Virginia School-University Partnership
Virginia School Consortium for Learning
Professional Development Conferences for TTB Participants
2017-2018

On-Line Registration and More Information Available
Visit the VSUP / VaSCL website: www.vsup.org

All of the CONFERENCES listed on the page BELOW have been selected as particularly appropriate to meet the professional learning needs of participants in the VSUP/VaSCL Test and Task Bank Meetings. More details about ALL of VSUP's PD offerings are provided on the following pages.

If you participate in the TTB Meetings, and you wish to attend one of the events listed below, you will be given a $30 discount on the usual VSUP/VaSCL member price. Please be sure to put "TTB Discount" in the Purchase Order Box (at the bottom of the on-line registration form), to help ensure that the invoice we send is for the proper amount.

GENERAL ENGAGEMENT

Tuesday, October 3 * Developing High-Quality Performance Tasks (Grades K-12) – Eric Carbaugh and Kristi Doubet

Thursday, October 5 * The Heart of Assessment FOR Learning (Grades K-12) – Scott Habeeb

LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Thursday, September 28 * Improving Adolescents' Reading Comprehension (Grades 4-12) – Sarah Lupo

Monday, October 9 * Developing Comprehension Skills with Struggling Readers (Grades 3-5) – Susan Thacker-Gwaltney

Tuesday, October 10 * Differentiation in Elementary Language Arts and Mathematics (Grades 2-5) – Demchak and Thunder

Thursday, October 12 * Fine-Tuning Your Word Study Instruction (Grades K-3) – Colleen Spano

Thursday, October 26 * SPARK STEM: Problem Based Learning in Mathematics and Science (Grades 3-8) – Suh and Seshaiyer

Thursday, November 9 * Improving Adolescents' Vocabulary (Grades 4-12) – Sarah Lupo

Tuesday, November 14 * A Unifying Approach to Exploring Functions in Secondary Mathematics (Grades 8-12) – B & S Bazak

Tuesday, November 28 * Writing as a Process (Grades K-12) – Patti West-Smith

Thursday, November 30 * Building Word Identification Skills with Struggling Readers (Grades K-3) – Susan Thacker Gwaltney

Tuesday, December 5 * Workshop Models for Literacy and Math (Grades 1-4) – Demchak and Thunder

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Conferences (by Date) with Details

Tricks of the Trade: How to Love Teaching and Have Your Students Excel (Grades K-12)
Date: Thursday, September 21, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 8
Presenter: Mark Ingerson (NBCT) (Milken National Educator) (Salem City, Instructional Coach)
Audience: New(er) Classroom Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Curriculum Leaders, & Building Administrators
Description: Wouldn't it be nice if every teacher came into the classroom already knowing the "tricks of the trade"? While these tricks can take a lifetime to learn, there is no doubt that the proper guidance can speed up the learning curve considerably. Great teachers aren't born - they're made. This hands-on, highly participatory workshop is an opportunity to make sure teachers in your division get a jump start on the best research-based practices our profession has to offer. This session will focus on three aspects of highly effective classrooms. The first part of the session focuses on how to effectively manage and organize a classroom to maximize learning time and increase achievement. Attendees will leave with strategies they can immediately implement in their classroom. Part two will concentrate on "Creating an Interactive Classroom." Many teachers really struggle with effective questioning and interaction during a lesson and this section will help develop and *practice* these skills. Lastly, teachers will learn tricks to help their student's master content and remember it over the long-term. With new insights on how the brain actually remembers and learns new material which they have gained during this session, teachers will leave with a better understanding of why their students often forget what was previously taught and how to remedy this problem. Want to manage a classroom that is a "well-oiled machine" and enjoyable every day? This session is for you!

Improving Adolescents' Reading Comprehension (Grades 4-12)
Date: Thursday, September 28, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 8
Presenter: Sarah Lupo (James Madison University)
Audience: English and Content Teachers (Grades 4-12), Literacy Leaders, Reading Specialists, ELL Specialists, and Special Education Teachers
Description: This workshop will focus on how to improve comprehension for students in upper elementary, middle and high school, including those who traditionally struggle with literacy. Sarah Lupo will share theory and research about text complexity and instructional methods for teaching comprehension as well as what the research reveals about how to improve students' overall comprehension ability. Participants will then be led through a series of activities grounded in the research that teachers can then utilize with their students to help improve their comprehension. Additionally, the participants will learn about the latest research-based best practices for improving comprehension, including how to select texts that balance the level of challenge in order to maximize comprehension growth for all learners. The presenter will also discuss how to differentiate instructional practices to support students who are ELL's (English Language Learners) as well as students with disabilities, so that all students can develop the literacy skills necessary to enable them to be successful in both school and life.

