

GSCA 2021

Event Schedule

Wed, Nov 03, 2021

8:00am

PreConference Check In

🕒 8:00am - 8:30am, Nov 3

📍 Outside each respective room

8:30am

Preconference Session 1 - Unlocking Climate & Culture - Steve Bollar

🕒 8:30am - 11:30am, Nov 3

📍 Athena AB

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS SESSION. Developing an environment rooted in respect and values. We all want a positive climate and culture, but what does that mean? What is the difference between climate and culture and how do we move it forward? In this session, Steve will share...

The difference between Climate & Culture (so you know where to focus your energy).

The two types of culture in an organization (...yes, there are two).

How to identify and strengthen common values throughout the school (because not everyone has the same values).

Ideas to improve relationships throughout the school (...yes it's possible)

🗣️ Speaker



Steven Bollar Owner, Stand Tall Enterprises

Preconference Session 2 - Legal and Ethics Brian Smith

🕒 8:30am - 11:30am, Nov 3

📍 Athena E

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS SESSION. School counselors often find themselves in the center of a variety of issues with potential legal ramifications. This session will cover many of those topics, including mandated reporting, enrollment and withdrawal, FERPA, privacy and confidentiality, liability, and continuing issues relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Brian Smith obtained his J.D. Degree from the University of Georgia Law School in 2004. He served on the Editorial Board and as Senior Articles editor of the Journal of Intellectual Property Law while at UGA Law School.

Brian joined the firm presently known as Harben, Hartley & Hawkins in 2004. Since 1980, the firm has represented public school systems throughout the state, presently serving approximately 120 of the 180 school districts in the state in some capacity. Additionally, the firm serves as general counsel to the Georgia School Boards Association and as legal advisor to the Georgia School Superintendents Association, the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders and other professional educational leadership groups throughout the state.

Brian is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the Supreme Court of Georgia, Georgia Court of Appeals, and the Northern and Middle federal district courts in the state of Georgia.

He is a member of the National Council of School Attorneys and the Georgia Council of School Attorneys, and has presented to school districts and educational associations across the state on various legal issues.

 Speaker



Brian Smith PreConference Speaker

Preconference Session 3 - Stigmas, Stereotypes, Stories, and Restorative Practices

🕒 8:30am - 11:30am, Nov 3

📍 Athena GH

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS SESSION. Stereotypes and Stigmas have become so commonplace in society and these beliefs and practices find their way inside the hallways, classrooms, and spaces within and around schools. What might happen if a school community chooses to intentionally shift from preconceived ideas and problematic thinking to sharing stories, perspectives, and contextual clarity? This session will provide an active learning experience for participants to investigate this type of shift through the lens of Restorative Practices, as a culture changer for creating and sustaining a positive, nurturing, and highly functional school culture and climate.

 Speaker



Dr. Veneschia Bryant Social Emotional Learning Coordinator, Atlanta Public Schools

11:00am

Registration Desk Open

🕒 11:00am - 6:00pm, Nov 3

📍 Atrium

11:30am

Lunch on your own

🕒 11:30am - 12:30pm, Nov 3

Exhibit Hall Open

🕒 11:30am - 2:00pm, Nov 3

📍 Grand 1 - 6

12:30pm

Worksetting Meeting: Elementary

🕒 12:30pm - 1:15pm, Nov 3

📍 Olympia 1

Worksetting Meeting: Middle and High School

🕒 12:30pm - 1:15pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena CD

Worksetting Meeting: Male School Counselors

🕒 12:30pm - 1:15pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena GH

Navigating the school counseling world as a male counselor, selfcare, and systemic change.

🗣️ Speaker



Dr Bobby Gueh Head School Counselor, Dr. Bobby Gueh

Worksetting Meeting: Graduate Students

🕒 12:30pm - 1:15pm, Nov 3

📍 Parthenon 2

Worksetting Meeting: Newcomers

🕒 12:30pm - 1:15pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena AB

Welcome to the 2021 GSCA conference! So good to see. If this is your first conference come and learn how to make the most of your time at conference, meet some new friends, and learn a little about GSCA.

🗣️ Speaker



Brent Henderson School Counselor , Paul Duke STEM High School

Worksetting Meeting: Counselor Educator and Supervisors

🕒 12:30pm - 1:15pm, Nov 3

📍 Parthenon 1

1:30pm

The MARVELS of School Counseling-New Counselor Workshop

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena AB

Tools for working smarter, not harder Graduate Students

This session is an introduction to setting your foundation as a first year professional school counselor. Having the confidence, ability and knowledge to set the bar high and achieving what you set out to accomplish. Come and learn tips to plan for a successful year as a professional school counselor.

🗣️ Speaker



Nikki Knight Griffin-Spalding County Schools

Mix in Mindfulness in Middle School

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena CD

Social Emotional Learning Mental Health Awareness

In this session, the audience will gain an understanding of teen brain functionality and how activities such as yoga, meditation and other mindful activities can support stress management. Attendees will walk away with authentic tools to cultivate mindfulness, and techniques proven to be effective in supporting this critical stage of growth and development. This session provides quick tips to bring mindfulness into your school as soon as you return, as well as resources that provide endless options for mindful activities.

🗣️ Speaker



Tierney Langdon 8th grade Counselor and Peer Leader Sponsor, Grace Snell Middle School

Proactively Addressing Racial Incidents in Schools: Two Perspectives

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena E

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Couns...

In this session, presenters will share their perspectives and insights for creating antiracist learning environments and more importantly, how to respond to racial incidents in schools. Representing diverse lived experiences, we will reflect on our internal dialogue because we believe school counselors must explore their thoughts and biases. Counselors must be able to communicate with students as compassionate, culturally competent, and antiracist adults. We will provide recommendations for every level of programming.

🗣️ Speakers



Derek Francis Class Facilitator, Franchise Consulting



Erin Mason Georgia State University

Project Based Learning (PBL) in Counseling

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena F

Tools for working smarter, not harder Career Development Social Emotional Learning Diversit...

This fun and interactive presentation will show how project and problem based learning works well in counseling core curriculum and small groups! In fact, it will show how PBL supports classroom management, problem solving, collaboration, cooperative learning, and social emotional learning.

Conference participants will enjoy working in a group to experience how students learn through hands on activities! A packet containing ideas for lessons will be given to all attendees!

