



2021 NeMTSS Summit | Thursday Breakout Sessions

Select one presentation from each breakout session. All times listed are Central Daylight Time.

BREAKOUT SESSION #1 | 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Elevate Student Engagement in the Inclusive Classroom

Susan Hentz, Educational Consultant

Student engagement can increase successful inclusive practices and is a catalyst for positive learning outcomes for diverse students. Reimagine your classroom by exploring dynamic management strategies that encourage students to listen, participate and be fully involved. The foundation for student engagement involves building a community of learners that supports the pillars of engagement: effective classroom management, collaboration in flexible groups, and developing questioning and discussion skills. Join Susan Hentz to explore practical, innovative and highly effective strategies to empower all learners to become active participants. Take away information to bolster current student engagement inclusive practices and enhance classroom energy.

The Surprising Importance of Early Math

Douglas Clements, Distinguished University Professor & Kennedy Endowed Chair in Early Childhood, University of Denver

Join Douglas Clements to learn surprising research findings about early math, including its predictive power, children's and educators' understanding of that potential, and the need for approaches that also contribute to literacy, cognitive and social-emotional skills. Also surprising is the amount we know about effective and equitable teaching using research-based learning trajectories.

BREAKOUT SESSION #2 | 1:15-2:15 P.M.

Realizing Number Sense & Reasoning Through MTSS in Grades 3-8

John SanGiovanni, Coordinator of Mathematics, Howard County, MD

Join John SanGiovanni to examine how teachers can leverage strategies and approaches to number sense and reasoning through a Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS). This breakout will provide teachers with opportunities to think about how to differentiate the work, scaffold it and enhance student engagement to maximize the effects. Participants will take time to explore and create some tools to use with their students the following week.

Transforming Literacy Instruction in Grades K-2

Brittney Bills, Curriculum Coordinator, Grand Island Public Schools

An effective universal core is at the heart of a Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS). A driving principle of MTSS is ensuring that best practices and research inform instruction at every level, beginning with the universal core. In this session, Brittney Bills will share how her district shifted reading instruction to align with the Science of Reading in grades K-2, including how the district leveraged high-quality instructional materials and professional development to make the shift. Participants will also learn how her district continually uses data to inform the health of core instruction and continuous improvement efforts in K-2 curriculum, instruction and assessment.

BREAKOUT SESSION #3 | 2:30-3:30 P.M.

Implementing the 3 Tiers of MTSS in Secondary Schools

Bob Sonju, Educational Consultant, Author and Practitioner

Although the structure of school may vary, the foundations of learning remain the same. During this session, participants will review basic elements of the three Tiers of a Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS). Join Bob Sonju to explore critical elements of Tier 1 (specifically the need for shared clarity on what all students need to know), strategies for developing targeted Tier 2 support and elements of Tier 3. Participants will leave with increased knowledge and practical strategies to implement in their classrooms and schools.

Writing into Literacy: Scaffolding Students' Writing in Pre-K and K

Sonia Cabell, Assistant Professor, Florida State University

Stefanie Copp, Assistant Professor & Director of the Master of Education in Reading Program, University of Lynchburg

Join Sonia Cabell and Stephanie Copp to discuss why early writing is important, how it develops, and how preschool and kindergarten teachers can support young children's written efforts to help them strengthen their literacy skills. Emphasizing writing during the early years has the potential to accelerate children's literacy learning, particularly with individualized support to help them understand how print works and grasp the alphabetic principle.