

Breakout Sessions - Strands and Location Key for Schedule

A - Salon A (Autism)	B - Salon B (Behavior/MTSS/Mental Health)	C - Salon C (Current Topics)
E - Salon E (Leadership)	F - Salon F (Special Education Processes)	G - Salon G (Math/Reading)

*If a breakout is marked A/B or similarly, that means it will use both Salons for a larger capacity.

Montana Council for Exceptional Children 2024 Conference Missoula Hilton Garden Inn		
Thursday, April 4, 2024		
8:30 -9:15am	Registration South Rotunda	
9:00-10:45am	Hot Breakfast 9:40 Keynote, "Help Them Belong"	Kevin Honeycutt
10:45 - 11:05	Visit Vendors	
11:05-12:20pm	Breakout Session 5 (choose one) A. Listening Under the Big Sky: Listening and Spoken Language for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in Montana B. Every Kid, Every Day! C. Autism: It's YOUR Hour! E . Special Education Law Update F. Be An Inclusion Champion! Unified Champion Schools Overview - All Grade Levels G. Powerhouse Strategies: Blending High-Impact Instructional Practices & Whole Child Skills	Kitty Griffin, MSDB Outreach Consultant & SLP Kevin Honeycutt Jenifer Schoffer Closson, University of Montana & Katie Mattingley, MT Autism Education Project Elizabeth Kaleva, Kaleva Law Special Olympics Sara Cole, Kalispell School District
12:20-1:30pm	Lunch CSPD and "Yes I Can" Awards	
1:30 - 1:50	Visit Vendors	
1:50-3:05 pm	Breakout Session 6 (choose one) A. Improving Life Through Movement; Meaningful Adaptive Fitness; B. Reaching the LOST Learner! C. Generative AI and Its' Impact on Special Education E/F. Addressing Conduct by Students with Disabilities	Monique Prevel, Big Sky Autism Project Executive Director and Lead Coach Kevin Honeycutt Jason Neiffer, Montana Digital Academy Elizabeth Kaleva, Kaleva Law

	G. Now I've done the assessments, how do I write meaningful goals, teach and measure progress?	Danielle Thompson
3:15-4:00pm Quick Tip Sessions - 45 mins.	<p>Quick Tip Sessions - Exhibitors will also be at booths during this time!</p> <p>A. 2 HOUR SESSION starting at 3:15 and flowing through Break out 4 A Refresher on the OPI Autism Criteria</p> <p>B. SLP-Assistant and Audiology Assistant licensing and roles/responsibilities</p> <p>C. Montana School Recruitment Project</p> <p>E. STOP It Solutions</p> <p>F. SIMS Scholars: Academic Scholarship Grant for Aspiring Special Educators (Bachelors & Masters)</p> <p>G. SIPPS (Systematic Instruction in Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words)</p>	<p>Katie Mattingley, OPI Autism Specialist</p> <p>Shelby Midboe, President of MT Speech Language Hearing Association</p> <p>Billi Taylor, MSRP Director</p> <p>Jennifer Schoffer Closson & Morgen Alwell, Ph D</p> <p>Genevieve Thomas, SSOM</p>
4:15 - 5:30pm	<p>Breakout Session 7 (choose one)</p> <p>A. Cont'd 2 HOUR SESSION starting at 3:15 and flowing through Break out 4 A Refresher on the OPI Autism Criteria</p> <p>B. IEP Meetings: Planning, Agendas and Much More</p> <p>C. Language Foundations of Reading and Oral Language Routines</p> <p>E. The Importance of the Individual</p> <p>F. A Behavior Analyst, Occupational Therapist and School Psychologist Walk into a School....</p> <p>G. Data Driven Reading Instruction in the K-2 Setting;</p>	<p>Katie Mattingley, OPI Autism Specialist</p> <p>Maria Pace, Prickly Pear Cooperative Director & Marvin Williams</p> <p>Danielle Thompson</p> <p>Michelle L. Weltman, JD, MSW and Christa Gabriel</p> <p>Bridget Kelly; Rural Resilience, Angie Holmes, & Juliana Robinson; Park County Special Education Cooperative</p> <p>Ashlie Slunaker: Livingston School District</p>
6:15 - 7:00pm	MCEC Awards - appetizers, "credit" bars	
7:00-8:30pm	<p>Evening Entertainment; Empowering Exceptional Voices: Teachers' Karaoke Celebration with Kevin Honeycutt</p> <p><i>Join me and your fellow talented and out-there unicorns as we overcome our stage fright and "rock out" in honor of the kids who bravely sing their own songs daily!</i></p>	Grand Ballroom

11:05 - 12:20 p.m.