Speakers



Teshia Stovall Dula GSCA/Athens2021



Rosemary aschoff Gwinnett County Public Schools

Self-Care....Pour Into Self To Pour Into Students

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena GH

Issues in Counseling

School counselors are integral in improving self-efficacy and the health of others. Balancing self-care and professional care is often a challenge for school counselors and other helping professionals. Due to ethical, emotional, and mental implications, it is incumbent school counselors are aware of the importance of identifying and maintaining self-wellness. The purpose of the presentation is to provide an overview of counselor wellness, best practices of maintaining wellness, and strategies to establish a work-life balance for an optimal level to serve students.

Speakers



Shaketha Blankenship Atlanta Public Schools



Tamila Jackson-Whitaker School Counselor, Atlanta Public Schools

Serving Up SEL: One Bite at a Time

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Athena IJ

Tools for working smarter, not harder Social Emotional Learning

In this presentation, you will learn how to incorporate SEL into the daily routine of your school day, without having to purchase an expensive curriculum or attend extensive trainings, and you won't have to burden your teachers with another program to follow. Utilizing short, publicly available videos centered around topics of importance to your population, you can customize a schoolwide SEL program that focuses on common themes and builds a cohesive climate.

Speaker



Tracey Bazemore Midway Middle School

Tips and Tricks to Run a Comprehensive Program and Serve Every Student Despite High Ratios or Single Counselor Status

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Empire Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Principal/Couns...

Even with high demands in a high needs school and ratios way over ASCA or GSCA recommendations, it is possible to implement a comprehensive program. The keys are planning, prioritizing, and advocacy. In this session, we will discuss how to successfully do all three of these things to enhance your program, increase your sanity, and most importantly, serve every student, in every way, every day!

🗣️ Speakers



Lauren Wilson School Counselor, White Oak Elementary School



Nicole Moody School Counselor, Sycamore Elementary School

Beyond Kindness

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Empire Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Social Emotiona...

School counselors are experts in leading kindness lessons and school-wide campaigns to help our students to be friendly, generous, and considerate. But in order to address inequities, bias, prejudice and more in our school communities, school counselors must move beyond kindness. School counselors must incorporate social justice standards and culturally sustaining pedagogy to class lessons and school-wide initiatives as well as apply an anti-bias, anti-racist equity mindset to social-emotional learning.

🗣️ Speaker



Laura Ross School Counselor, Five Forks Middle School

Opportunities for All: Implementing the College Board Opportunity Scholarships

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Oconee River Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Academics/Academic Achievement College Readiness Dive...

Now more than ever, students and families are concerned about how to pay for college. In this session, counselors will receive lesson plans and resources on using the Opportunity Scholarships to support students as they navigate the college planning and financial aid process regardless of circumstances. The program lays out six simple steps that all students can take to get to college and rewards their efforts with monthly scholarship eligibility. Join us to learn more!

🗣️ Speaker



Cale Golden Senior Director, State & District Partnerships, The College Board

Value In School Counseling: Helping Parents, Teachers, and Administrators Buy Into the Worth of the Profession

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Oconee River Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Principal/Couns...

School counselors are a minority profession in schools. Often teachers, parents, and even administrators don't fully understand counselor's daily efforts. In this session, a school counselor will share ideas about ways to bridge that gap. When this is achieved, a stronger partnership can be formed with stakeholders which ultimately benefits all students!

🗣️ Speakers



Jennifer Jackson School Counselor, River Ridge Elementary



Kristy Allen School Counselor, River Ridge Elementary

Intentional School Counseling for Systems Change

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Olympia Room 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

School counselors are charged with closing achievement, opportunity, and attainment gaps as systems change agents when the problem is not a kid issue but a systems issue. This charge requires school counselors to move from a viewpoint of failing students to failing systems, acknowledge unconscious bias, and address institutional racism and prejudice. As agents of change, school counselors leverage data, have challenging data conversations, advocate for systems change, and develop intentional systems change action plans.

🗣️ Speaker



Julie Hartline Associate Director of Professional Learning, HATCHING RESULTS, LLC

Virtual Scholars: Tips for Supporting Students Who Excelled Online As They Transition Back to the Face- to- Face Environment

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Olympia Room 2

Academics/Academic Achievement Issues in Counseling Social Emotional Learning Mental Health...

The goal of this session is to provide information to Professional School Counselors, Counselor Educators, Supervisors and Counseling Students with information concerning the various steps that can be

implemented to support students who excelled in the virtual environment successfully transition back to the face-to-face environment. Participants will receive detailed information regarding the approaches, methods and techniques that can be used to positively assist this diverse group of students on campus.

Speakers



Dr. LaVerne Ware Owner, Regal Counseling Services, LLC



Tamika Hibbert Counselor Educator, Hibbert



Natasha Moon Counselor Educator

“The Conversation”: Talking to Children and Teens About Race and Racism

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Parthenon 1

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
(DEI)

The conversation of systemic racism can be an unnerving one, especially with children and teens. It is critical to first examine one's own racial identity development, and the historical context of race and racism before engaging in “The Conversation”. This session will provide the historical underpinning of institutional race and racism, strategies for examining racial identity development, and practical strategies you can use to broach “The Conversation” with children and teens in our schools.

Speaker



Dr Bobby Gueh Head School Counselor, Dr. Bobby Gueh

Helping Hands: Ending Hunger

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Parthenon 2

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Academic Achievement Career Development S...

Helping Hands Ending Hunger empowers students to rescue uneaten food from school cafeterias and join hands with their communities to alleviate childhood food insecurity, reduce food waste, encourage education equity, and shape a better world.

Speakers



Emily Jones School Counselor, City Park Elementary School



Alecia Halman City Park Elementary



Carla Harward Principal CEO, Helping Hands Ending Hunger INC.

A Principal's Perspective: Supporting Every Student in Every Way Through a Comprehensive School Counseling Program

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Willow Room

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Principal/Counselor Relationship Diversity, Equity an...

In this presentation, you will hear from a veteran elementary school principal and her two professional school counselors about the components of a comprehensive school counseling program. Implementing this type of program at your school, and supporting your counselors in doing so, will benefit every student that passes through your doors.

🗣️ Speakers



Lauren Danish School Counselor, Ferguson Elementary School



Sherry Ferguson Gwinnett County Public Schools



Angelique Mitchell Gwinnett County Public School

2:45pm

Opening Session with Steve Bollar - "Standing Tall Through it All!"

