

# CAACE Conference Workshops

## Thursday, March 23, 2023

### Session 1

**9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

#### Session # 1A

**A Teacher's Dozen: Activities to Engage Your Learners**

**Presented by:** Ticiana Coleman, Dave Lysonski

**Focus Topic:** ESL (Exhibitor Presentation - Burlington English)

In-person, virtual, hybrid...donut worry! No matter what your English language classroom looks like, dip into our session to learn how to spice up your teaching and make any lesson more engaging. From warm-up activities and vocabulary lessons to grammar topics and pronunciation practice, we'll have a variety pack of ideas and activities to energize your classroom. Participants will leave full of new strategies to support their English language learners. Join our conference classroom and sweeten your day with the Burlington English team!

#### Session # 1B

**Bridging the Digital Skill Gap through Mobile-Friendly Applications**

**Presented by:** Jose Adorno

**Focus Topic:** Digital Literacy

Unlock the opportunity for students to continue to build Digital Literacy skills through mobile-friendly resources that can then be transferred to other device interfaces like a laptop or PC. In this presentation, you will find resources that are not only mobile-friendly, but can also help students reach the next level, even if they are still learning to navigate using a mouse or typing on a keyboard.

#### Session # 1C

**Working With Your Local Community College**

**Presented by:** Larry Covino, Susan Passini

**Focus Topic:** Collaboration/Partnerships

Participants will learn all of the different ways to collaborate with their local community colleges and the programming available to our adult learners. Topics to be addressed include dual enrollment opportunities, certification courses, financial assistance and working together in support of post secondary initiatives.

## **Session # 1D**

### **Empowering Adult Education Students and Parents Through Leadership Training**

**Presented by:** Rick Raucci, Faye Griffiths-Smith

**Focus Topic:** Family Literacy

The partnership between Milford Adult Education and UConn, provides leadership training to adult learners through funding from CSDE's Parent Trust Fund. Learn about how to implement successful parent leadership training locally. We'll highlight action steps needed to pilot the UConn Extension People Empowering People Communities Program, which helps adult learners gain confidence and realize that their community is a better place because they take part in it.

## **Session # 1E**

### **Investing in Our Future: Recruiting Talent, Making Connections, and Building Success with Strengths Based Leadership**

**Presented by:** Michelle Bonora

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

Is your program experiencing challenges with faculty recruitment and retention? Are you looking to attract and retain high quality teachers and staff? In this session learn how New Haven Adult & Continuing Education Center has implemented a strengths-based leadership approach to maintain competitiveness with recruiting talent, engaging, and motivating new and current faculty instructors. Participants will leave with real ideas to immediately incorporate into every day practice.

## **Session # 1F**

### **Student Advisory and a Culture of Collaboration**

**Presented by:** Christy Martin, Joe Neff

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

Participants will walk away with the information of what has worked (or not) for New Milford Adult education as our program has evolved. Student's have gone from simply attending classes to reviewing program standards, planning and running events, implementing community service projects and becoming the voice of our student body.

## **Session # 1L**

### **Conscious Conflict & Maintaining Community**

**Presented by:** Adrianna Flax

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

As organizations, how we manage conflict directly impacts the health and psychological safety of our communities. This session introduces the concept of Conscious Conflict (CC), an approach for conflict resolution that provides a new model for addressing harms like microaggressions in a way that promotes trust and inclusion. An underlying premise of CC is that everyone is as capable of committing harm as we are of experiencing harm.

## **Session # 1T**

### **Tricks & Tips to Marketing**

**Presented by:** Bobbi Brown

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

Marketing a program, organization or product doesn't have to be complicated. Find out about free or reasonably priced easy tools you can use to boost awareness and gain followers. Audience members will gain tips on how to track marketing analytics, improve social media visibility, build cross agency marketing collaboration and create an interactive marketing campaign.

