Making Innovation a Priority in NC Schools

Exploring Innovative Practices

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2018
8:30AM-3:00PM
UNCW WATSON COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
ROOM 162
AGENDA

8:30-9:00  Register/Breakfast

9:00-9:15  Welcome

Chancellor Jose V. Sartarelli, University of North Carolina Wilmington
Dr. Van Dempsey, Dean, UNCW Watson College of Education
Mark Johnson, North Carolina State Superintendent
Presider, Keith Poston, President & Executive Director, Public School Forum of NC

9:15-10:00  Keynote – Dr. Buddy Berry, Superintendent, Eminence Independent Schools, KY

10:05-11:15  Innovative Programs

10 minutes each. Followed with Questions on Opportunities and Challenges

  **Personalized Learning**
  Corey McNeil, Lead Teacher for Instructional Technology
  Rowan-Salisbury Schools

  **STEM**
  Dr. Steven Hill, Superintendent, Pender County Schools
  Previously Director of the STEM East Network

  **Project Based Learning**
  Ben Owens, Teacher, Hope Street Group Fellow
  Tri-County Early College, Cherokee County

  **1:1 Technology**
  Dr. Janet Mason, Superintendent, Rutherford County Schools
  2018 NC Superintendent of the Year

  **Global, U.S. Green Ribbon, Service-Learning**
  Shannon Hardy, Teacher, The Exploris School, Raleigh

11:25-12:25  Innovative Practices - Breakout Sessions:

  **Environmental and Global Life Long Learners** ................. Room 306
  Elaine Justice, Principal, Queens Creek Elementary, Onslow County

  **Beyond Curriculum Into Skills Relevant for Life** ............. Room 335
  Anthony Johnston, Southwest Region Teacher of the Year
  & Apple Distinguished Educator, Isenberg Elementary,
  Rowan-Salisbury Schools
AGENDA

11:25-12:25 Innovative Practices - Breakout Sessions:

**District Support Through an Innovation Lab** ........................................... Room 266
Donna Teuber, Innovation Program Designer
Richland School District Two, South Carolina

**Digital Directions: Making Innovation and Technology Work in All Classrooms** .................................................... Room 223
Julie Pittman, Burroughs Wellcome Fund 2018 Western Teacher of the Year Teacher, R-S Central High School, Rutherford County

**CTE Integrating STEM, Clean Energy Technology and Students as Engineers** ............................................... Room 246
Dr. Daniel Richardson, Clean Energy Technology Teacher & Darrell Cheers, Assistant Super./Chief Accountability Officer, Brunswick County Schools

**Deskless Classroom: How Classroom Set Up Affects Student Learning** .......................................................... Room 130
Bridget Wortman, Teacher & Hope Street Group Alumna
North Topsail Elementary, Pender County
Chase Morgan, Teacher, Warsaw Elementary, Duplin County

12:30-1:00 Lunch

1:05-2:20 Creating the Infrastructure to Support Innovation

Mark Johnson – North Carolina State Superintendent
Representative Craig Horn - NC General Assembly
Brenda Berg – President and CEO, BEST NC
Dr. Austin Obasohan – Superintendent, Duplin County Schools
Danielle Williams – Teacher, Laney High School, New Hanover County Schools

2:25-3:00 Call to Action

**Observations on the day**
Keith Poston - President & Executive Director, Public School Forum of NC

**Final Thoughts**
Jonathan Rowe – Chief Marketing Officer, nCino
Mark Johnson – North Carolina State Superintendent

Conference Evaluation

Dr. Buddy Berry

Dr. Buddy Berry has a passion for reinventing the K-12 school experience. His School on FIRE (Framework of Innovation for Reinventing Education) model is currently in its sixth full year of implementation and is seeing dramatic results.

Dr. Berry is in his 8th year as Superintendent of Eminence Independent Schools and his team’s success has allowed him to be invited to the White House twice, the first as one of the 100 top school Superintendents in America at their only National Connected Superintendents Summit.

Dr. Berry’s work and school district has also been the focus of numerous media and news stories including being recently filmed by Edutopia (George Lucas Films) for a recently released video series.

Most importantly, Buddy is married to the amazing Jessica Berry and the father of four, Brooke, Blaze, Bryce, and Brax.

How To Set Your School on F.I.R.E.! (Keynote)

Dr. Buddy Berry will take us through his journey in reimagining Eminence Independent Schools to design a next generation “Dream School” rooted in personalized learning, and centered around innovation and creativity.