Tools for Teaching and Learning: Teacher Clarity (Grades K-12)
Date: Monday, October 2, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $159 ($209 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 8
Presenter: John Almarode (Corwin Professional Learning)
Audience: K-12 Classroom Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators
*NOTE: Follow-up session(s) will be provided through an online platform
Description: This workshop unpacks what is meant by teacher clarity. Teachers will take an in-depth look at how to make learning visible to each and every student in the classroom, which research suggests doubles the rate of learning. This action-packed, edge of your seat workshop builds understanding of the relationship between teacher clarity and student learning in any classroom. By practicing what we preach, audience members will take part in an "out of your seat and on your feet" experience that models how to develop clear learning intentions, success criteria, and opportunities to respond. Once these components are in place, participants will explore effective feedback and how to ensure learners know where they are going, how they are getting there, and where they are going next. This workshop will address classroom and student engagement in a cognitively rich environment which ensures that students remain engaged in relevant content, regardless of the medium. By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to: create clear learning intentions and success criteria; explain how learning intentions and success criteria should balance surface and deep learning; describe the relationship between success criteria and students' opportunities to respond; create opportunities to respond that align with specific success criteria; and apply research regarding effective feedback to any classroom. Participants will receive workbooks, resource books, online resources, as well as online support.
* Follow-up sessions, through an online platform, will provide further exploration of learning intentions and success criteria. Teachers will have the chance to share work samples and engage in discussions around examples from classrooms. The same process will focus on effective feedback in the second follow-up session.

Developing High-Quality Performance Tasks (Grades K-12)
Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 8
Presenters: Eric Carbaugh and Kristi Doubet (James Madison Univesity)
Audience: K-12 Classroom Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators
*NOTE: Follow-up session(s) will be provided through an online platform
Description: Many teachers are sold on the idea of performance tasks, but become "lost in the weeds" when it comes to administering and scoring them. Performance tasks offer teachers the opportunity to gather information about student understanding, knowledge, and skills in a more authentic and engaging manner than afforded by traditional tests. Unfortunately, performance tasks can also become unwieldy, leaving teachers to wonder if they have indeed captured their intended learning outcomes and leaving students confused about teacher expectations. This session explores how to effectively craft performance tasks that facilitate authenticity, transfer of learning, goal-alignment, student engagement, and efficient implementation. By the end of the session, participants will be able to: unpack standards to craft high-quality learning goals, develop performance tasks that measure deep understanding and transfer of learning, create student-friendly instructions that reflect learning goals and communicate clear expectations for student performance, and develop criteria for rubrics that clearly communicate expectations to all stakeholders. Participants will emerge from their work during the course of the day with a performance task, as well as student-friendly directions that will facilitate teaching for transfer.
* Online Follow-up for this course will involve the instructors facilitating the process of a structured peer review of their Performance Tasks. In addition, common participant questions will be addressed to provide support for future task development.

The Heart of Assessment FOR Learning: Harnessing the Power of Assessment to Increase Learning (Gr K-12)
Date: Thursday, October 5, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 8
Presenter: Scott Habeeb (Salem City Schools)
Audience: K-12 Classroom Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators
*NOTE: Follow-up session(s) will be provided through an online platform
Description: The goal of **The Heart of Assessment FOR Learning** is to help educators maximize the power of assessment and increase learning. Learning is the goal of teaching, yet too often it seems as though the focus of schools is on getting grades. When educators approach teaching from an Assessment FOR Learning perspective, they are able to move the focus back to learning. This workshop helps educators avoid common assessment pitfalls and instead use descriptive feedback to enable young people to master content and skills. Too often, educators unknowingly practice AFG – Assessment for Grading. However, when used properly, assessment is much more than a grading tool. The true power of assessment lies in its potential to dramatically impact student achievement. This is AFL – Assessment FOR Learning. Gain both the philosophy and the practical strategies you need to lead an "AFL Revival" in your school or division.
* Online Follow-up (available for a two month window after training): Participants will be given the opportunity to complete a 2-4 hour online course on implementing AFL. The presenter will serve as these participants' personal assessment coach, providing online feedback and also being available for assessment-related conversations as participants seek to create practical strategies that incorporate the philosophy of AFL into their classrooms and schools. Participants who complete the online course will receive an additional five Re-Certification points.