## **Session 2**

**10:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.**

### **Session # 2A**

#### **Workplace Safety for ESL Students**

**Presented by:** Marcy Reed

**Focus Topic:** ESL

Workplace rights and safety are often misunderstood by those who are new to this country or do not speak English well. Employers sometimes take advantage of undocumented status or of workers' lack of knowledge about their rights in the workplace. Employers of low wage workers are particularly guilty of wage and hour violations and our ESL students can be at risk. This session will provide ESL teachers with information and lessons to share with their students in order to educate them about employees' rights and the resources available if they require assistance with issues about rights and safety on the job.

### **Session # 2B**

#### **GED Connection: Through the Eyes of the Immigrant Experience**

**Presented by:** Linda Blakesley, Rima Riedel

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

Workshop facilitators will utilize an interdisciplinary approach emphasizing poetry, as well as interactive activities, incorporating key GED elements from Social Studies and Language Arts. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with their own immigrant story while also uplifting and honoring the immigrant experiences of students, thus creating a safe space where students are seen and valued.

## **Session # 2C**

### **Rebuilding Connection in a Post COVID World**

**Presented by:** Pam Anderson, Lori Ouelette

**Focus Topic:** Collaboration/Partnerships

Many adult education programs have experienced a post-pandemic impact on student engagement and community partnerships. Please join us for a roundtable discussion of techniques we can use to: restore connections with students, maintain strong relationships with community partners and create a welcoming environment for all learners. This will be an opportunity to exchange ideas on what we can do to build a sense of community amongst the students we serve.

## **Session # 2D**

### **Effective Classroom Implementation and Modalities for Diverse Learners**

**Presented by:** Brittney Napolitano, Peggy Bernard

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion (Exhibitor Presentation - Essential Education)

This session will allow teachers to set the stage for adult learning in remote, hybrid and classroom environments. Participants will learn skills to track students' progress, accelerate learning, maximize learning gains, and provide strategies for how to use resources in the classroom. This session will also cover how to orient students, use data to drive instruction, explore effective classroom strategies, and where to find additional student & teacher resources.

## **Session # 2E**

### **Becoming CT State: Statewide Leverage, Local Legacy**

**Presented by:** Ann Harrison, Thomas Coley

**Focus Topic:** Collaborations/Partnerships

Connecticut's 12 community colleges will augment the strength of their collective parts to become one CT State Community College this year. This means deepening K12 relationships, College Career Pathways, dual enrollment, and early college programs. This session will explore topics including implementing cooperative/work-based learning programs and opportunities, and expanding and deepening relationships between industry, job market, and areas of study to ensure that each student is provided the opportunity to pursue an affordable and quality education that aligns with their identities, lives, and skills required for livable-wage careers.

## **Session # 2F**

### **NEAT Programs and Services: Assistive Technology Across the Lifespan**

**Presented by:** Maggie Wurm

**Focus Topic:** Disabilities

People of all ages and abilities can benefit from assistive technology (AT) tools to support their access to the world. New England Assistive Technology (NEAT), an Oak Hill Center, aims to guide individuals, families, and support teams in identifying customized AT options and implementing them in meaningful ways. This session will provide an overview of the NEAT services that can help individuals attain impactful opportunities after transitioning from public schools, such as to support vocational tasks, independent living, and social engagement.

## **Session # 2L**

**Blended Learning with Aztec Software, Steck-Vaughn, and Paxen Publishing**

**Presented by:** Mitch Rosin

**Focus Topic:** Program Development (Exhibitor Presentation - Aztec Software)

The global pandemic challenged adult education programs to effectively use technology to continue to provide both assessment and learning options for adult learners. Many programs quickly switched to a distance learning model while still utilizing print materials via a blended learning model. This workshop will highlight blended learning models, how technology can enhance the delivery of curriculum, and how English and Spanish curriculum from Aztec, Paxen, and Steck-Vaughn can provide the ideal solution for a blended learning model.

## **Session # 2T**

**Engaging Activities for the Multi-Level ESL Classroom**

**Presented by:** Shelby Adams, Catherine Bosco

**Focus Topic:** ESL

This interactive workshop will teach participants how to create differentiated learning experiences that you can readily use in your classroom when working with multi-level ESL learners. These learning experiences will focus on communication skills including; listening, speaking, reading and writing.

