Thursday, April 7, 2016 Schedule of Events

**Conference Registration Check-in 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Welcome and Opening Keynote 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Doug Fisher
Professor of Educational Leadership, San Diego State University

Unstoppable Learning
Sponsored by McGraw-Hill and Benchmark

One Hour Sessions 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Mariam Jean Dreher, Professor, University of Maryland, College Park

Information Books and Vocabulary Development: A Perfect Way to Engage All of Your Students
Using appealing informational texts, this session demonstrates a best-practices model to add excitement to vocabulary lessons. Learn to provide systematic instruction to meet your students’ needs -- including English language learners and struggling readers -- and to motivate them to continue learning. (K-3)

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Barbara Mariconda, Empowering Writers Co-founder and Author

How Writing Informs Close Reading
In this session we’ll explore ways to make every reading experience a powerful pre-writing experience, once students learn to “read with author’s eyes.” This involves deconstructing text through a process referred to as “annotation and analysis.” (3-6)

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Julie Lowerre, Fifth Grade Teacher, Medfield Public Schools

Capture the Moment
Using the iPad camera as an app is a powerful, exciting and simple way to enhance learning. Participants will gain unique ideas on how to use photos alone and smash photos with other apps to create literacy activities that will help your students think deeper, show their learning and increase their creativity. (3-6)

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Mary Ann Cappiello, Erika Thulin Dawes, Associate Professors of Language and Literacy, Lesley University

Is it Good? What is it Good For?: Selecting Texts for Instruction in the Age of Common Core
Careful text selection allows teachers to craft sophisticated instruction. But with such a wide range of texts to choose from, how do you select material for literacy and content-area instruction? We’ll share our process for selecting texts with the consideration of their quality, utility, and complexity. (K-8)

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Patrick Proctor, Associate Professor, Boston College ~ Evelyn Ford-Connors, Senior Lecturer, Associate Director, Durrell Reading and Writing Clinic, Boston University ~ Christine Leighton, Assistant Professor, Emmanuel College ~ Marcela Ossa Parra, Chris Wagner, Doctoral Students, Boston College

Teachers from the Russell Elementary School, Boston

Dialogic Reasoning: A Discursive Approach to Literacy Learning and Knowledge Development
Teacher-researcher teams (members of our ELICIT project in a Boston Public School) will describe their collaboration, share instructional ideas and materials, and present classroom videos to illustrate Dialogic Reasoning, an innovative framework that emphasizes motivation and engagement, instructional intensity, and cognitive challenge within the context of peer talk. A critical professional development component supports this school-wide reform. (PreK-5)

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Nancy McLaughlin, Superkids, Zaner-Bloser, Independent Literacy Coach

*Learning to Read Like a Detective: Teaching Students High-Impact Comprehension Strategies*

Real learning comes from engagement with challenging text accompanied by appropriate teacher scaffolding. As primary-grade students are developing skills in word recognition, they need assistance in building a foundation in comprehension. This interactive workshop will showcase instructional strategies for our youngest readers to read words and make meaning simultaneously. (K-2)

Mari Gates, Instructional Coach, Middleborough Public Schools

*The Nuts and Bolts of Book Clubs*

Are you looking for a way to motivate your students and increase the deep & meaningful conversations they have about books? Utilizing an authentic activity, such as book clubs, may be just what you need. Join me to learn the basics about planning and implementing them. (2-5)

Jacy Ippolito, Associate Professor, Salem State University ~ Christina Dobbs, Clinical Assistant Professor, Boston University ~ Megin Charner-Laird, Assistant Professor, Salem State University ~ Jenee Ramos, English Teacher, Content-area Reading Initiative Project Director ~ Mary Angione, Science Teacher, Science Team Project Leader ~ Julie Padgett, Math Teacher, Math Team Leader ~ Shelley Stevens, Speech and Language Specialist, Hybrid Team Leader, Brookline High School

*The Content-area Reading Initiative: Disciplinary Literacy Lessons Learned from Science, Math, and Special Education Teachers*

This workshop shares lessons learned from a 4-year high school disciplinary literacy initiative at Brookline High School. Participants will learn about disciplinary literacy work in Math, Science, and Special Education settings in the final two years of the project, with particular emphasis on starting this work in other settings. (6-12)

Linda Gambrell ~ Distinguished Professor of Education, Eugene T. Moore School of Education, Clemson University