🕒 2:45pm - 4:15pm, Nov 3

📍 Grand Hall 7

Agenda for Opening Session

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Call to Order

Dr. Chon Hester, President

Posting of Colors

Georgia Youth ChalleNGe Program

National Anthem

Georgia Youth ChalleNGe Program

Welcome Remarks

Mayor Kelly Girtz
Superintendent Verona Thomas

Greetings from ASCA

Dr. Eva Gibson, ASCA Board of Directors

Recognition of Titanium Sponsor

Army ROTC

Entertainment

Fabian Vicks, School Counselor

Elections

Jennifer Jones, Immediate Past President

Special Presentation

Dr. Chon Hester, President

Service Project Campaign

Gabrielle Brundidge, Service Project Co-Chair

Maegan Mellick, Service Project Co-Chair

Introduction of Speaker

Fran Breakfield, 2021 Conference Team

Keynote Address

Steve Bollar

Challenges can either force you to step up your game or they can stop you in your tracks. Steve will show you how to overcome challenges in your organization and come out bigger, better, and more motivated than ever. In this session, you'll discover:

How to maintain the focus needed and maintain your integrity... even when chaos and challenge surrounds you!...

How you can increase productivity no matter what is happening or how overwhelmed you are...

How to repair broken relationships that keep you from success - and how to prevent relationship breakdown from stalling your progress ever again!

Closing Remarks/Announcements

Demetria Williams, 2021 Conference Chair



Steven Bollar Owner, Stand Tall Enterprises

4:30pm

President's Reception in the Trade Expo

🕒 4:30pm - 6:30pm, Nov 3

📍 Grand Hall 1 - 6

Thu, Nov 04, 2021

7:00am

POUND Morning Exercise

🕒 7:00am - 8:00am, Nov 4

📍 Grand Hall 8

POUND is a full-body cardio jam session, combining light resistance with constant simulated drumming. The workout fuses cardio, Pilates, isometric movements, plyometrics and Isometric poses into a 45-minute series. Burn between 400 and 900+ calories per hour, strengthen and sculpt infrequently used muscles, and drum your way to a leaner, slimmer physique – all while rocking out to your favorite music! The intensity level of this class is Medium.

7:30am

Hot Breakfast

🕒 7:30am - 8:30am, Nov 4

📍 Atrium

8:00am

Registration Desk Open

🕒 8:00am - 4:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Atrium

Exhibit Hall Open

🕒 8:00am - 4:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Grand Hall 1 - 6

8:30am

Maximizing Student Engagement with Equity and Access

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Athena AB

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Social Emotional Learning Mental Health Awareness D...

Maximizing Student Engagement with Equity and Access : The presentation will provide an inside view of opportunities to maximize student engagement with equity and access and explore strategies and tools that include tiered interventions, classroom instruction, focused small groups, and individual counseling to provide intentional support for all students.

🗣️ Speakers



Channelle Joseph-Nwosu Atlanta Public Schools



Trisha Slaughter School Counselor, Atlanta Public School

Incorporating STEM Education in Your School Counseling Programming

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Athena CD

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Social Emotional Learning Principal/Counselor Relatio...

STEM design challenges are an innovative way for students to showcase their acquired attitudes, skills, and knowledge learned from counseling lessons. This session will inform participants of how to plan and develop units of counseling lessons that incorporate STEM design challenges while utilizing ASCA Mindsets and Behaviors for student learning objectives. Participants will see how this planning process works and practical examples of how it has been implemented at our school.

🗣️ Speakers



John Creger School Counselor, Marietta City School District



Tricia Patterson Marietta City School District

Book-A-Holics Anonymous: Using Children's Literature for Social, Emotional, and Academic Education, Year 23.5!

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Athena E

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

The 2020 conference would have been year #23, so this year will be year #23.5! Calling all BOOK-A-HOLICS! We're celebrating 23+ years of school counselors using fantastic children's literature to enhance our counseling programs! The self-proclaimed President of Book-A-Holics Anonymous is back to bring you dozens of children's books as well as ideas for using them in your counseling program in this practical and fast-paced workshop! With a complete bibliography of books arranged by subject, you will leave with LOTS of ways to become a Book-A-Holic yourself!

🗣️ Speaker



Nancy Jones Dean of Counseling and Student Services, Wesleyan School

Do You Know How It Feels to Be Stressed Out, Stressed Out!!! – A Coping Skills Toolbox

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Athena F

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Couns...

Do your students need a healthy way of dealing with difficult emotions? If you answered yes to this question, then this session is for YOU!!! Students should have various coping skills to choose from when they need an appropriate way of dealing with difficult emotions such as anxiety, stress, and anger. This session will provide you with an array of healthy coping skills to use with students ranging from kindergarten through college.

🔊 Speaker



Janelle Brooks Rockdale County Schools

Children are the Priority! Partnership is the Strategy! Successful students are the Reality! Create a solid, strong, and effective partnership with your parents!

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Athena GH

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Do you sometimes feel like it is parents versus the school? Are you frustrated with the lack of parental involvement at your school? Do your parents even know that they are welcomed in your school? It's time to dispel the myth that we don't want parents involved in the educational process. This fun interactive session is designed to network and share successful relevant strategies to increase parent involvement in your building.

🔊 Speakers



Marcia Teemer Dutchtown High School



Jazmin Drayton Henry County Schools/Hampton Middle School



Megan Crawford Hampton Middle School

Social Emotional Learning with a Yoga Twist

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Athena IJ

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Social Emotiona...

Do you need a mindful SEL road map that takes the stress out of planning and allows all students to feel loved, seen, and heard? Feel anxiety leave your body as you experience an eight-step lesson plan that includes a SEL theme, breath work, mindful movements, a brain game, and relaxation. Come away with a digital resource bundle that equips ALL students with skills to improve self-regulation, self-awareness, social-awareness, problem-solving, and self-management.

🔊 Speaker



Julie Frizzi District Counselor, Collier County Schools

Operation Graduation: It Takes a Village

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Empire Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Academics/Academic Achievement Principal/Counselor Rela...

GRADUATION...the culmination of secondary education. With this academic milestone as an area of focus for high school counselors, some students may lose sight of their goals along the way. Operation Graduation was implemented to rally an entire school community behind its graduating senior class in hopes they all will achieve their goal of high school graduation.