Developing Comprehension Skills with Struggling Readers (Grades 3-5)
Date: Monday, October 9, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 15
Presenter: Susan Thacker-Gwaltney (Reading@Curry)
Audience: K-5 Classroom Teachers, Special Education Teachers, and Reading Specialists
*NOTE: Follow-up session(s) will be provided through an online platform
Description: This workshop will focus on exploring the current findings on comprehension instruction in the primary grades. We will use examples from elementary classrooms to identify seven common barriers to student reading comprehension and learn several practical strategies for preventing and repairing breakdowns. The presenter will demonstrate and lead participants through guided practice in selecting read-aloud books as well as follow-up discussions and other activities designed to promote student understanding. Sample demonstrations will include: teaching students how to summarize, teaching students how to identify main idea and details, strategies to promote reading stamina, and activities designed to teach text structure and features. We will discuss how to take a comprehension skill and break it down into a series of concrete steps for learning, using examples designed for their own struggling learners. Participants will walk away with a read-aloud booklist for teaching comprehension skills, along with a menu of hands-on suggestions for supporting students who struggle with comprehension.
* Online Follow-up (scheduled two weeks after conference): Participants will be asked to read one article of their choice (choices provided by presenter will be related to comprehension) and participate in a forum conversation over a 10-day window. Participants will be asked to relate what they read in their article to a struggling reader in their own classroom. They will also be asked to report on results of trying out with their students one of the strategies discussed during the workshop.   Participants who post responses at least three times will receive an additional three Re-Certification points.

Differentiation in Elementary Language Arts and Mathematics (Grades 2-5)
Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 15
Presenters: Alisha Demchak and Kateri Thunder (Charlottesville City Schools)
Audience: Classroom Teachers, Reading & Math Specialists, Elementary Coordinators, & Instructional Coaches
Description: Both literacy and mathematics can be differentiated based on readiness or interest. There are three parts of a lesson that could be differentiated: content, process, and product. In this workshop, participants will unpack the foundational ideas for differentiation and then examine and experience strategies for differentiating the three parts of both math and literacy lessons based on readiness and interest. Applying relevant learning trajectories, participants will analyze and practice instructional strategies for differentiation such as menus, centers, choice boards, tiered problems, parallel tasks, open questions, and anchor problems. During the workshop, the presenters will share many materials as well as strategies which they use, and participants will make materials for differentiation which can be used in their own schools immediately.

Seatwork to Feetwork: Engaging Students in Their Own Learning (Grades K-12)
Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $119 ($169 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 15
Presenter: Ron Nash
Audience: K-12 Classroom Teachers, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators
Description: Telling is not teaching; to learn, *students* must do the talking. Talking is thinking, and Ron Nash will model communication, collaboration, and critical-thinking strategies that can be used at any grade level and in any subject area. So, lace up your sneakers, grab a pen, and join Ron Nash for a high-energy workshop that will give you tons of practical strategies for engaging students in any classroom. You'll be standing, moving, sharing, laughing and learning during this instructive and enjoyable workshop. Ron will model think-write-pair-share, paired verbal fluency, priming, elaborative rehearsal, distributive practice, convergent/divergent thinking, give one/get one, along with tons of physical and mental state changes. He will also model ways to use movement, music, and humor in this fast-paced day of fun and learning.

Fine-Tuning Your Word Study Instruction (Grades K-3)
Date: Thursday, October 12, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, September 15
Presenter: Colleen Spano (Reading@Curry)
Audience: K-3 Classroom Teachers and Reading Specialists
Description: Are you looking for ways to make your word study instruction more hands-on and targeted to the specific needs of your students? Do you struggle with how to organize and manage word study materials in your classroom? This workshop is designed for K-3 teachers who have some experience with word study and are looking for ways to fine-tune their word study instruction. Participants will learn how to differentiate word study based on assessments and explore different ways to organize assessment results to support grouping decisions. In addition, participants will examine ways to plan thoughtful and purposeful word study activities to keep students actively engaged. Other topics covered during the workshop will include: establishing word study routines, organizing and managing word study materials, and how to appropriately pace word study instruction. Specific teaching tips and strategies will be shared throughout the day to support the implementation of word study in K-3 classrooms. During the workshop, participants will create a set of instructional materials and will learn how to differentiate these materials based on a student's stage of spelling development. The word study resources and materials from this training are intended for use during small group instruction as well as extended practice during literacy work stations.