## **Session 3**

**11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.**

### **Session # 3A**

**Enhanced CASAS and Burlington English: A WIOA-Focused Combination to Prepare Workers for Skilled Jobs**

**Presented by:** Robert Breitland

**Focus Topic:** ESL (Exhibitor Presentation - Burlington English)

National workforce reports show that higher-order skills such as critical thinking and problem-solving are becoming more vital for all workers. To prepare students for the rigorous demands of the workplace, adult education providers need to make the most of their instructional resources and assessment tools. Join this session to hear how enhancements to CASAS and BurlingtonEnglish contribute to student success in IET/IELCE programs and in the workplace.

### **Session # 3B**

**ABE: The Stepping Stone to ALL High School Completion Options**

**Presented by:** Amy Shea

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

After registering and pretesting your new students are placed into your ABE-level classes. What do you do with them after they are placed? Do you just focus on basic skills? Do you give these new eager students options? This workshop will focus on what happens with our ABE students and the options they are given to move throughout the program. Keeping communication going and meeting with students regularly may be the key to their success.

### **Session # 3C**

**Integrated Resource Teams- Addressing Barriers to Success**

**Presented by:** Pam LaRosa, Heather Pelletier

**Focus Topic:** Collaboration/Partnerships

Integrated Resource Teams can have a powerful impact in addressing the barriers facing many participants. These teams, made up of representatives from multiple partner agencies, come together to strategize on how to best mitigate barriers to success. This is a common-sense, can-do approach to coordinating partner services and maximizing the outcomes for those we serve.

### **Session # 3D**

**Mathematical Reasoning: It's All in the Numbers**

**Presented by:** Debi Faucette

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

An educator's classroom experience and the GEDTS research data tells us the same story: Mathematical Reasoning is the content area most challenging for students. We will address skills and strategies to tackle different ways to address items most difficult for students, as well as share what has been learned since the original research.

### **Session # 3E**

**2-1-1: A Connection to Community Resources**

**Presented by:** Alana Kroeber

**Focus Topic:** Community Resources

Participants will understand the services offered through 2-1-1 Connecticut and how to use the 211ct.org website to help individuals find and connect with community resources.

### **Session # 3F**

#### **Diversity and Inclusion in Adult Education**

**Presented by:** Marcy Reed

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

Members of the Racial Equity Taskforce will discuss their ongoing work on equity and inclusion in adult education and why it is important work for all adult education staff to fully engage with.

### **Session # 3L**

#### **Teaching Upstream: Trauma-Informed Caring Strategies for Adult Educators & Learners**

**Presented by:** Emily Escobar

**Focus Topic:** Instruction / Personal Development

Over the past several years COVID-19 has upended everyday life as we knew it, while the long-ranging impacts have stretched far beyond what we expected. Educators are exhausted from working on the frontlines of the pandemic. This mini-retreat session will introduce basic trauma-informed principles and personalized strategies for rest, renewal, and rejuvenation at a critical time for recharging our reservoirs. Join us for a restorative session: all who teach and support adult learners are welcome.

### **Session # 3T**

#### **Universal Design for Vocabulary Access for Adult ED & Family Literacy**

**Presented by:** Melissa Giandurco

**Focus Topic:** Family Literacy

In this workshop participants will learn various intervention strategies, as well as create make and take reading activities, for students to use with their families to help increase student engagement. Participants will also learn the value of differentiation when creating a personalized learning experience for students struggling with comprehension, reading and writing.

## **Session 4**

**2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

### **Session # 4A**

#### **Authentic Learning & Adult ESL Learners**

**Presented by:** Stacy-Ann Bennett

**Focus Topic:** ESL

The workshop will examine the different ways Authentic Learning can be implemented in Adult Education especially in the ESL classroom. Participants will be able to use authentic learning as a strategy in the classroom to pull on students' prior learning and relevant experiences in various social contexts to foster creativity, critical thinking and an opportunity to collaborate based on learners' perspectives.

