

OCTOBER 26, 2020

TEACHERS IN-SERVICE

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

SKY'S THE LIMIT!

The past six months or so have felt constraining in many ways I'm sure. You have been so busy keeping track of everything that is required for our schools to be open. New routines have had to be established on top of existing routines and all this adds more time and energy to an already fatiguing day. We have to social distance, wear masks, and in some ways, isolate ourselves within ourselves.

So why would we title this Teachers Inservice as, "Sky's the Limit!?" Well, it's because "With God all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26) Philippians 4:13 says that, "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us." Those passages were inspired and given to us by a God that knew exactly what we would be going through in 2020. There isn't an asterisk after those verses that says, "Except if you have a national pandemic." It merely states that if we have God on our side all things are possible through Christ that gives us strength! Furthermore, Paul goes on to say in Romans 8:31, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" So, no matter the restraint or guideline, being in Christ means that we will never be hampered by an obstacle to carry forward the work of God. The sky is truly the limit!

I don't know about you but I know for me it is easy sometimes to focus laterally instead of vertically. What do I mean by this? I mean that it is easier to focus attention on the size of the problem than the size of the God who can solve the problem. It's about our mindset. If we stop and think about the true power that God has available to help us then our problems don't stand a chance.

Satan has tried to crimp Adventist Education. He has, and still is, attacking us intensely. And yet look, God has put up a standard against him. We are still operating our schools; and at this point, face to face! Our children are still able to be in an Adventist environment learning truths that will have eternal impact. Let us continue to follow Christ. Let us continue to put our faith in Him. Let us continue to rely on Him for the energy that we need to sustain our work. He is leading and He will continue to do so. Let

us not waver from the clarion call He has asked us to give to our students all across this Conference. He has never failed us, and He never will.

God Bless!

Jeremy, Sally, Brian, Sheri

Program

8:30-Welcome/Announcements

9:00-Worship-Pastor Chris Holland

9:30-10:30-How To Deal With Stress-Mindy Kissinger

Professional Development Schedule

10:45-11:45	Guided Reading (Samantha Walter)	MAP Data	Tech 1 "Primed for Online" (Christian McDonald)	Science (David Carter)	PE (Sam Mills)
1-2pm	Guided Reading (Samantha Walter)	MAP Data	Tech 2 "The Big Picture with Google" (Daniel Morrison)	Math (Brian Kittleson)	Music (Tim Rasmussen)
2:15-3:15pm	Guided Reading (Samantha Walter)	MAP Data	Tech 3 "Online Security" (Michael Reynolds)	English (Emily Gibbs)	
Instructions	All Elementary teachers are required to take one section of Guided Reading.	All teachers are required to take one section of MAP. This is a repeating seminar that will cover the same information.	Open Choice	9-12th Grade Teachers Note: 7th and 8th grade teachers are welcome to attend	9-12th Grade Teachers Note: 7th and 8th grade teachers are welcome to attend

3:45-4:15-Final Charge-Elder Jim Micheff

Descriptions

Devotional Bio (Pastor Chris Holland)

Pastor Chris Holland is world evangelist for Adventist World Radio and Associate Director of the Living Hope School of Evangelism. He previously served as Speaker/Director for It Is Written Canada. In addition he served at the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists as the Secretary/Treasurer of ASI. In his 18 years of ministry he has worked for the Illinois and Chesapeake conferences, pastoring a total of six churches. In 2009/2010, Pastor Holland was the Chicagoland Evangelism Coordinator for the Illinois Conference coordinating over 34 evangelistic meetings resulting in over 500 people being baptized. Chris has been involved in media ministry since his early undergraduate years in college where he was involved with both television and radio programs. It is his sincere desire to know Jesus more and to utilize the many media outlets to preach God's word with power. Since their marriage in 1996, Chris and his wife Debbie have served the Lord together and strive to do all that they can to fulfill His commission to take the Gospel to the "ends of the earth". In pastoral ministry, Pastor Chris has always had a love for Adventist Education and has worked hard in his local churches to ensure the school programs were strong.

Dealing With Stress (Mindy Kissinger)

The teaching profession is one of the most rewarding professions anyone could undertake. And yet, the job of a teacher can also be stressful. In our current climate the stressors are exacerbated because of the extra protocols, online elements, teaching online and in-person, or continuing to keep contingency plans fresh and ready to go at a moment's notice.

Mindy Kissinger works as a therapist at the Andrews University Counseling and Testing Center. She is going to spend some time sharing with our field ways to deal with stress and cope with the additional dynamics each educator is juggling during this time.

The Big Picture With Google (Daniel Morrison)

In my experience as a teacher and principal, I've found that too often our technology plan is: "Every man/woman for themselves!"

This presentation seeks to help you, as teachers and administrators, to unify your school's technology tools to make a system that is not more complicated because of its scope, but in fact less complicated in its comprehensive and cohesive nature. Now more than ever, teachers need a technology framework that works for them, not more tasks to juggle. I believe that with careful planning and training, technology can not only make your job easier, but elevate learning to a new level of efficacy. Quality at every level.

Learn how to use and integrate tools for your school such as:

- Google for Education and Chromebooks
- GoGuardian
- PearDeck
- ReadWorks
- MobyMax
- and more!

Supporting At-Home Learning with Google (Christian McDonald)

With the present uncertainties impacting our schools due to Covid-19, one thing is certain: we must constantly be prepared to transition between traditional and at-home learning. In this breakout, we will discuss the current offerings from Google for education. We will focus on several challenges facing teachers including how to teach remotely with video conferencing, how to manage a virtual classroom, how to make lessons accessible (synchronous vs asynchronous), and how to keep students engaged. We will also discuss options for schools that do not (yet) have Google Suite for Education.

Online Security (Michael Reynolds)

Prior to Covid, cyber security was already an important topic that garnered conversation, training, and protocols: now the need for this awareness has exponentially been compounded. Criminals migrate to where people spend time because they want to steal money, and there are a variety of ways that they go about doing so. Tune in to this seminar as helpful tips, training, and awareness will be shared that will increase your awareness regarding how to be safe, and decrease the likelihood that your security will be compromised.

Guided Reading (Samantha Walter)

Samantha Walter is a retired professor from Southern Adventist University and a literacy expert. This breakout is required for all elementary teachers and will help provide support and expertise in helping students in the area of guided reading and reading literacy. Each seminar will be the same so only one time slot should be attended.

MAP Growth (NWEA) (Jeremy Hall)

Now that the first round of MAP testing is completed, it is important for us to understand how to interpret scores, apply results, and plan a pathway towards success as we help learners grow. Additionally, when conducting parent/teacher conferences it will be important to intelligently share with parents the differences between MAP testing and other standardized testing modules; such as Iowa. Each teacher will be required to attend one of the three breakout sessions.

Secondary Shoptalks

Secondary teachers should plan on attending one of the shoptalk forums that are in the content area you teach. There will be facilitators for each session, but please bring questions, ideas, challenges, and anything else that would be helpful for you and your peers to discuss. Additionally, we are welcoming 7th and 8th grade teachers to also attend one of these breakouts, if they wish, as we are seeking ways to create more efficient ways to provide good linear connection between elementary and secondary instruction.