SPARK STEM: Problem Based Learning that Supports the SOL's in Mathematics and Science (Grades 3-8)
Date: Thursday, October 26, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, October 6
Presenters: Jennifer Suh & Padhu Seshaiyer (GMU) (Center for Outreach in Mathematics and Educational Technology)
Audience: Classroom Teachers (Grades 3-8), and Instructional Leaders
***NOTE: Follow-up session(s) will be provided through an online platform**
Description: This session will focus on classroom tested STEM integrated Problem Based Learning (PBL) that supports the 2016 math and science SOL's through hands-on explorations for students in upper elementary and middle school. Participants will engage in the 5 key elements of our SPARK STEM modules with **S**cientific and mathematical modeling; **P**roblem-based Learning; **A**ccess through Equitable Teaching Practices; **Ri**gorous Content Knowledge; and **K**nowledge and Confidence as STEM learners/leaders. The presenters will immerse participants in real-world problem-based lessons that delve deeply into the mathematics used to make decisions in STEM fields. Through engaging STEM contexts like the Solar Project, CSI Case, Rollercoaster Design, Traffic Jam Challenge, and other Fermi Problems, participants will see how the strands of number sense, computation, rational numbers, geometry, measurement and data analysis play a critical role in mathematical modeling in STEM fields, in addition to seeing how technology affords opportunities for advanced learning. The presenters will also use various video vignettes to share how teachers can promote mathematical and scientific discourse through rich problem contexts that build students confidence and competence and STEM leaders!
* Online Follow-up: Presenters will establish and facilitate a "peer-to-peer" follow-up for interested participants.

Personalized Learning (Grades K-12)
Date: Monday, October 30, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $159 ($209 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, October 13
Presenter: Allison Zmuda
Audience: K-12 Classroom Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Curriculum Leaders, and School Administrators
Description: How can we design learning experiences that are more in tune with the contemporary world we are living in and the students we have in front of us? The true goal of personalized learning is for every student to become a self-directed learner through the design and development of their learning experiences. In this session, Allison Zmuda will explore with participants how personalized learning is a simple and powerful frame that allows students to thoughtfully engage with inquiry, generate ideas, and develop challenging yet achievable performance opportunities. In order for students to work in this rich environment, they will need to develop Habits of Mind.   By the end of the conference, participants will be able to: explore why personalized learning is important for student engagement and learning; understand how students can become self-directed when Personalized Learning is connected with Habits of Mind; differentiate Personalized Learning from other similar instructional models; examine and apply the four attributes to reimagine learning experiences; explore powerful school examples of Personalized Learning; and identify practices that support Personalized Learning.

The Maker Space Movement: Engaging Students in Hands-On Learning (Grades K-8)
Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, October 13
Presenter: Laura Reasoner Jones (NBCT) (GEMS Founder) (Retired from Fairfax County Schools)
Audience: Elementary and Middle School teachers, Librarians, Instructional Leaders, and School Administrators
Description: This workshop will prepare teachers, librarians, and administrators to meet the challenge of incorporating "Making" into their curriculum in order to encourage creativity and independent thinking in their students. The conference will address commonly asked questions such as: What is "Making"?; Why is this

important?; How can you create spaces that lend themselves to making?; How do you infuse this into daily instruction?; What are options for low-tech making and high-tech making?; What resources and grants are available?; What supplies are needed and how to get them on a budget?; as well as How can you assess learning in this informal environment?   Conference participants will engage in at least four different hands-on activities during the day (including activities such as: littleBits, Squishy Circuits, Reclaimed Art, Bridge Building, and Led Throwies). The goal of this workshop is to help teachers, librarians and administrators to understand the benefits of students using their hands and brains to create and explore, as well as to enable participants to gain the skills and knowledge needed to create a culture of making in their schools. Participants will explore both low and high-tech materials and leave with resources and ideas for creating their own maker environments.