Breakout Session 5

Salon A. **Listening Under the Big Sky: Listening and Spoken Language for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in Montana**

Kitty Griffin, MSDB Outreach Consultant & SLP

Salon B. **Every Kid, Every Day!**

Kevin Honeycutt

How do we build learning environments where EVERY kid knows they are loved? Join me for this session that goes further into ideas from the keynote. We will explore strategies and ideas to help guide our efforts to see kids beat the odds and find success.

Salon C. **Autism: It's YOUR Hour!**

Jennifer Schoffer Closson, University of Montana & Katie Mattingley, MT Autism Education Project

This session will be guided by questions from the attendees. The hard topics will be addressed with regard to autism such as sexuality, self-injurious behaviors, refusals, motivation challenges, aggression, etc., and the evidence-based practices used to address these areas.

Learning Objectives:

- 1. Attendees will learn new strategies to address interfering behavior posed by the learner.*
- 2. Attendees will learn why the interfering behavior occurs to better understand the EBP to address the behavior.*

Salon E. **Special Education Law Update**

Elizabeth Kaleva, Kaleva Law

This session will focus on important special education cases over the last year and the impacts on Montana schools.

Salon F. **Be An Inclusion Champion! Unified Champion Schools Overview - All Grade Levels**

Terri Norman, Special Olympics

Special Olympics goes beyond the commonly thought of one day, sport competitions. Unified Champion Schools (UCS) helps create inclusive school communities where everyone is welcome and accepted. UCS encompasses students aged two years through high school and beyond. UCS elementary strategies include Young Athletes, Unified Young Readers, Little Feet Meets, Unified Sports, inclusive youth leadership and whole school engagement opportunities. UCS middle/high school strategies include respect/anti-bullying campaigns, disability awareness, inclusive activities, Unified Sports, inclusive youth leadership and whole school engagement opportunities. This presentation will provide an overview of Special Olympics UCS strategies at all grade levels and ways for schools to get started and engage their schools and communities to become more inclusive. This session will highlight resources available for staff, students, parents, and schools..

Salon G. **Powerhouse Strategies: Blending High-Impact Instructional Practices & Whole Child Skills**

Sara Cole, Kalispell School District

Audience: Administrators, Instructional Coaches, Teachers (all are welcome);

Description/Objectives: This interactive workshop will focus on Hattie's High-Impact Instructional Strategies, specifically those that integrate Whole Child skills. Participants will be able to collaboratively reflect on ways these evidence-based practices can be used in their schools/classrooms to increase student achievement and overall success. Hands-on and practical course!

1:50 - 3:05 p.m.

Breakout Session 6

Salon A. **Improving Life Through Movement; Meaningful Adaptive Fitness**
Monique Prevel, Big Sky Autism Project Executive Director and Lead Coach

This hands on session will cover the basic theory and programs used in the Autism Fitness Level 1 Certification with a main focus on activities of daily living for individuals on the spectrum. Participants will learn about resources, tools, and techniques for use in their own practices, professions, and homes.

Salon B. **Reaching the LOST Learner!**
Kevin Honeycutt

Kids come to us facing multiple challenges and we want to help them find success! How do we use what we know about kids, motivation, relationships, and research to create a custom approach to help individual kids thrive? Join me for this session where we take a deep dive into what is possible and do-able.

Salon C. **Generative AI and Its' Impact on Special Education**
Jason Neiffer, Montana Digital Academy

Salons E/F. **Addressing Conduct by Students with Disabilities**
Elizabeth Kaleva, Kaleva Law

This session will examine how to conduct threat assessments for students with disabilities and the obligation of school staff to balance the safety and welfare of the school community with the rights of individual students.

Salon G. **Now I've done the assessments, how do I write meaningful goals, teach and measure progress?**
Dr. Nell Thompson

3:15 - 4:00 p.m.

Quick Tip Sessions (45 min - choose one or rotate) - Salon E is a 2 hour session! Exhibitors will also be highlighting booths during this time!