*Helping Students Get Hooked on Summer Reading*

Summer learning loss is one of the most important factors contributing to the reading achievement gap between students from low–socioeconomic and high–socioeconomic families. Teachers can play a critical role in preventing this “summer slide” by encouraging students to read more over the summer. This session demonstrates innovative yet practical approaches for getting students hooked on summer reading. (All)

Suzy Brooks, Educator, Associate Director of Instructional Technology, Presenter and Social Media Leader

*Teens and Screens: The Power of Reading, Writing, and Devices*

In this session, we will look at the power of screens to scaffold, enrich, and augment the processes of reading, writing, research, and note taking. When we combine the functionality of technology with re-envisioned tasks, amazing things can happen! (6-12)

Katie Cunningham, Assistant Professor, Manhattanville College

*The Power of Story: Building Text Sets to Promote Our Diverse Society and Support Student Identities*

When you look at your classroom bookshelf, do the books represent our diverse society? In this session, the presenter will share ways to use children's and young adult literature, online texts, images, songs, and poetry to build text sets that promote our diverse society and that support students to see themselves and learn about others. (K-5)


*Reading Closely to Write Deeply*

This highly interactive workshop will engage participants in a dynamic literacy block simulation. While exploring varied instructional approaches and collaborative techniques, participants will learn about innovative approaches to engage and equip learners as they access complex texts, take part in close listening and close reading, and write to analyze texts. (K-6)
Janice Standring, Literacy Coach, Taunton Public School ~ Linda Lindsey, Third Grade Teacher, Medway Public Schools

**Fostering a Deeper Understanding of Text Using Multi-Componential Comprehension Strategies**

Research has proven that implementing student centered, multi-componential strategies to teach and strengthen comprehension skills fosters a deeper understanding of connected text. This workshop encourages teachers to take a closer look at employing comprehension strategies such as reciprocal teaching, debate, and those found in the Comprehension Toolkits (K-2 and 3-6) published by Harvey and Goudvis. You will be introduced to the strategies, learn how and when to use them, and actually see video clips of some of those strategies in action in the classroom. (2-6)

Beth Fuller, Representative, Perma-Bound Books

**Using Paired Text and Building Text Sets to Support an Anchor Novel**

All standards and frameworks emphasize the importance of using high quality nonfiction across the curriculum. Poetry, short stories, novels all pair well with informational text and can often bring the “classics” a more up to date connection. No matter the age of your students, the use of a read aloud to introduce a new topic of study will help support understanding by building background and schema. This workshop will focus on strategies to pair informational text, novels and read alouds for Paired Text and building Text Sets around an anchor novel. (2-8)

Elaine Bukowiecki, Professor of Literacy Education, Bridgewater State University ~ Jenn Manak, Associate Professor ~ Renee Avilla, Katelyn MacLellan, Brittany Periera, M.Ed. in Reading Candidates, Bridgewater State University

**Action Research: An Important Voice in Literacy Teaching and Learning**

This panel presentation will highlight the value of action research in literacy teaching and learning. With the assistance of faculty from Bridgewater State University, three candidates for their M.Ed. in Reading will explain their action research projects and will involve the audience in a discussion of action research and its relevance to students' success as readers and writers in today's world. (All)

Rebecca Schilke, Reading Specialist, Wheeler Middle/High School ~ Anna Hundt, Wheeler High School Sophomore

**Ten Things I Wish My Teachers Knew . . . Listening to the Voices of Struggling Readers**

Struggling readers often feel that they don't have a voice. In this workshop, teachers will have the opportunity to listen to a high school student and her reading teacher talk about what it's like to be a struggling reader and learn about what teachers can do to help students find greater success in the classroom. (6-12)

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Sylvia D. Brown Luncheon ~ 12:45 PM - 2:30 PM $30

**Ruth Culham**

Author, President of the Culham Writing Company

*Writing Is the New Black*

*Sponsored by Scholastic*

Super Salad Lunch ~ 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM $20

**Nancy Boyles**

Professor Emerita, Southern Connecticut State University; Literacy Consultant

*Helping Elementary Students Succeed on Standards-based Assessments: Increasing Velocity for Improved Comprehension*
Thursday, April 7, 2016 Schedule of Events

### School-wide Literacy Engagement

**Allen, Jacobson, Malone Author Boxed Lunch ~ 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

- **$20**

![Jennifer Allen](image)
- **One Book, One School**
- **Jennifer Allen**

![Jennifer Richards Jacobson](image)