Improving Adolescents' Vocabulary (Grades 4-12)
Date: Thursday, November 9, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, October 20
Presenter: Sarah Lupo (James Madison University)
Audience: English and Content Teachers, Literacy Leaders, Reading Specialists, ELL Specialists, and Special Education Teachers
Description: This workshop will focus on developing adolescents' knowledge of vocabulary. Word knowledge is a key component to improving literacy skills for adolescents. This workshop will present both theory and good instructional practices for promoting vocabulary in all classes with connections to both reading and writing instruction. In this workshop, participants will have an opportunity to learn how to differentiate vocabulary instruction in order to meet students' developmental needs, how to address important SOLs (such as Greek and Latin roots), and how to improve students' academic vocabulary. Methods discussed in this session are relevant for all other content areas as well as English, and the specific needs of English Language Learners and students with disabilities will also be addressed. Participants will discuss the management of differentiated vocabulary instruction in the secondary school classroom, and they will also have the opportunity to begin planning a lesson for their own classroom.

How Restorative Justice Practices Can Build a More Harmonious School (Grades K-12)
Date: Monday, November 13, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, October 20
Presenters: Kathy Evans (Eastern Mennonite), April Howard (Harrisonburg City), and Sue Praill (Fairfield Center)
Audience: K-12 Classroom Teachers, School Administrators, and Support Staff
Description: During this workshop the three presenters will introduce participants to the key principles and practices of Restorative Justice in Education (RJE), share research that validates RJE, and provide ideas on how to get started in implementing RJE in your classroom, school, or division. Participants will explore how expertise in RJE can benefit students, teachers, and the overall school culture; identify ways in which RJE can assist in addressing the needs of disenfranchised students, as well as issues of attendance, graduation rates and achievement, while building relationships across the school and community; and examine descriptors or indicators of an RJE school that can help guide implementation. During the day, participants will be divided into three grade level groups which will rotate through the following Break-Out Sessions: **Peacemaking Circles 101**, which will provide an in-depth experiential opportunity to learn about Circle processes, a valuable tool for relationship and trust building as well as a safe and constructive space to explore and resolve conflict within the school setting; **From Theory to Praxis,** which will give participants the chance to consider what the principles of RJE might look like when applied in different contexts and to explore practical ways of moving toward more restorative school and classroom cultures; and **Transforming a School Culture**, during which the facilitator will share how one school division established critical community partnerships and sustainable growth within restorative justice, and then participants will engage in a reflective discussion of potential next steps for creating a community of restorative practices in their own classroom, school, and/or division.

A Unifying Approach to Exploring Functions in Secondary Mathematics (Grades 8-12)
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $119 ($169 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, October 20
Presenter: Ben Bazak and Suzanne Bazak (Roanoke City Schools)
Audience: Algebra I & II & High School Mathematics Teachers, Curriculum Leaders, and Instructional Coaches
Description: In this workshop participants will explore linear, quadratic, exponential and trigonometric functions with the goal of developing a fluency of functions that helps to make sense of real world problems. Functions will be explored through three different "Big Ideas": multiple representations of functions, real world modeling of functions, and transformational graphing of functions. Participants will first take on the role of learner while engaging with other colleagues through multiple tasks, allowing an opportunity to explore and think more deeply about the content they teach. The exploration of these tasks will build a strong foundation for discussion related to the five mathematical process goals: problem solving, communication, reasoning, connections and representations.   An innovative approach to transformational graphing that emphasizes connectivity will also be explored.   Hands-on activities and small group discussion will guide the format of this workshop and encourage active involvement of all participants.

Annual Student Leadership Conference (Grades 9-12)
Date: Thursday, November 16, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: FREE to participants from VSUP / VaSCL Member High Schools
Registration Deadline: Friday, October 6
Audience: Teams of Students (Grades 9-12) and Faculty Advisors from VSUP / VaSCL member high schools
Description: The 2017 Annual Student Leadership Conference will continue the work of exploring the VDOE "Profile of a Virginia Graduate" that was begun at last year's event. This year, the focus will be narrowed to the "Community Engagement and Civic Responsibility" strand of the Profile, with a particular emphasis on becoming a Global Citizen. Information on the VSUP / VaSCL Student Leadership Conference will be sent in September to VSUP / VaSCL Steering Committee Representatives, who will be asked to share the information with all of the high school principals in their division. Each VSUP / VaSCL high school is invited to send a team of students with a Faculty Advisor to participate in the Student Leadership Conference, which is FREE to VSUP / VaSCL divisions as a benefit of membership. Faculty Advisors from high schools that wish to participate in this year's VSUP / VaSCL SLC will be asked to register their team of students. More information about the VSUP / VaSCL Student Leadership Conference, as well as the online registration form for Faculty Advisors to complete for their team of student leaders, will be available in September.

