

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.

<p>Montana Council for Exceptional Children 2024 Conference Missoula Hilton Garden Inn</p>		
<p>Friday, April 5, 2024</p>		
7:30 -8:15am	Light Breakfast and Coffee	
8:30-9:45 am	<p>Breakout Session 8 (choose one)</p> <p>A. Hiking, Boxing, and Yoga, Oooh My! Surprisingly Helpful Activities for the Spectrum</p> <p>B. Threat Assessment Level 2</p> <p>C. Social Optics: SEL Student Solutions for Neurodivergent Teens</p> <p>E . Early Intervention, Special Education & The Montana Empowerment Center</p> <p>F. High School Graduation Form, Prior Written Notice, and Summary of Performance</p> <p>G. Building a Modern Math Classroom; Elementary</p>	<p>Monique Prevel, Big Sky Autism Project Executive Director and Lead Coach</p> <p>Tammy Tolleson Knee & Tina Eblen, Montana Safe Schools Center</p> <p>Carolyn Long</p> <p>Sandy Cade DPHHS Part C, Lucy Beltz OPI Part B 619 & Rebecca Richards The Montana Empowerment Center</p> <p>Desiree Johnson, OPI</p> <p>Hollee Goody, Capital High Math Teacher</p>
10:00-11:15am	<p>Breakout Session 9 (choose one)</p> <p>A. Development is a Journey Conversation Roadmap</p> <p>B. PAX GBG and Rural School Mental Health Early Identification Screener (EIS)</p> <p>C. Educational Needs of the Student with Epilepsy</p> <p>E. MCASE Special Education Round Table</p> <p>F. Secondary Transitions Panel: Come to Ask Questions and/or Share in a Discussion to Understand the Different Processes to Support High School Students Transitioning to Adulthood</p>	<p>Dr. Knowles-O'Brien</p> <p>Wendy Ekegren is a School Mental Health Program Manager and Sustainability Coach at University of Montana's Center for Children, Families and Workforce Development (CCFWD)</p> <p>Lynn Chapieski, PhD, Epilepsy Foundation</p> <p>MCASE Leadership</p> <p>Rebecca Richards, Kari Tarter, Andrew Lowmy, Desiree Johnson, Tami Hoar</p>

	G. Building a Modern Math Classroom; MS & HS	Hollee Goody, Capital High Math Teacher
12:00 pm	MCEC Board of Governors Spring Board Meeting	

8:30 - 9:45 a.m.

Breakout Session 8

Salon A. **Hiking, Boxing, and Yoga, Oooh My! Surprisingly Helpful Activities for the Spectrum**
Monique Prevel, Big Sky Autism Project Executive Director and Lead Coach

This interactive session will teach participants healthy tools and techniques pulled from popular activities that are good for all individuals but especially helpful for individuals on the spectrum in the areas of calming, grounding, regulation, redirection, and de-escalation.

Salon B. **Threat Assessment Level 2**
Tammy Tolleson Knee & Tina Eblen, Montana Safe Schools Center

This session builds on the Threat Assessment Tier I session. In this session, we explore each segment of the threat assessment process in detail including more specifics about the roles of team members. We'll end with tabletop scenarios to develop the team's comfort and competence with threat assessment.

Salon C. **Social Optics: SEL Student Solutions for Neurodivergent Teens**
Carolyn Long

Social Optics is a web-based app that provides social communication and soft skills instruction for neurodivergent middle and high school students. In this session you'll get to learn and interact with a tool for addressing SEB, Self-Help Independence, Communication and Vocational goals for adolescents. Information on how EdTech tools are created, tips for identifying the good, bad and ugly in EdTech products, and AI will also be presented.

Salon E. **Early Intervention, Special Education & The Montana Empowerment Center**
Sandy Cade DPHHS Part C, Lucy Beltz OPI Part B 619 & Rebecca Richards The Montana Empowerment Center

This session will focus on supporting schools and families during the transition from Part C, Early Intervention to Part B, Preschool Special Education.