🗣️ Speakers



Ashley Holmes Professional School Counselor, Fulton County Schools



Jason Stamper Fulton County School District



Diana Huntzinger Graduation Coach/Professional School Counselor, Fulton County School District



Fateemah Muneer Professional School Counselor, Banneker High School



Damond Smith Assistant Principal, Fulton County Schools



Erick Lawrence Fulton County School District

Advocating for Every Student, Every Day, In Every Way

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Empire Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Issues in Counseling Mental Health Awareness

Advocating for the needs of all students requires understanding and responding to the current issues that impact students, schools, and our communities. This session will focus on strengthening advocacy skills beyond the school walls, responding to current state and national policies and legislation, and building stakeholder partnerships. The GSCA Advocacy chairs, as well as Georgia Legislators, will be on hand reviewing hot topics for the 2022 legislative session, answer questions, and to hear concerns.

🗣️ Speakers



Jennifer Diaz Gwinnett County Schools



Gail Smith Retired



Melisa Marsh Supervisor of School Counseling, Advisement, and Crisis Response, Cobb County School District

Social Justice Tools for School Counselors

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Oconee River Room 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Counseling Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

School counselors have the responsibility to advocate and to be change agents to serve all students, especially those who come from diverse or challenging backgrounds. Students are affected by psychological, social, emotional, and environmental factors that include poverty, violence, and family distress. ASCA emphasizes school counselors' role in social justice and promotes and advocates for school-family-community partnerships. This session will explore social justice tools, practical resources, and evidence-based interventions for school counselors.

🗣️ Speakers



Huzeyfe Cakmakci, PhD Valdosta State University



Teddi Cunningham GSCA

Expanding Your Options: Serving from the \$1 Menu!

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Olympia Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Issues in Counseling Rural Counselors Social Emotiona...

Effective school counselors are always looking to expand their menu of strategies for helping every student every day! Counselors use a variety of methods and interventions, and acquiring materials and resources to address every need can become expensive. This session provides counselors with a full menu of economical, impactful, brief strategies that can be used to reach every student in every way! This is a requested follow up to "Dollar-Free Therapy" presented in 2019.

🗣️ Speaker



Tracey Bazemore Midway Middle School

Concept Based Small Groups

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Olympia Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Have you ever tried teaching specific skills in small groups to find your students could not transfer them to their real world setting? Do you want to help your students practice concepts to carry over to their day to day academic demands and friendships? We did too! Using games and experiences in real time, students practice Focusing, Persevering, improving their Self-Concept and becoming Socially Aware. Come hear about the curriculum: Five sessions per concept!

🗣️ Speakers



Carrie Woityra Marietta City Schools



Margaret Burgess-wright Sawyer Road Elementary



Brittney Norment Marietta City Schools

Integrating SEL Strategies and Skills Into Teachers' Content Lesson Plans

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Parthenon 1

Social Emotional Learning

Social-Emotional Learning directly impacts student achievement. As a counselor, we must find innovative avenues to verify the validity and efficacy of our lessons and groups. As educators, we are aware of how literacy exposure can close the student achievement gap. What if SEL and literacy exposure were infused to address these two dire needs into our classroom curriculum. Would you be willing to try this approach if you were provided step-by-step instructions?

🗣️ Speaker



Ashley Price GSCA

Tech Savvy Proven Tricks Used During the Pandemic: What I Learned and How These Lessons Will Change My Counseling Program

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Parthenon 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Information Technology Parent/Community Engagement Di...

Life changed for everyone in the Spring of 2020 and school counselors had to quickly adapt. Many of the tools I used during pandemic counseling will become an integral part of my counseling program moving forward. During this presentation I will cover online scheduler programs, QR codes, bit.ly sites, virtual offices, organizing virtual graduation plans, and more. These tech savvy tips will assist with increasing access to all students.

📣 Speakers



Candice Goldman School Counselor, Pebblebrook High School



Julynn Williams-Chandler School Counselor, Cobb County School District

Rethinking, Redirecting, and Refocusing Career Readiness

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 4

📍 Willow Room

Career Development College
Readiness

It's time to rethink, redirect, and refocus career readiness. The school counselor's role in delivering innovative career readiness programming is critical to each student's learning and life readiness. Learn how to strategically deliver meaningful and engaging career readiness that will support and connect students to high fit careers.

📣 Speaker



Dawn Mann Director Of Client Services, Hatching Results

9:45am

Membership Assembly

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 4

📍 Grand Hall 7

Membership Assembly Agenda

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Call to Order

Dr. Chon Hester, President

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Chon Hester, President

Approval of the 2020

Member Assembly Minutes

Myesha Davis, Secretary

Treasurer's Report and 2021-2022 Budget

Kathryn Sadowski, Treasurer

Nominations and Elections

Jennifer Jones, Immediate Past President

Advocacy and Public Policy

Jennifer Diaz, Advocacy Chair & Melisa Marsh: Advocacy Chair

State of the Association

Dr. Chon Hester, President

11:00am

The Elementary Approach: Teaching DEI, Race & Racism

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena AB

Social Emotional Learning Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Even our youngest students are aware of the social and racial unrest that is present in our country and communities. Join this session to learn about a curriculum developed to enhance the vocabulary of our students (even as young as K/first grade) so that important and essential discussions and lessons can be held surrounding the language of acceptance. We will share the school-wide lessons taught addressing the topics of diversity, equity, inclusion, race, and racism.

🗣️ Speakers



Kristin Moffett Lower School Counselor, The Walker School



Trey Veazey Assistant Head of Lower School, The Walker School

Career Talks: Effective Career Education Support in a Virtual Environment

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena CD

Tools for working smarter, not harder Career Development Parent/Community Engagement

Career Talks is a program collaboration with Counselors, CTE, and Administrators at a metro-Atlanta High School. In this session, you will learn about an effective way to support your school/school district career education efforts and provide your students with exposure to a plethora of careers and the variety of roads to get to various careers in a 100% virtual environment.

🗣️ Speaker



Kimberly Jones District Lead Counselor, City Schools of Decatur

Combining Restorative Practices with Trauma-Informed Classrooms

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena E

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Trauma informed classrooms and restorative practices are both relationship-focused approaches that maximize student motivation and learning, repairs harm, and restores relationships.

Have you ever wondered why people act the way that they do?

Have you ever wanted to build lasting change when problem solving with students or your own children/families?

Have you ever wondered how trauma-informed classrooms and restorative practices work hand in hand to support students?

🗣️ Speakers



Carolina Ribeiro Lower School Counselor, North Cobb Christian School



Beth Parker School Counselor, Smyrna Elementary School, Cobb County School District

College Advising: Advancing Knowledge, Transforming Lives

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena F

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Equity and access play a role in every aspect of a school counselor's job. In college admissions, there are distinct differences in students that come from places of privilege. Whether creating or enhancing a college advising program, attend this session to walk away with tangible tools that can help even the playing field for your students. This session will be helpful for counselors that have a large caseload and/or feel overwhelmed by the college process.