## **Session # 4B**

### **Interactive & Engaging Resources to Support Adult Ed Instructors**

**Presented by:** Dave Wilkerson

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion (Exhibitor Presentation - Boardworks Education)

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

Understand the benefits that Boardworks brings to their instructors in their programs now and for several years to come; Explain how Boardworks can be used as a tool for engaging synchronous or asynchronous instruction; Understand the importance of teacher-centered instruction.

## **Session # 4C**

### **Partnering with Legal Services: Public Benefits and Education Law**

**Presented by:** Matthew Dillon

**Focus Topic:** Community Resources

Two attorneys from Connecticut Legal Services will provide information on CLS and the assistance that adult education students can receive. The presentation will include an overview of public benefits (Social Security, Medicaid, cash assistance, food stamps) and special education protections for students. Participants will be able to issue spot potential legal issues and make appropriate referrals.

## **Session # 4D**

### **GED Program Update**

**Presented by:** Scott Salesses

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

This session will provide an update on the GED testing program in Connecticut. This will include GED testing volume & pass rates at the national level, and Connecticut, as well as key updates and information for adult educators, and all other stakeholders involved with GED testing and preparation, so that educators have the information and resources they need to share with their students and help them succeed. There will be time allotted for Q&A from the audience.

## **Session # 4E**

### **Heroin Education Action Team - Opioid Awareness Outreach Initiative**

**Presented by:** Patrick Caruso

**Focus Topic:** Community Resources

We are providing awareness on the opioid epidemic that is currently ongoing. We aim to provide the participants with information to identify the drugs, the signs of addiction, and to help reduce the chances of addiction.



## **Session # 4F**

### **Supporting Your LGBTQ+ Adult Learners**

**Presented by:** Anthony Mangiafico, Kristin Hempel

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

This session will review a brief history of the LGBTQ+ movement in the United States, especially as it involves education. Best practices will be shared in how to support students in the classroom and provide wrap around services for their other needs. Participants will walk away with a greater knowledge base of this community and action steps that can be put in place to support all learners and staff who may identify as LGBTQ+. The focus will not be on the politics of this issue, but on the human beings who are in this community and how to create a safe space for all our learners to access the educational programming they deserve and build the futures they desire.

## **Session # 4L**

### **Bellyrobics for Health and Happiness**

**Presented by:** Rima Riedel

**Focus Topic:** Enrichment/Personal Development

A fun way to get a jump-start back into health and fitness by firming and toning, developing better breathing techniques, and working on tension points. This is a low impact, high energy workout designed for all ages and abilities. Modifications available for those who are non-ambulatory or have certain disabilities.

# CAACE Conference Workshops

## Friday, March 24, 2023

### Session 5

**9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

#### Session # 5A

Media Literacy

Presented by: Susan Domanico

Focus Topic: High School Completion

Help your students to learn to spot biased media coverage and learn about a variety of resources to teach media literacy.

#### Session # 5B

“What Are They Trying to Sell Us?”

Presented by: Mark Gattey

Focus Topic: High School Completion

We’ve all seen ads with numbers in them. How many of us ever considered what those numbers mean? We will “decipher” real world ads that (might) try to fool us with their fancy use of numbers. Those who will attend are encouraged to bring an example (or two) of ads with numbers in them.

#### Session # 5C

Navigating Family Estrangement and Parental Alienation

Presented by: Lynn Fay

Focus Topic: Community Resources

Family Estrangement is a growing silent epidemic in this country causing parents to live silently in crippling shame, disabling guilt, and inescapable depression. Healing from estrangement requires a multi-pronged approach. Attending this workshop will allow participants to recognize the roots of estrangement and parental alienation, realize that estrangement and parental estrangement create a mental health crisis, recognize the behaviors that estranged parents may display, understand some strategies that support parental healing, identify support systems available to estranged parents & be encouraged to support ongoing efforts to educate the community.

#### Session # 5D

Preparation for the GED® Test: The Roadmap You’re Looking for!

