core Instruction Driven by Best Practices in Inclusive Education
  Deborah Taub, Ph.D.
- Cyberbullying and Adolescent Development: Understanding and Intervening
  Dan Florell, Ph.D.
- Facilitating the Implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports at the District Level
  George M. Batsche, Ed.D.
- Improving Reading Comprehension and Language Acquisition for Students who are English Language Learners
  Janette Klingner, Ph.D.
- Knowing Your Impact: Visible Learning for Teachers
  Brian A. McNulty, Ph.D.
- Looking More Closely at Morphological Awareness: A Strategy for Content Area Teachers
  Mary Ellis Dahlgren, Ed.D.
- Meeting the Challenge of Implementing the Common Core Mathematics Standards
  Hung-Hsi Wu, Ph.D.
- Moving Your Numbers: Effective District Practices for Students With Disabilities
  Brian A. McNulty, Ph.D.
  Todd Rose, Ed.D.
- Peer Support Strategies to Promote Inclusion, Learning, and Relationships for Students With Disabilities
  Erik Carter, Ph.D.
- Practical Strategies for Transitioning Students With Asperger’s Syndrome to Post-Secondary Education
  Barbara T. Doyle
- Remedial Reading Program Design: Examining Gains Across Three Middle School Investigations
  Mary Beth Calhoon, Ph.D.
- Slopes and Fractions
  Hung-Hsi Wu, Ph.D.
- Smart but Scattered: Executive Dysfunction at Home and at School
  Peg Dawson, Ed.D.
- Strategy Instruction for Struggling Writers: Revising and Planning
  Gary Troia, Ph.D.
- The Student Using AAC: No Longer the Quiet Child in Your Classroom
  Gail Van Tatenhove
- Systemic District Reform Driven by Best Practices in Inclusive Education
  Diane Ryndak, Ph.D.
- Teaching Ten Important Lifetime Goals to Students with Disabilities of All Ages
  Barbara T. Doyle
- Two Applications of Law vs. Lore: Section 504 and RTI
  Perry Zirkel, Ph.D., J.D.
- Universal Design for Transition: An Innovative Model for Linking Academics and Transition Planning
  Colleen Thoma, Ph.D. and LaRon Scott, Ed.D.
Parent Scholarships

The Bureau of Special Education and PaTTAN are pleased to offer a limited number of Parent Scholarships to Pennsylvania residents who are not employed in a professional capacity by a school entity. Parents of school-age students with a current IEP can apply for either a partial scholarship (registration fee only) or a full scholarship (registration and lodging for those who live beyond 50 miles of Hershey Lodge). Parents of students with a Gifted IEP can apply only for a partial scholarship.

More information on parent scholarships, as well as session descriptions and presenter biographies, is available at:

tinyurl.com/pdeconference

Registration Information

Registration Fee: Early-bird registration (by February 25, 2013) is $75. Beginning February 26, 2013, registration will be accepted at the conference site only and the registration fee will be $125. Out-of-state registration is $500 at any time. Payment may be made with check, cash, or purchase order; no credit cards will be accepted. Make checks payable to MCIU 23/PaTTAN and send them to Debra Jordan, PaTTAN, 200 Anderson Road, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406.

Cancellations: If you are unable to attend the conference you must cancel your registration by February 25, 2013, by contacting Debra Jordan at: 800-441-3215 ext. 7224 or djordan@pattan.net, or your registration fee will not be refunded.

Hotel Registration Deadline: February 4, 2013

Participants may register for rooms at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center at 717-533-3131 or 800-437-7439. The cost per room is $125.00 per night.