

Block I- Friday Morning (9:20 – 10:40 AM) Professional Learning Breakout Sessions

A. Engaging Students across the Elementary Curriculum with STEM

One of the most challenging problems for teachers is how to engage students. STEM activities can be used in every subject area, including ELA, music, math, and social studies to make learning relevant. Join us to develop strategies that will get your students excited and engaged!

Mr. Mike Soskil, 2017 PA Teacher of the Year

B. Landing That First Teaching Job!

This session will review the different aspects and techniques one can use to land one's first teaching job. Topics covered include: Resume development, Job Search Plan of Action, Interview Strategies and Procedures, and General Helpful Hints and Tips

Dr. Vincent E. Citarelli, Garnet Valley School District Assistant Superintendent of HR

C. Teaching Contracts 101: What is a CBA and what should I look for when I'm exploring offers?

Within this session, we will discuss the basics of teaching contracts, common language that is helpful to understand, salary scales, and example collective bargaining agreements that are currently in use throughout Pennsylvania.

Mr. Joe Welch, 2020 PA Teacher of the Year

D. New Teacher Toolkit

Come unpack ways to take a pulse on learning and support differentiation strategies in your future classrooms. These bite sized tips and tricks will leave you with a variety of tools to implement right away and set you up for teaching success. Your new teacher toolkit will be packed & primed!

Ms. Elizabeth Raff, 2022 PA Teacher of the Year

E. The Future is Happening as We Speak: Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Classroom Today

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Join Dr. Clayton to explore how educators can harness the power of AI tech & navigate its pitfalls to create meaningful learning experiences in this AI-powered era, including key strategies for engaging students, maximizing efficiency, & navigating attribution in a world rewired by technology & AI.

Dr. Christopher M. Clayton, NBCT, Ph.D., PSEA Director Education Services

Block II- Friday Afternoon (2:30 – 3:45 PM) Professional Learning Breakout Sessions

A. Advice, Tips, and Strategies from the 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022 & 2023 PA Teachers of the Year!

Participants will be able to ask questions and receive sage advice, techniques, stories, and strategies from the 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022, & 2023 PA Teachers of the Year! How awesome is that?!! (K-12)

Mr. Mike Soskil, Ms. Jennifer Wahl, Mr. Joe Welch, Ms. Elizabeth Raff, & Mr. Ryan Hardesty

B. Special Education for the New General Ed Teacher

You may or may not be a Special Education teacher, but you certainly will have students with exceptionalities that need accommodations & support in your classroom. Learn about your

responsibilities and support available to help you work to ensure that all students in your class can be successful.

Mr. Mike Bogdan, NBCT, PSEA Assistant Director of Education Services

C. Building Community in the Elementary Classroom

Finding the magic in teaching while creating a classroom community at the elementary level can be really hard. Join Ms. Porter for tips, info, and strategies for creating and maintaining a classroom community at the elementary level to create the best classroom community possible for your students.

Ms. Jess Porter, 3rd grade teacher, North Hills SD, @freethinkingteacher

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Block III- Saturday Morning (9:55 – 11:15 AM) Professional Learning Breakout Sessions

A. Student PSEA Alumni Panel: What might my first year OUT of college be like?

Panelists discuss different avenues that emerge in your first year out of college as an educator. (K-12)

Student PSEA Alumni Panel

B. Your First Three Years: How to Handle Trying Scenarios and Get Involved

We will discuss real life scenarios that have happened to actual teachers in their first three years in the job. In a table group exercise, we will troubleshoot and problem solve in ways that will help you make the best possible decisions for your future in education.

Ms. Jennifer Wahl- 2018 PA ToY & Dr. Craig Miller, PA College Of Technology

C. Identifying your Blind Spots in Special Education: Gifted Education

Within your pre-service teaching experience, you may have received a brief overview of what gifted education is in your coursework or have obtained experience interacting and teaching gifted students. During this session, you will learn about what giftedness looks like, the parts of a GIEP, and expand your instructional practices to meet the needs of gifted students in regard to best practice in the field of education.

Dr. Ciminy St. Clair, Gifted Coordinator Norwin SD, PA Gifted Educators Vice-President

D. Navigating the World of Social Media as a Teacher: How to use it to your advantage & avoid pitfalls

Ms. Jess Porter, 3rd grade teacher, North Hills SD, @freethinkingteacher