![Jen Malone](image)
- **The Ins and Outs of Instituting an Author-in-Residence Program At Your School or Library**
- **Jen Malone**

### Rhythm and Rhyme

**Adlerman, Adlerman, Pearl Author Boxed Lunch ~ 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

- **$20**

![Kim and Danny Adlerman](image)
- **The Natural Rhythm of Things: Using Nature, Art, Meter, and Fun to Inspire Literacy**
- **Kim and Danny Adlerman**

![Sydelle Pearl](image)
- **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: The Children’s Poet**
- **Sydelle Pearl**

### Ninety Minute Workshops 1:15 PM – 2:45 PM

**Bill Atwood**, Consultant, Collins Education Associates

**Tell A Story: Four Critical Strategies to Improve Narrative Writing**

In this dynamic and extremely practical workshop, learn how to improve narrative writing with powerful oral, kinesthetic, and written exercises that show all students (especially ELL) exactly how to build an effective story. It’s a perfect fit for Common Core and connects reading, writing, and vocabulary. (1-8)

**Char Moffit**, Assistant Professor of Education, University of Maine at Farmington

**Engaging Primary-Grade Students in Writing Through Concept-Oriented Reading Instruction (CORI)**

This workshop will begin with participants having an opportunity to experience a Concept-Oriented Reading Instruction (CORI) lesson geared towards primary grade students that focuses on using science concepts to engage students in writing. Then, the researcher will discuss the findings specific to writing from a CORI study conducted in Kindergarten. (PreK-2)

**Lorilee Cabrera, Andrea Frasier**, Literacy Consultants, Center for the Collaborative Classroom ~ **Michelle Bilodeau**, Instructional Literacy Specialist, Springfield Public Schools

**Best Practices in Writing Instruction**

This session is designed to support participants’ thinking, reflections and understandings of the latest research and implications for writing instruction with a focus on teaching English Language Learners and struggling writers of urban and low-income settings. (K-5)

**Terrie Marr**, Instructor, Westfield State University ~ **Martha Colwell**, Visiting Professor, Framingham State University ~ **Jaqueline Cortazar**, Junior K-5 Literacy Coach, King Open School, Cambridge ~ **Kelly True**, Reading Specialist and District Curriculum Coordinator, Woodland Elementary, Milford ~ **Carolyn Lavalley**, Reading Specialist and Lead Teacher, Macomber Primary, Westport

**Sharing Best Practices for Teaching Diverse Learners Through RTI**

This interactive, round-table panel discussion will focus on various ways school systems are implementing RTI to address the needs of all their students while also meeting the Common Core Standards. Attendees, as well as panel members, will be involved in the discussions about what is happening in their schools. (K-12)
Jennifer Rabold, English Department Chair, Masconomet Regional School District ~ Katherine Frankel, Assistant Professor of Literacy, Boston University

Adolescent Literacy Assessment
The presenters will review the research on secondary literacy assessment; introduce a repertoire of secondary literacy assessment tools, particularly formative assessments, that are easy to implement in the classroom; model and engage participants in a variety of secondary literacy assessment techniques, strategies, and approaches; guide participants in interpreting and using assessment results to inform instruction through the use of actual student assessment results; and provide resources for participants who want to learn more. (4-12)

Afternoon Keynote 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM

Grace Lin

The Extra Adjective: How I Came to Terms With Being a Multicultural Book Author

MRA 2016 Children's Literature Award Recipient

Author of: Where the Mountain Meets the Moon; Starry River of the Sky; The Year of the Dog; The Ugly Vegetables; Ling and Ting Share a Birthday; and many more.

MRA Committees Meet and Greet ~ 4:15 PM-5:00 PM

Authors and Appetizers ~ 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM $15

Enjoy delicious appetizers while authors and illustrators read excerpts from their favorite books. Authors and illustrators will be available for informal conversations and book signing.

Sponsored by McGraw-Hill Education

Bus to Boston ~ 6:45 PM Bus Loading, 7:00 PM Departure, Drop off by Quincy Market, Departure from Boston 10:00 PM

8:00 PM – 9:00 PM Books and Beverages Before Bedtime

End your day at the MRA Conference with wine, dessert, and some of our favorite new Children’s and Young Adult Books for classroom reading.

Sponsored by Boston University School of Education

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