🗣️ Speakers



Christy Conley Professional School Counselor, North Oconee High School



Cindy Murphy School Counselor, Barrow Arts and Science Academy

[Cancelled] Navigating NCAA Initial Eligibility

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena GH

College Readiness

NCAA staffer Barrington Huntley will provide educational information on all things NCAA initial eligibility. This presentation will put high school counselors in a great position to help high school athletes navigate the transition to college sports.

An Educator's Guide to Understanding Privilege and Recognizing Microaggressions

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena IJ

Social Emotional Learning Mental Health Awareness Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

In recent years, there has been a shift in societal norms resulting in racial, ethnic, and gender divides and debates among students. The need for educators to address the concerns and questions of students is essential and must be done with empathy and skill. This presentation will begin a conversation on the concept of privilege and microaggression so that educators can be better equipped to address conversations and conflicts that may arise among students.

🗣️ Speaker



Kim Mitchell School Counseling Program Specialist, Atlanta Public Schools

Virtual Tech Tools 2.0: Who's Ready to Level Up?

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Empire Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

After a year of virtual learning, who's ready to take their tech tool understanding to the next level and start using it more efficiently? Get ready to level up! Join this technology-rich session and learn how to create an app, learn the best google tips, learn which add-ons will save you time, and much more. This session will also teach you how to track the data that you are gathering and advocate for yourself and your program.

🗣️ Speaker



Nichol Shelton Webb School Counselor and Career Readiness Program Specialist, Georgia Department of Education

Future-Proof Events: Career and Life Preparation for Our Communities

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Empire Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Couns...

School counselors play a critical role in students' career development by helping students understand the connection between school and the world of work. Future-proofing is the process of anticipating the future and developing methods of minimizing the effects of shocks and stresses of future events. This session will provide an overview on hosting future-proof events by partnering with local groups to expose students to information and experiences that help them become ready for life, career, and college.

 Speaker



John Nwosu Licensed Professional Counselor, Brave Tomorrow Counseling and Consulting


Funding Creative Programming: Forming Partnerships with Community Organizations to Fuel Creative and Engaging Programs for All Students

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Oconee River Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Parent/Communit...

How could your school counseling program improve if funding was not an issue? In this informative workshop, you will discover how to effectively and ethically form partnerships with local community organizations and businesses to help you fund and deliver creative, impactful, and successful programs for your students and families. You will also receive a toolkit of sample flyers, letters, social media announcements, etc. that will help generate excitement and support for your programs.

 Speakers



Kayse McCanne School Counselor, Impact Academy - Henry County School District



Joan Prisk Impact Academy

Motivational Interviewing With Individual Students

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Olympia Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Academics/Academic Achievement Issues in Counseling S...

This fun and interactive presentation will integrate the core aspects of motivational interviewing with individual school counseling! Conference participants will enjoy working in a group to experience how motivational interviewing works to help students feel empowered to change behavior and support academic success. A packet will be given to all attendees!

 Speaker



Teshia Stovall Dula GSCA/Athens2021

Phototherapy: A Counseling Technique for All Students through the Use of Photos

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Olympia Room 2

Issues in Counseling Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Phototherapy is a unique and creative counseling technique that school counselors can use to enhance

both individual and small group counseling sessions with students in the K-12 setting. In this session, participants will learn about phototherapy, its efficacy in a school setting, and learn specific phototherapy techniques to implement in their school counseling programs. Participants will engage with the presenters and each other through active participation.

Speakers



Dr. Malti Tuttle Assistant Professor, Auburn University



Dr. Brandee Appling Assistant Professor, The University of Georgia

Secure the Bag: Tips and Tricks for Succeeding in Your Interview

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Parthenon 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Graduate Students Career Development

Whether you're a graduate student, a relatively new counselor, or a vested veteran, when it's time to apply for a new counseling position, the application and interview process can be overwhelming. The year 2020 was an unprecedented year, and our older version of normal no longer exists. Attend this informational session and panel discussion to learn tips and tricks on how to exceed in your interview in today's post pandemic environment.

Speakers



Imani Handy Professional School Counselor , DeKalb County Schools



Ashley Holmes Professional School Counselor, Fulton County Schools

Inhale, Exhale- Using Yoga, Breath Work and Mindfulness in Your School Counseling Program

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Parthenon 2

Social Emotional Learning Mental Health Awareness

Downward dog, tree pose, mountain, deep breaths, inhale, exhale... have you ever wondered how you can use basic techniques of yoga, mindfulness, and breath work to teach students tools to self-regulate emotions and anxiety, as well as giving movement and brain breaks throughout the day? Come experience an active hands on session where participants will learn the benefits of incorporating these practices in your school counseling program as well as practicing exercises and techniques!

Speaker



Antiracist Practices in Elementary School Counseling

🕒 11:00am - 12:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Willow Room

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
(DEI)

Because of the role school counselors play in their communities and the current ethical and competency standards, the profession as a whole must understand how to address racism and enact antiracist practices.

The presenters will provide data from their recent study on what antiracist school counseling looks like for elementary school counselors. This presentation will provide information on elementary school counselors' thoughts, interventions, and barriers regarding antiracist practices in their schools.

🗣️ Speakers



Erin Mason Georgia State University



Daniel Dosal-Terminel Georgia State University



Matt Ho GSU



M. Elizabeth McDevitt Masters Student, Georgia State University



Niki High Intern, Mill Creek High School

12:00pm

Lunch on your own

🕒 12:00pm - 1:30pm, Nov 4

1:30pm

Lead the Support for LGBTQ Students: From Good Intentions to Action

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena AB

Issues in Counseling Mental Health Awareness Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
(DEI)

In supporting LGBTQ students, counselors often have good intentions, but struggle to be meaningful. We are frequently unsure of what to do when situations arise or when we are consulted. How can we be confident and intentional? Participants will examine an LGBTQ Student Action Decision Making Model. They will then review a professional development created for middle school teachers to support a transgender student. Participants will then look a real-life scenarios and apply the model.

 Speaker



Ken Jackson Decatur High School


Engaging Teachers in Courageous Conversations Around Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena E

Principal/Counselor Relationship Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

The foundation for student success is genuine connection: sending and receiving messages of being welcome, seen, included, and valued. In order to build meaningful relationships with students, educators must engage in courageous conversations around topics of equity, bias, privilege, and oppression. In this session, we will share the topics and activities used to start these courageous conversations and build self-awareness with your staff.