Presented by: Debi Faucette

Focus Topic: High School Completion

There’s no secret to student success with the GED® Test: excellent instruction and practice, practice, practice by students. GEDTS provides diverse pathways for educators to deliver instruction. We will engage in the pathways of instructional resources found at [www.ged.com](http://www.ged.com) to address the variety of teaching styles and delivery methods to lead to student success.

## **Session # 5E**

### **Judicial Branch - CSSD Community Supervision and Certificates of Employability**

**Presented by:** Brian DeLude

**Focus Topic:** Community Resources

This presentation will provide an overview of the probation process including but not limited to, assessment process, case planning, specialized caseloads, contracted provider involvement, and certificate of employability opportunity.

## **Session # 5F**

### **How You're Increasing Stress:3 Things You Can Do Immediately**

**Presented by:** Denise Hanks

**Focus Topic:** Enrichment/Personal Development

Every day we're actively sabotaging our wellness, effectiveness, and relationships. How do you know when you're doing it? Whenever you feel negative emotion for more than one second in response to any challenging situation. Negative emotion only serves you for one second, beyond that it's sabotaging you, probably all day long. Welcome to being human. In this workshop you'll learn how to do it less and immediately improve your wellness, your effectiveness, and your relationships.

## **Session # 5L**

### **It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's Digital ATDN**

**Presented by:** MaryKate Haverly, Briana Patriarca

**Focus Topic:** Digital Literacy

Digital ATDN to the rescue! We are equipped to support you in what you need and when you need it. In this presentation, find curated resources for the classroom, access and bookmark tutorials, and learn who to call for help when you need guidance in navigating or unlocking a program's potential!

## **Session # 5T**

### **Reading & Academic Vocabulary - K-12 Intervention Ideas for Adult Learners Too**

**Presented by:** Melissa Giandurco

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

Teachers will learn the value of building background through strategic lesson planning with mini daily interventions related to Academic Vocabulary. This discussion presentation will help increase awareness on how teachers can build access and comprehension for all through universal design and backward thinking. It will also support awareness of Tiered Interventions when extra support may be required. They will discover the value of SRBI and MTSS in their own classroom for diverse learners and the learners' families.

## **Session 6 – Keynote**

### **10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**



#### **Session # 6**

#### **Community-Building and Dialogue on Social Media: Examining Democracy in the 21st Century**

**Presented by:** Judith E. Rosenbaum

**Focus Topic:** General Audience

It's hard to imagine that twenty years ago, most people found out about world and personal events through the major news networks, by phone, or email. Since then, a great deal has changed, most notably, the rise of social media. Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok are an indelible part of people's daily lives, providing users with hours of entertainment, including unsurpassed opportunities for individuals to connect and share information.

Social media platforms have created fierce debates about their impact on democracy. On the one hand, social media have afforded people the opportunity to raise awareness about and create change regarding issues ignored by society. People whose voices are commonly not heard in the mainstream media, have, thanks to social media, been able to connect and participate in conversations from which they have historically been excluded. On the other hand, questions have been raised about how well-informed social media platforms leave the average citizen. Similarly, research has investigated whether the communities created through social media merely function as filter bubbles that encourage polarization, distrust, and in the worst cases, extremism. Industry developments and shifts in ownership have also raised concerns about the role social media play in democratic processes.

This keynote will discuss the various threats and opportunities posed by social media through an examination of the potential of social media to serve as a virtual public sphere. It will reflect on what a well-functioning democracy looks like in a world dominated by social media and consider how and when the often one-sided, inflammatory, and silly discussions on platforms like Facebook and TikTok can still be seen to make a meaningful contribution to American democracy. We will end by discussing what educators can do to ensure their students develop the critical skills and understanding to utilize social media in a constructive manner.

## **Session 7**

**11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.**

### **Session # 7A**

**Leadership and Innovation: Theory to Practice for Adult Ed Teachers**

**Presented by:** Mitch Rosin

**Focus Topic:** Program Development (Exhibitor Presentation - Aztec Software)

Leadership and innovation does not only come from school administrators. Teachers are leaders and innovators every day in their classrooms. This workshop will focus on identifying your leadership style, understanding the 5 skills of disruptive innovation, and putting your leadership skills into best practice. Participants will learn strategies that can be implemented immediately to enhance student outcomes through leadership action and operational innovations. Students will benefit from more engaged instructors and administrators who are striving for innovation.