Salon A. **2 HOUR SESSION A Refresher on the OPI Autism Criteria**
Katie Mattingley, OPI Autism Specialist

Salon B. **SLP-Assistant and Audiology Assistant Licensing and Roles/Responsibilities**
Shelby Midboe, President of MT Speech Language Hearing Association

Salon C. **Montana School Recruitment Project**
Billi Taylor, MSRP Director

Salon E. **STOP It Solutions**

Salon F. **SIMS Scholars: Academic Scholarship Grant for Aspiring Special Educators (Bachelors & Masters)**
Jennifer Schoffer Closson & Morgen Alwell, Ph D

Salon G. **SIPPS (Systematic Instruction in Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words)**
Genevieve Thomas, SSOM

4:15 - 5:30 p.m.

Breakout Session 7

Salon A. **Cont'd 2 HOUR SESSION starting at 3:15 and flowing through Break out 4 A Refresher on the OPI Autism Criteria**
Katie Mattingley, OPI Autism Specialist

Salon B. **IEP Meetings: Planning, Agendas and Much More**
Maria Pace, Prickly Pear Cooperative Director & Marvin Williams

Preparing for Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings is pivotal for ensuring the success of students with disabilities. This presentation delves into crafting effective IEP meeting preparation agendas and strategies that extend beyond the meeting itself.

Key Points:

1. Understanding the Purpose of IEP Meetings:

- Overview of the legal requirements and importance of IEP meetings in special education.
- Emphasizing the collaborative nature of IEP meetings involving educators, parents, students (when appropriate), and other stakeholders.

2. Crafting Comprehensive IEP Meeting Agendas:

- Breakdown of essential components to include in an IEP meeting agenda.
- Strategies for setting clear objectives and timelines for discussion.
- Addressing specific needs, goals, accommodations, and modifications for each student.

3. Preparing Collaborative Partnerships:

- Strategies for fostering positive relationships among team members.
- Encouraging open communication and active participation from all stakeholders.
- Emphasizing the importance of respecting diverse perspectives and contributions.

4. Empowering Parents and Guardians:

- Providing guidance on how to engage and support parents/guardians in the IEP process.
- Offering resources and tools to help parents understand their rights and responsibilities.
- Highlighting the significance of parent input and involvement in decision-making.

5. Beyond the Meeting: Implementation and Follow-Up:

- Strategies for translating IEP goals into actionable plans.
- Discussing methods for monitoring progress and revising goals as needed.
- Addressing challenges and providing ongoing support for successful implementation.

6. Promoting a Culture of Continuous Improvement:

- Encouraging reflection and evaluation of IEP meeting processes.
- Identifying opportunities for professional development and collaboration.
- Emphasizing the importance of ongoing learning and adaptation in the ever-evolving landscape of special education.

Salon C. **Language Foundations of Reading and Oral Language Routines**
Dr. Nell Thompson

Salon E. **The Importance of the I(individual)**
Michelle L. Weltman, JD, MSW and Christa Gabriel

This presentation will focus on the importance of emphasizing the “individual” for youth with disabilities and twice-exceptional youth in drafting goals, accommodations, behavior plans, etc. This includes getting buy-in from the child, creativity in crafting solutions and coming up with options to address issues and focusing on FAPE as an outcome.

Salon F. **A Behavior Analyst, Occupational Therapist and School Psychologist Walk into a School....**
Bridget Kelly; Rural Resilience Behavior Analyst, Angie Holmes; Park County Special Education Cooperative Occupational Therapist & Juliana Robinson; Park County Special Education Cooperative School Psychologist

This presentation will focus on service providers working together in an effective collaborative manner in order to support students, teachers and schools. Key topics will include: effective communication, collaboration despite distance, managing multiple teams, scheduling issues, roles and responsibilities. Examples and case studies will be utilized during the presentation.

Salon G. **Data Driven Reading Instruction in the K-2 Setting**
Ashlie Slunaker: Livingston School District

Effective and efficient small group instruction in reading begins with scientifically aligned screeners and diagnostic tools. These tools will provide information for targeted, strategy focused instruction that will ensure high impact and strong learning outcomes. In this session, participants will learn how to use data from universal screeners and diagnostic surveys to form skill based small groups. Then, they will design a framework to develop lessons using decodable text.

This presentation will also clarify what to look for in a struggling reader and how a Tiered approach to literacy instruction can help support all struggling students. Emphasis will be placed on the nuances of general education; intervention and special education will be discussed. Walk to Read models will be discussed, and ample time will be provided for questions about how to immediately implement programs into classrooms.

Objectives:

- *Understand how a balanced assessment system informs small group instruction.*
- *Identify the components of effective intervention.*
- *Utilize a design framework to develop a targeted intervention lesson.*