 Speakers



Taylor Warren Elementary School Counselor, GCPS



Jessica Pickard School Counselor, McKendree Elementary

CANCELED - Addressing Racial Trauma Among K-12 Students: Strategies for School Counselors

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena GH

Academics/Academic Achievement Issues in Counseling Career Development Social Emotional Lea...

Racial trauma is a negative product of racism that can impede the academic, social/emotional, and career development of students, specifically Black students. This presentation will focus on helping school counselors identify and understand symptoms of racial trauma and their impacts on students within the K-12 setting. Strategies and interventions for addressing racial trauma from within school counseling programs will be addressed.


SEE Learning: SEL for Every Student, Every Day!

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena IJ

Social Emotional Learning

SEE (Social, Emotional and Ethical) Learning is an evidence-based, trauma-informed, FREE curriculum to teach SEL K-12. Come learn how our school district implemented this curriculum in a virtual world, and how we are expanding it as we move back into classrooms. School counselors play a critical role in the school wide implementation of SEL, and we'll share lessons learned, and provide a road map to effective implementation.

 Speakers



Dianne Acuña Andree Student Success Director, City Schools of Decatur



Benjamin Knaebel Coordinator of 504 and School Psychology, City Schools of Decatur

VERZUZ: Integrating Pop-Culture and the Arts into Counseling Instruction

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Empire Room 1

Social Emotional Learning Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

"Verzuz" brought us together during quarantine, one musical pairing at a time. In this session, attendees will learn how we can spark change by infusing music and pop-culture into counseling instruction. Come hear how you can use the Verzuz concept to discuss social justice, conflict resolution, empathy, growth mindset and more with students.

🗣️ Speaker



Beth Ruff Powder Springs Elementary School

5th Annual: Fresh Ideas for Elementary and Middle School Counselors That Keep Students (And Counselors) Excited!

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Empire Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

"5th Annual: Fresh Ideas for Elementary and Middle School Counselors that Keep Students and Counselors Excited!" This session is presented by four experienced elementary and middle school counselors excited to share their latest and greatest FUN tools and techniques guaranteed to work with students!

🗣️ Speakers



Merrill Baxley School Counselor, Gwinnett County Public Schools



Ginny Wages Professional School Counselor, Gwinnett County Public Schools, Arcado Elementary



Jennifer Diaz Gwinnett County Schools



Michele Brown Counselor, Gwinnett County Pubic Schools Knight Elementary

This is Us: Counselors and Administrators Partnering for Student Success

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Oconee River Room 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Academic Achievement Social Emotional Learn...

Building a relationship with your assistant principals can be a difficult task. However, it is possible and can be done harmoniously to ensure success for students. Counselors and administrators will discuss how they set a unified goal and worked together collaboratively to make sure students' needs were met academically and socially-emotionally during the most difficult year in education. After this session, you will leave with new ideas you can implement at your school.

🗣️ Speakers



Erin Bundrige Woodland Middle School (Henry)



Jeff Miller Counselor, Woodland Middle School (Henry)



Michelle Wilkerson Woodland Middle School (Henry)

Option B: Georgia's Best Kept Secret

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Olympia Room 1

Rural Counselors Career Development College Readiness

Each year more districts are taking advantage of Dual Enrollment "Option B" (based on 2015's "Senate Bill 2") that allows a student to graduate by earning postsecondary credentials leading to a career in a high-demand field. This opportunity can be transformative. Come learn how counselors in current "Option B" districts are recruiting and counseling students and their parents to consider "Option B."

🗣️ Speakers



Pam Smith Wiregrass Regional College and Career Academy



Irene Munn Charter System Foundation



Dan Weber Executive Director, CHARTER SYSTEM FOUNDATION INC



Morris Leis Superintendent, Coffee County School System



Annette Nation School Counselor, Wiregrass Regional College and Career Academy



Mark Whitlock Coweta County BOE

USG 101: Introduction to the University System of Georgia for High School Counselors

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Olympia Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder College Readiness Parent/Community Engagement

With 26 colleges and universities across the state, the University System of Georgia (USG) provides students a wide range of options for earning college credit through dual enrollment and for continuing their education after high school. One of the many ways school counselors serve students is by helping them understand and navigate their postsecondary options. Join this session to learn more about the USG and the resources available to help students make informed postsecondary choices.

🗣️ Speaker



Sarah Wenham Director, Student Enrollment Services, University System of Georgia

Selective Mutism: Strategies for School Counselors and Stakeholders

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Parthenon 2

Social Emotional Learning Mental Health Awareness

Children with Selective Mutism (SM) can have particular difficulty at school. Traditional education models require students to speak and interact with others. When children with SM begin school, they may experience higher anxiety levels due to the requirements to socialize and communicate with peers, teachers, and school staff. Therefore, SM can negatively impact student personal/social progress and academic success. This presentation will provide strategies for counselors and educators working with students who have SM.

🗣️ Speakers



Melissa Mecadon-Mann Graduate Research And Teaching Assistant, Auburn University



Nadiya Rosen Doctoral Student , Florida Atlantic University

8th Grade Transition Program

🕒 1:30pm - 2:30pm, Nov 4

📍 Willow Room

Academics/Academic Achievement College Readiness

Annually middle school counselors are given the task of transitioning our 8th grade students into the high school mindset. Due to the increase of college and career opportunities students are being given in our schools, it is more important now than ever for our students to be prepared for high school. The goal of this session will be to show a streamlined process that involved the entire school community.

🗣️ Speaker



Brandon Bogues School Counselor, Griffin Spalding County Schools

2:30pm

Spotlight on Exhibits / Networking Break

🕒 2:30pm - 3:45pm, Nov 4

📍 Grand Hall 1 - 6

Meet and Greet the Candidates

🕒 2:30pm - 3:45pm, Nov 4

📍 Grand Hall 1 - 5

RAMP CAMP

🕒 2:30pm - 3:45pm, Nov 4

📍 Atrium

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Counseling

Are you working on your Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) application or thinking about applying but not quite sure how to start? Join us for RAMP CAMP and get valuable help with your application. Bring your RAMP questions and applications. Experienced RAMP Reviewers will guide you through the application requirements, the RAMP process, and review the new 4th edition changes to the application. Visit all Section tables or just one, we are here to answer your RAMP questions. You will gather tips from experts about how to approach the process, how to collect data and how to submit your school counseling program through the online portal. Get ready to RAMP!