### **Session # 7B**

**A CALM Approach to Math Instruction - Part 1**

**Presented by:** Kelly Ennis-Davis, Connie Rivera

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

If your program is struggling to put together a comprehensive math curriculum that doesn't feel like the traditional way math was taught years ago, then this workshop is for you! Participants will learn about the Curriculum for Adults Learning Math (CALM), a full curriculum for all levels of adult learners based on the CCRSAE for Math. Come find out how CALM is different from traditional curricula, how Norwich Regional Adult Education has implemented it, and the success their students are having on the math CASAS exam.

### **Session # 7C**

**Facing Foreclosure? We Can Help!**

**Presented by:** Melanie Blanco Listorti, Desiree Brooks

**Focus Topic:** Community Resources

Behind on your mortgage payments? Facing foreclosure? The Mortgage Crisis Job Training Program is a unique solution offering eligible Connecticut homeowners an opportunity to increase their earnings and become more financially stable. In this workshop you will learn how to keep your home by getting the employment assistance and the skills you need, & improve your earnings with NO-COST job training and career services.

### **Session # 7D**

**Close Reading: The Skill that Keeps on Giving!**

**Presented by:** Debi Faucette

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

The years of research on student skills, challenges and outcomes on the GED(R) Test have identified Close Reading as an important and necessary skill across all content areas for improved student outcomes. We will discuss the why and how to improve a student's close reading skills then provide samples and strategies to fold into instruction in each of the content areas.

### **Session # 7E**

#### **Domestic Violence & Intimate Partner Abuse**

**Presented by:** Kay Munoz

**Focus Topic:** Community Resources

How to see the signs of domestic violence and how to advocate for survivors.

### **Session # 7F**

#### **Advocacy is More Than Marketing! Educating is More Than Lobbying!**

**Presented by:** Jim Spafford

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

Participants will learn why the strategies and actions behind Advocacy and Educating, on behalf of Adult Education, to communities and policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels are the responsibilities of all AE stakeholders within Connecticut. The topics to be covered include the following:

Discussion of an Adult Education and Workforce Development Interactive Program Model, defining Advocacy-Marketing-Lobbying, mapping and positioning your network to Advocate and Educate, and tools and resources needed to make a difference.

### **Session # 7L**

#### **Team Building: 3 Strategies to Manage Constant Conflict**

**Presented by:** Denise Hanks

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

When dealing with others, conflict is inevitable, but not necessarily bad. It means someone has taken a position that's different from yours. The problem comes when each person keeps fighting for their position. The resolution usually requires a compromise and giving up one position. Ultimately, neither party gets what they really want, leading to resentment and trust erosion. In this workshop, you will learn 3 strategies to work and live more effectively as a team.

### **Session # 7T**

#### **Ice Breaker Activities for ESL Adult Classes**

**Presented by:** Judy Lee

**Focus Topic:** ESL

Learn about ice breaker activities and their benefits. Discuss at least 10 appropriate ice breaker activities for beginning and end of semester/trimester for adult ESL classes. Attendees will receive 10 ice breaker activities packet at the end of the session.

## **Session 8**

**2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

### **Session # 8A**

**On-Ramps to Employment: Developing Contextualized Training and Remediation Pathways**

**Presented by:** Jim Boucher

**Focus Topic:** Collaboration/Partnership

The CT Governor’s Workforce Council Strategic Plan and corollary state investments, such as the CareerConneCT grant program, have heightened the scale and scope of industry-driven workforce programming in Connecticut. Clearly articulated referral, remediation, and contextualized training pathways must be developed and enhanced between adult education, workforce development, and postsecondary stakeholders to ensure that all Connecticut residents have equitable access to high-quality careers. This workshop addresses current systems development initiatives – and opportunities to scale.