Writing as a Process (Grades K-12)
Date: Tuesday, November 28, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $119 ($169 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, November 10
Presenter: Patti West-Smith (Curriculum Director for Turnitin)
Audience: Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, Instructional Leads, ITRT's, Classroom Teachers
Description: In the 'Writing as a Process' approach to composition, revision marks a key phase in which students get to the heart of communication: re-envisioning their work for an audience. This session will present approaches to delivering the kinds of strategic, higher-order feedback that empowers students to successfully revise their work and achieve this goal. During the course of the workshop, participants will explore the following topics: establishing the pedagogical/research context and identifying the challenges; interactive writing and debriefing activities; and leveraging technology for feedback. The session will include a facilitated discussion on best approaches for providing feedback to students and extending teachers' reach in supporting the writing process. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about Writing as a Process through hands-on practice with a standards-aligned instant feedback tool. The goal of the workshop is to map out solutions which give teachers the knowledge and time to teach writing by creating more opportunities for students to write.

Building Word Identification Skills with Struggling Readers (Grades K-3)
Date: Thursday, November 30, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, November 10
Presenter: Susan Thacker-Gwaltney (Reading@Curry)
Audience: K-3 Classroom Teachers, Special Education Teachers, and Reading Specialists
*NOTE: Follow-up session(s) will be provided through an online platform
Description: This training focuses on how to select and implement word identification strategies to support struggling readers in the primary grades. Participants will learn to recognize the warning signs for reading difficulties and practice interactive activities that can be used during small group reading instruction. Activities will focus on ways to support students with decoding, self-monitoring, and repairing mistakes that may impair comprehension. At the end of the day, elementary teachers and instructional leaders (K-3, and sped K-5) will walk away with practical activities and ideas to promote word attack skills, to build sight word vocabularies, and to teach word reading strategies to struggling learners.
* Online Follow-up (scheduled two weeks after conference): Participants will be asked to read one article of their choice (choices provided by presenter will be related to comprehension) and participate in a forum conversation over a 10-day window. Participants will be asked to relate what they read in their article to a struggling reader in their own classroom. They will also be asked to report on results of trying out with their students one of the strategies discussed during the workshop.   Participants who post responses at least three times will receive an additional three Re-Certification points.

Designing Effective and Interactive Online and Blended Learning (Grades K-12)
Date: Monday, December 4, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, November 10
Presenter: Stephanie Moore (University of Virginia)
Audience: K-12 Teachers, ITRT's, Technology Coordinators, and Administrators
*NOTE: Follow-up session(s) will be provided through an online platform
Description: While online education can be useful for increasing access to education and increasing flexibility in the system, the research on online learning is clear - we have to fill in the blank: access *to what?* What learners access must be of high quality, or it isn't worth the time or money invested (theirs or ours). In this session, we will explore what creates a quality online learning experience so that student's access to online opportunities adds value to their education. Participants will consider the following characteristics of effective online instruction: organization and structure; management of forums and discussions; effective multimedia content; feedback; and engagement. During the workshop, participants will develop a course plan (or revise an existing one) for an online or blended class; evaluate existing open content online using the principles from the workshop; discuss how to evaluate vendor products; and map instructional and engagement strategies and tools that help facilitate interactive online learning. Throughout the workshop, there will be discussions on managing the transition to online and debunking myths about online and blended learning. This workshop will be particularly appropriate for teachers who teach or will be teaching online and blended classes, as well as technology coordinators and others who support online teaching and select products and content for use in online and blended instruction.

Workshop Models for Literacy and Math (Grades 1-4)
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Location: Holiday Inn, Charlottesville, VA
Registration Fee: $139 ($189 for Non-Members)
Registration Deadline: Friday, November 10
Presenters: Alisha Demchak and Kateri Thunder (Charlottesville City Schools)
Audience: Classroom Teachers, Reading & Math Specialists, Elementary Coordinators, & Instructional Coaches
Description: How can we find enough time to do it all? In a workshop model of instruction, there are three typical components: First, the teacher leads a mini lesson. Then students work independently, with partners, or in small groups while the teacher confers with students and meets with needs-based strategy groups. Finally, the teacher selects students to share and bring closure to the lesson. We will explore these components of workshop models for reading, writing, and math as well as variations of these components. We will share and analyze examples of teachers breaking free from rotations and implementing strategies for maximizing students' instructional time, especially independent work time. Participants will leave with plans for workshop structures and routines that will enable students to grow as readers, writers, and mathematicians.