🗣️ Speaker



Barbara Truluck School Counselor, Palmer Middle School

3:45pm

Region Meetings 1-7

🕒 3:45pm - 4:45pm, Nov 4

📍 Click See More for Room assignments

Region 1 & 2 - Athena F

Region 3 - Athena E

Region 4 & 5 - Athena AB

Region 6 - Athena CD

Region 7 - Athena Gh

5:30pm

Leadership Team / PPAC Dinner (invitation only)

🕒 5:30pm - 7:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena IJ

7:00pm

Past Presidents' Meeting

🕒 7:00pm - 8:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Athena GH

9:00pm

PROBE Party

🕒 9:00pm - 11:00pm, Nov 4

📍 Atrium

Fri, Nov 05, 2021

7:00am

Yoga

🕒 7:00am - 7:30am, Nov 5

📍 Atrium

Yoga is great for improving relation and uniting the spirit, mind and body. This session will include practicing poses, instruction on breathing and attention to alignment while stretching. Please bring a bath towel from your hotel room or a yoga mat (yoga mats will not be provided).

8:30am

Information Desk Open

🕒 8:30am - 11:00am, Nov 5

📍 Atrium

Youth ChalleNGe-A Life Saving Impact

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Athena AB

Tools for working smarter, not harder Issues in Counseling Rural Counselors Social Emotiona...

This presentation will provide school counselors details of their opportunity to assist "at risk youth," ages 16-18 in their schools/districts, who are in need of a structured residential program that will develop the intellect and elevate the character of these young people. The GaYCP is one of the best alternatives to Inspire young people everyday to become productive citizens.

Speaker



David Bill Director of Recruiting & Outreach, Georgia Youth ChalleNGe Program

Titan Table Talks: How Racism and Bias Affects Teaching and Learning

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Athena CD

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Titan Table Talks is a four-part staff development designed to cultivate a culturally responsive educator. The purpose is to improve relationships between adults and students by building a culture of respect and inclusion among those with different identities, to make students feel like they belong and feel seen, and to understand how implicit bias/racism impacts our students so that race is not a barrier to teaching/learning.

🗣️ **Speakers**



Michelle Gossard School Counselor, Gwinnett County Public Schools



Rosemary Dixon School Counselor, Richards Middle School, Gwinnett County



Tina Young Counselor, Richards Middle School, Gwinnett County Public Schools



LaTasha Cook GCPS - Richards Middle School

Navigating Ethical and Legal Practices in Mandated Reporting: Implications for School Counselors and School Personnel

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Athena E

Issues in Counseling Mental Health Awareness

Professional school counselors are in the position to act as the first line of defense in identifying, reporting, and preventing child abuse and neglect. This presentation will begin by exploring the challenges school counselors face when completing a mandated report. Next, ethical and legal mandates will be discussed. Lastly, a mandated reporting model and advocacy strategies to use in schools will be explored. Participants will be given a copy of the model and resource links.

🗣️ **Speakers**



Lacey Ricks Assistant Professor Liberty University, Liberty University



Dr. Malti Tuttle Assistant Professor, Auburn University

School Counselor's Role in Career Readiness

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Athena F

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Four-year degrees have been OVER advised. In order to reduce the focus on colleges alone, counselors need to be aware of the 225,000 unfilled positions there are in Georgia. Consequently, educators must have career conversations with their students, and this starts in elementary. Join this session and learn how to integrate career planning, B.R.I.D.G.E law, innovative career lessons, and more.

Speaker



Nichol Shelton Webb School Counselor and Career Readiness Program Specialist, Georgia Department of Education

Five Star Support: Taking Your Service To The Next Level

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Athena GH

Parent/Community Engagement

What's the brand you present to your stakeholders? How would they rate your service? Would you like to take your customer service to the next level? Then this presentation is for you! Learn how to provide five star support in this interactive, informative session.

Speaker



Genise Jackson School Counselor, Fayette County Board of Education

SEL: Engaging Students and Implementing Life Skills

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Athena IJ

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Social Emotiona...

Join us for an array of SEL tools and more! Learn how elementary counselors turned a daily special into an SEL goldmine. Lessons, games, and more. Experience the fun and leave with lesson plans and ideas to implement right away.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1d6NtAi3ZTzWgfheFWPOLkxQ9-awLjDekFWzD3q110RQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Speakers



Lauren S. Butler Professional School Counselor, Gwinnett County School District



Laura Spencer Professional School Counselor, Gwinnett County Public Schools

Riding the Rapids: Supporting Students and Families in Navigating Stress

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Empire Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder College Readiness Social Emotional Learning Mental He...

Stress! The pandemic, racial injustice, and their continued effects reveal previously hidden stress, add new stressors—and sometimes limit many protective factors. We need to do something meaningful. This is a large group, four session approach delivered to students this past year—and then redelivered to families. The purpose was to understand stress—and give practical, research-based strategies that could be used immediately. Participants will gain the tools to deliver this in their school settings.

🗣️ **Speaker**



Ken Jackson Decatur High School

Brain Boss: Becoming Your Own C.E.O.

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Empire Room 2

Tools for working smarter, not harder Academics/Academic Achievement Career Development Soc...

Essential executive functioning skills assist individuals in decision making, managing emotions, and effective time and task management. This session provides an overview of executive functioning and outlines five core skills needed for optimal executive functioning. This session introduces numerous strategies aligned with ASCA's Mindsets and Behaviors to teach and support executive functioning through a comprehensive school counseling program.

🗣️ **Speakers**



Christy Land Assistant Professor



Julia Chibbaro Associate Professor, University of West Georgia



Lauren Moss Kutztown University of PA

"Where's the Beef?": How Using Pet Therapy Can Support Trauma Informed Practices and Nurture Achievement, Growth, and Healing

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Oconee River Room 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Academic Achievement Social Emotional Learn...

Pet therapy and pet-assisted activities are valuable resources when supporting individuals with mental health, addiction, and trauma concerns. Using an evidence-based, trauma informed lens, Dr. Bell will discuss how pet therapy and pet-assisted activities, when utilizing a therapy dog like Mr. Beef, have the powerful potential to address the negative impact of trauma, promote achievement, recovery, and resilience, and facilitate emotional regulation and connection for clients working partnering service providers within an array of platforms.

 Speaker



Katie Bell Counselor, Westside Atlanta Charter School


The Impact of Inclusive Post Secondary Education Programs- How do we get there?

