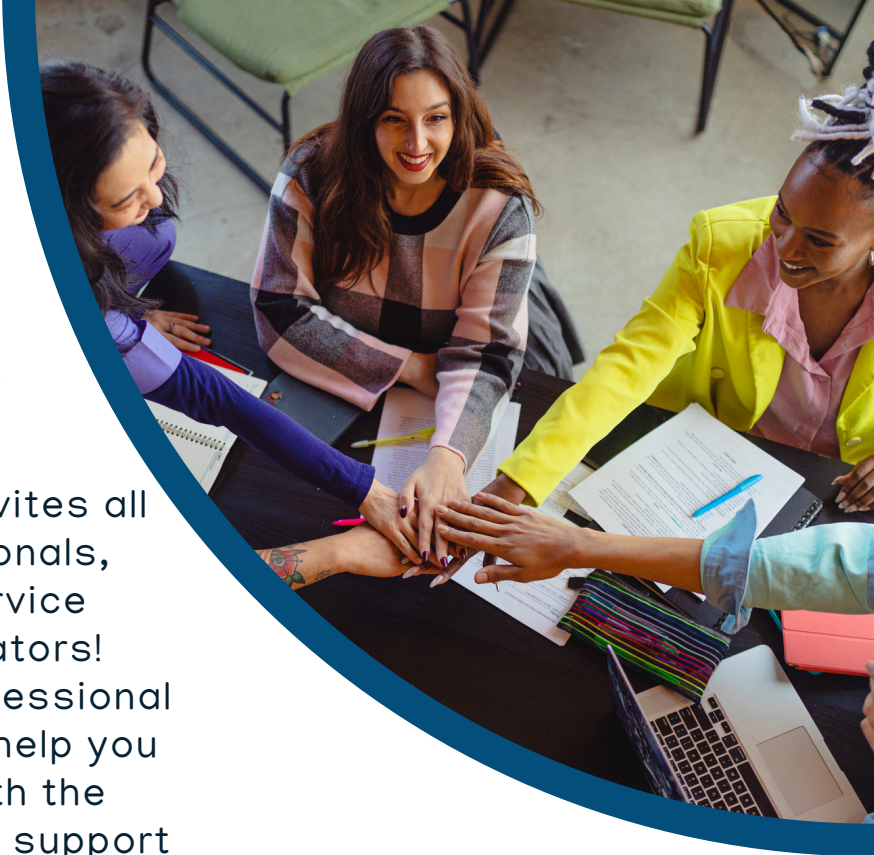


VIRTUAL BACK TO SCHOOL SUMMIT 2025

Vermont Learning Collaborative invites all K-8 General Education Professionals, Special Educators, Related Service Providers and Building Administrators! Please join us for this dynamic professional development opportunity that will help you kick off the 2026 school year with the evidenced based tools you need to support your learners.



DOT LUCCI, M.ED

Dot Lucci, M.Ed, CAGS has been active in the fields of education, psychology, research, and academia for over 30 years. She is an international consultant and speaker who specializes in program design and the inclusion of children with special needs. Dot has experience as an elementary classroom teacher, special educator, school psychologist, researcher, director, and college professor.



**JESSICA MINAHAN,
PH.D, BCBA**

Jessica Minahan, Ph.D., BCBA, LABA, is a licensed and board-certified behavior analyst, author, special educator, and consultant to schools internationally. Since 2000 she has worked with students who struggle with mental health issues and challenging behavior in public school systems. She specializes in training staff and creating behavior intervention plans for students who demonstrate explosive and unsafe behavior.



**SARAH WARD,
MS.CCC-SLP**

Sarah Ward, M.S., CCC/SLP and Co-Director of Cognitive Connections, LLP has over 25 years of experience in diagnostic evaluations, treatment and case management of children, adolescents and adults with a wide range of developmental and acquired brain-based learning difficulties and behavioral problems. Her particular interest is in the assessment and treatment of executive function deficits.

**September 22nd
October 2nd
October 8th
8:30 - 11:30 am**

**MONDAY
September 22, 2025
8:30 - 11:30 am**

SPEAKER: Jessica Minahan, Ph.D, BCBA, LABA
TOPIC: Best Practices to Reduce Anxiety and Challenging Behavior in Students

Understanding the role anxiety plays in a student's behavior is crucial, and using preventive strategies is key to successful intervention. Effective behavior plans for these students must avoid the reward and punishment-based consequences of traditional behavior plans and focus instead on the use of preventive strategies and on explicitly teaching coping skills, self-monitoring, and alternative responses. The training will provide empathetic, flexible, practical, and, more importantly, effective strategies for preventing inappropriate behavior from the start in the classroom and dealing with it once it's already happening.

**THURSDAY
October 2, 2025
8:30 - 11:30 am**

SPEAKER: Sarah Ward, M.S CCC-SLP
TOPIC: Executive Functioning in the Classroom

As summer break kicks off, take some time to reflect, recharge, and refine your teaching toolkit for the year ahead. This session goes beyond general awareness and dives into nuanced and highly practical strategies to foster independent executive function skills in your students. Whether your student needs to complete tasks, classwork, or homework, in this practical strategies seminar you will learn concrete tools to help students manage their attention, time, and materials to follow directions, plan, break down, and initiate the steps towards completing and closing out classwork. Learn dozens of practical strategies to support students in developing independent executive function skills to self-regulate and manage impulses! See the [FLYER](#) for more information.

**WEDNESDAY
October 8, 2025
8:30 - 11:30 am**

SPEAKER: Dot Lucci, M.Ed, CAGS
TOPIC: Creating Emotionally Supportive Classrooms

Setting up our classrooms to be "safe havens" is critical for the academic and mental health functioning of our students. Research tells us that a student who feels safe, seen and valued is better able to learn. In this workshop we will explore how to set up an emotionally safe and secure learning environment so that all may learn. We will discuss the physical environment, the human relationships, behavior management, and how the brain responds to all of this. You will leave with practical ideas to bring to your teaching practice as well as the design ideas for the physical space.

**Click below to
register**



REGISTRATION

- MEMBER SINGLE: \$175 each session or all three at \$475
- MEMBER TEAMS of 6 for all three sessions \$2,675
- NON MEMBER SINGLE: \$210 each session or all three at \$570
- NON MEMBER TEAMS of 6 for all three sessions \$3,210



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