### **Session # 8B**

**A CALM Approach to Math Instruction - Part 2**

**Presented by:** Kelly Ennis-Davis, Connie Rivera

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

If your program is struggling to put together a comprehensive math curriculum that doesn’t feel like the traditional way math was taught years ago, then this workshop is for you! Participants will learn about the Curriculum for Adults Learning Math (CALM), a full curriculum for all levels of adult learners based on the CCRSAE for Math. Come find out how CALM is different from traditional curricula, how Norwich Regional Adult Education has implemented it, and the success their students are having on the math CASAS exam.

### **Session # 8C**

**Flip the Script, “Don’t Put Away your Phones, Instead, Take them Out!”**

**Presented by:** Natasha Welcome

**Focus Topic:** ESL (Exhibitor Presentation - Cambridge University Press)

While many adults are referred to as “digital immigrants,” they share a digitally literate world. Therefore technology in the adult classroom cannot be viewed as an unnecessary add-on or even as an obstacle to success. We can use the ELL classroom to teach English as well as bring students to encourage digital literacy. When this is integrated thoughtfully into second language acquisition, it can enhance instruction in significant ways. In this session, we will consider how two technologies - Kahoot and Quizlet can positively impact both teachers and students. They are great for differentiated instruction, formative assessment, and community learning.

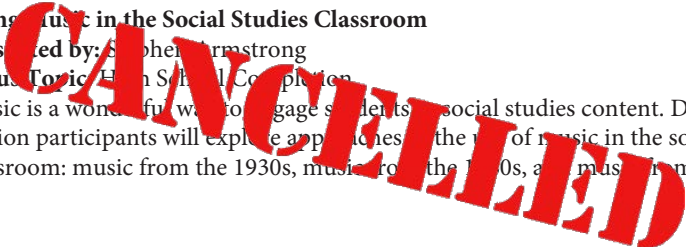
### **Session # 8D**

#### **Using Music in the Social Studies Classroom**

**Presented by:** Sophia Armstrong

**Focus Topic:** High School Completion

Music is a wonderful way to engage students in social studies content. During this session participants will explore approaches to the use of music in the social studies classroom: music from the 1930s, music from the 1960s, and music from the present day.



### **Session # 8E**

#### **Public Benefits for Low Income Individuals in CT**

**Presented by:** Kevin Brophy, James Haslam

**Focus Topic:** Community Resources

Presenters are attorneys, James Haslam and Kevin Brophy, from CT Legal Services, a non-profit law firm who assists low income individuals in civil matters. You will learn about CT Legal Services and public benefit programs in CT that are available for low income individuals from birth to elders. Those programs include food stamps, cash assistance, health insurance programs, and support services for elders and disabled individuals.

### **Session # 8F**

#### **Understanding Cultural Differences to Create an Inclusive Classroom**

**Presented by:** Adrianna Flax

**Focus Topic:** Program Development

Culture is a powerful force that is often invisible, but has a big impact on how we communicate, connect, and build trust. In adult and continuing education environments, teachers are supporting learners of different ages, cultures, languages, and socioeconomic status (SES). Learning to see invisible aspects of culture helps us navigate differences, anticipate challenges, and support inclusion of students from diverse backgrounds.

### **Session # 8L**

#### **Guided Meditation: Let's Take a Breather**

**Presented by:** Rima Riedel

**Focus Topic:** Enrichment/Personal Development

This workshop is designed to wind down, calm down and literally take a breather after all your work. We will begin with several breathing exercises and then do some stretching and flexing in preparation for your trip down meditation lane. A relaxing ending to a busy week.



**Session # 8T**

**Addressing the Challenge of ESL Literacy Learners in the Adult ESL Classroom**

**Presented by:** Dawn Hambrecht

**Focus Topic:** ESL

ESL students with no or low literacy and few years of formal education struggle to keep up in the ESL classroom where methods and materials often assume literacy and educational experience. In this workshop we will discuss how to help this population succeed in learning English and literacy skills simultaneously.



**2023 Conference Evaluations**  
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