The goals of the session are:

- *Increase comfort using guidance documents*
- *Understand transition from the family perspective*
- *How we support families through phases of transition*
- *Understanding of legal requirements for transition timelines*
- *Identify challenges and opportunities for improvement*

Salon F. **High School Graduation Form, Prior Written Notice, and Summary of Performance**
Desiree Johnson, OPI

Salon G. **Building a Modern Math Classroom; Elementary Focused**
Hollee Goody, Capital High Math Teacher

There are many things I have learned from teaching math for the last 24 years, but most importantly, kids do not learn in a "sit and get" classroom. In my sessions I will discuss strategies that are imperative in a modern math, thinking classroom environment no matter what math class you teach. These philosophies may be different from the way we were taught in high school and in college, but our students are not the same. How much did a person that was not considered good at math learn in the class we took in high school and college? We all did fine because we are math people. Math people can learn any way they are taught. How many adults or students do you know either love or hate math? I want to help you reach all students no matter what their math ability is when they enter your classroom.

Objectives:

- Focus on classroom management tools, using non-permanent vertical surfaces during the class period and how to give the power of learning to your student.
- Empower students, build confidence, and strategies to cater teaching to different learning styles.
- Develop strategies for building a classroom community that students no matter their previous experiences in math can all enjoy.

10:00 - 11:15 a.m.

Breakout Session 9

Salon A. **Development is a Journey Conversation Roadmap**
Dr. Knowles-O'Brien

*Conversations about developmental screening have clear benefits, however, can be time-consuming and anxiety provoking for families, pediatric health providers, early educators, and home visitors. To simplify, support, and strengthen these important and often challenging conversations, the Brazelton Touchpoints Center (BTC) has created the **Development is a Journey Conversation Roadmap** for family-facing providers. The Roadmap is designed to facilitate these conversations with short and simple steps to actively engage parents and other caregivers in planning for their child's developmental needs and enhance the provider-parent partnership.*

Salon B. **PAX GBG and Rural School Mental Health Early Identification Screener (EIS)**

Wendy Ekegren is a School Mental Health Program Manager and Sustainability Coach at University of Montana's Center for Children, Families and Workforce Development (CCFWD)

Participants will learn about opportunities to participate in two Montana school grants: PAX Good Behavior Game (PAX GBG) project, and the Rural School Mental Health Research project. These projects focus on preventing mental illness, improving school climate and culture and increasing student engagement and learning.

Montana PAX GBG works with districts to explore the benefits of using PAX GBG, gaining staff consensus for PAX GBG, and provides on-going coaching for implementing schools (refresher trainings, materials and resources, assessment tools). The Rural School Mental Health research project trains schools to use the Early Identification System (EIS), a teacher checklist and student survey that identifies students at risk of developing mental illness. Project schools also access the intervention hub that helps teams identify programs or strategies to address problem areas and build student skills.

Salon C. **Educational Needs of the Student with Epilepsy**
Lynn Chapieski, PhD, Epilepsy Foundation

1,400 Children and Teens live with epilepsy in Montana. This session will cover the impacts of seizures, Anti-Epileptic Medications, Comorbid Conditions and social expectations on learning, as well as appropriate interventions and accommodations for students living with epilepsy.

Salon E. **MCASE Special Education Round Table**
MCASE Leadership

Salon F. **Secondary Transitions Panel: Come to Ask Questions and/or Share in a Discussion to Understand the Different Processes to Support High School Students Transitioning to Adulthood**

Five agencies will share resources, services, and/or assistance that they offer to students with disabilities, families, and educators to support a successful transition into an adult life "employment, education/training, independent living". *These resources align with IDEA's secondary transition requirements.*

Facilitator: Ellen Condon, Transition Project Co-Director, UM Rural Institute

Panelists:

- *Montana Empowerment Center (Rebecca Richards, Executive Director MEC),*
- *UM Rural Institute (Kari Tarter, Public Education Specialist with Deafblind Project and the Transition Project),*
- *Vocational Rehabilitation & Blind Services (Andrew Lowney, Pre-ETS Specialist),*
- *OPI Monitoring Team (Desiree Johnson, Secondary Transition Specialist),*
- *Summit Independent Living Center (Tami Hoar, Executive Director)*

Salon G.

Building a Modern Math Classroom; MS & HS Focused

Hollee Goody, Capital High Math Teacher

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