The Eminence Independent School District has redesigned its instructional experience for kindergarten through 12th-grade students with its (F.I.R.E.) Framework of Innovation for Reinventing Education model using online, blended and competency-based education in their quest to be the Disney World of Schools.

Eminence has utilized technology as the main driver for their success combined with Yes, And Thinking; Surprise and Delight; and starting to Think Differently about solutions.
INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

Presenter: Corey McNeill

**Personalized Learning**

A large number of instructional practices are needed to meet needs of students in the modern classroom. In order to ensure these needs are met, several steps need to be designed, implemented, and refined so that staff and students have the tools and support they need in this personalized learning environment. In this presentation we will discuss how Rowan-Salisbury Schools uses blending learning concepts in our classroom to facilitate learning for student success.

Presenter: Steven Hill

**STEM**

Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) is important because it provides an integrated focus to the curriculum, it offers students real-life connections and teaches them valuable skills. STEM fosters inquiry-based thinking, logical reasoning, and collaboration. It also provides students with the background and skills to pursue jobs that are in high demand in our economy.

Presenter: Ben Owens

**Project Based Learning**

This presentation will highlight case studies from the Tri-County Early College High School’s school-wide, cross-grade/curricular Project Based Learning program. Conducted by Ben Owens and his colleagues, this program is run in a Competency Based Education framework. This program demonstrates that innovation can go beyond just a buzzword and can prepare students to confidently thrive in a rapidly changing world. The school operates with a shared vision of excellence, school governance based on distributed leadership, and a deep culture of collaboration.

Presenter: Janet Mason

**1:1 Technology**

How one county put technology in the center of its classrooms to provide rigorous academic and career preparation experiences and outcomes for students and teachers.

Presenter: Shannon Russell Hardy

**Global, U.S. Green Ribbon, Service-Learning**

Exploris is NC’s first STEM Model school, one of NC’s first U.S. Green Ribbon schools, the NC Museum of Natural Science’s first school partner, and is currently developing criteria for NCSU’s first citizen science schools. By 2020 Exploris k-8 will move into NC’s first energy positive high-rise in downtown Raleigh. Our innovative programs are a result of a culture rooted in values and collaboration. Our teachers are liberated to take risks and design authentic work that addresses global issues through the Common Core NC standards. At Exploris student inquiry is our catalyst, and our single most important duty as teachers is to empower our learners to build a connected, just and sustainable world.
INNOVATIVE PRACTICES: BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Presenters: Elaine Justice, Tori Carpenter, Christi Clark, Cathy Dalimonte

Innovative Agents of Change in a Green & Global World!

Queens Creek Elementary is an International Green themed school and a NC Green School of Excellence. The QCE staff will share their journey on how they innovatively engage students in the curriculum through a green and global lens to drive their “Green Dream” and empower global eco-minded learners.

Presenter: Anthony Johnston

Beyond Curriculum Into Skills Relevant for Life

Come and learn how a high school dropout has become a Teacher of the Year. Technology in the classroom has changed the way educators teach, how students learn, and the way in which teachers and students communicate. Learn how to utilize Apple technology, Apple workflow, and apps on a daily basis and discover the impact it is having in the classroom.

Presenter: Donna Teuber

Beyond Silos: Building District-wide Culture and Capacity for Innovation

What would it look like if educators were enabled to explore new ideas and put them into action in their classrooms and schools? How would this disrupt “the way that we’ve always done this” mindset? This presentation will explore how districts can create a culture of innovation and go beyond policies, procedures, and the status quo to support the work of innovative teachers. See powerful examples of how the R2 Innovates innovation lab has supported teacher-led initiatives that have scaled district-wide.

Presenter: Julie Pittman

Digital Directions: Making Innovation and Technology Work in All Classrooms

Expand the scope of the classroom, the vision of your students, and the effectiveness of teaching through digital tools that enhance the educational opportunities and outcomes for all. See how one county put technology in the center of its classrooms to provide rigorous academic and career preparation experiences and outcomes for students and teachers.

Presenters: Daniel Richardson, Darrell K. Cheers

Technology and Students as Engineers

This session will explore the lessons learned during the implementation of a district-wide career technical education program. Topics will focus on the opportunities and challenges of program implementation as well as learning impacts on students.

Presenters: Dennis Chase Morgan, Bridget Wortman

Impact of Flexible Seating on Student Achievement and Motivation

This presentation will discover the amazing possibilities of a deskless classrooms. We explore how giving children the freedom and autonomy to choose where they learn impacts their achievement and motivation within the classroom.