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Olympia Room 1

Issues in Counseling Career Development Mental Health Awareness

This presentation will discuss the impact that Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Programs make in the lives of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities transitioning from high school to adulthood. Additionally, we will look at admission criteria, diversity, academics, social engagement and career activities associated with these programs.

 Speakers



Neil Duchac Executive Director, Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw State University



Celia Scragg Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth


Building Bridges: Using Children's Literature to Develop Social-Emotional Skills in Elementary Schools

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Olympia Room 2

Academics/Academic Achievement Social Emotional Learning Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

When a School Counselor and Media Specialist join forces everybody wins! Join us in supporting young readers as they develop social-emotional skills through literature. This session addresses common struggles and how to build a community of readers equipped with the social skills needed for success. Participants will leave sessions with activities.

 Speakers



Annette Nietzsche School Counselor, Cedar Ridge Elementary School



Tommye Mathis Media Specialist, Whitfield County

Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today: A Student Leadership Program to Encourage Social

Responsibility and Improve School Climate

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Parthenon 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program

This interactive session will explore how we can use diverse historical leaders to inspire students to be change agents within their schools. Learn how one elementary counseling program provides students with opportunities to develop problem-solving, collaboration, and leadership skills while addressing school concerns. Attendees will learn how to develop a data-driven student leadership program that focuses on students' voice, social responsibility, and advocacy to reduce office discipline referrals and improve school climate.

🗣️ Speakers



Beth Ruff Powder Springs Elementary School



LaShawn Thomas Counselor

Data Into Delivery. Relationships Into Results. Support Into Success.

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Parthenon 2

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Academic Achievement Social Emotional Learning

Transforming cold, heartless data into meaningful interventions is one of the most critical challenges for professional school counselors. "Teamwork Tuesday" is a counselor-led initiative that works to increase schoolwide academic performance through targeted student-centered mentoring sessions emphasizing student strengths and relationship building. This presentation will explore the development of a middle school program that uses achievement data and counseling concepts to increase student achievement and address school improvement goals.

🗣️ Speaker



Ryan Dixon Pine Grove Middle School

Calming Every Student, Every Day, in Every Way...and Easing My Own Anxiety

🕒 8:30am - 9:30am, Nov 5

📍 Occonee River 2 Room

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Counseling Social Emotional Learning

As if anxiety wasn't already heightened among the students we serve, stressors can feel even more so now in our pandemic world. Come learn proven ways to teach your students to accept themselves, build their own inner strength, and thrive in our society today. You will leave this session with easy to use calming techniques, ideas for how to motivate your students (and yourself), and an overall feeling of relaxation.

🗣️ Speakers



Rebecca Burkhart School Counselor, Charles Ellis Montessori Academy



Katrina Wilson School Counselor, Pine Street Elementary School

Exhibit Hall Open

🕒 8:30am - 10:30am, Nov 5

📍 Grand Hall 1 - 6

9:45am

The 500 Queens: Educate, Expose, Equip, and Empower. Helping Young Ladies to Develop the Queen Within

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Athena AB

Career Development College Readiness Social Emotional Learning

The 500 Queens organization seeks to establish a group of young women that aspire to become the most powerful piece on the chessboard of life, by empowering young ladies in the area of education, economics, self-worth and, womanhood. This is achieved through the Royalty S.T.E.P.S Program (Strive To Empower Progress in Sisterhood) a curriculum based on eight areas of concentration including, communication, college and career, and life skills.

🗣️ Speakers



Rakia Marcus Barrow Arts and Science Academy



Nivia Williams School Counselor, spotsylvania county public schools

Opening the Doors to Higher Education: A School-Wide Approach for Apply to College Week

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Athena E

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Students will participate in a week of events that engage them in higher education opportunities. Presenters will discuss activities implemented in the previous year's Apply to College Week and considerations for the current year's implementation. Activities will address college options, HOPE programs, student perspectives on making the most of high school, student experiences on what it's like to be a college student and navigate financial aid, and will feature college application and instant decision opportunities.

🗣️ Speakers



Angelia Bruce School Counselor, Winder-Barrow High School



Cory Peppers Winder-Barrow High School



Akua Nelson Winder-Barrow High School



Granada Watson Winder-Barrow High School

Don't Wait Until Senior Year! Preparing Students from Immigrant Families for Postsecondary Success

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Athena F

Academics/Academic Achievement Career Development College Readiness Diversity, Equity and I...

Early planning for postsecondary success is important for all students, but is critically important for students from immigrant families of all documentation statuses. This session will introduce early intervention strategies for students in 6th-11th grades from practicing school counselors. Recent high school graduates will share firsthand experiences navigating academic planning and college and career readiness along with suggestions for school counselors who work with students from immigrant families.

🗣️ Speakers



Mónica Quiñones School Counselor, Barrow County School System-Apalachee High School



Christina Justice Social Circle High School



Christina Cotsakis Cordón School Counselor, Clarke County School District

Celebrating Virtually Anywhere: Incorporating Hybrid Strategies for Student Acknowledgment and Family Engagement Activities

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Athena GH

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

As professional counselors, we understand the importance of positive interactions with our family, friends, and community in stimulating academic, social, and emotional growth. This presentation will discuss the usefulness of continuing hybrid programming in light of our "new normal," as they proved to provide an enhanced level of inclusivity and accessibility for our students, families, and staff. Participants will learn and share hybrid programming ideas that promote student achievement and enhance school culture.

📣 Speakers



Dia Harden DeKalb County Schools



Charles Barnes DeKalb County School District

Wraparound Services: Serving Every Student, Every Day, In Every Way

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Athena IJ

Social Emotional Learning Mental Health Awareness

The Decatur Student Center (DSC), a PreK-12 initiative, works as an extension of the school counseling program to provide wrap around services for every student, every day, in every way. Using student voice and stakeholder input, the DSC provides programming and supports to meet student needs. We will share our journey, lessons learned, and innovative ways to embed mental health services into the school day.

📣 Speaker



Dianne Acuña Andree Student Success Director, City Schools of Decatur

Pre-Firefighters: Preventing Social-Emotional Flare Ups In Schools

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Empire Room 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Counseling Career Development Social Emot...

Interactions between adults and students often escalate due to stressors, strained relationships, and limited de-escalation skills. Such interactions lead to social and emotional fires that school counselors are often called to put out. Preventing fires helps students become school, career, and life ready. In this session, participants will learn tips on advocating for their role, an introduction to stress and trauma, de-escalation skills, and prevention initiatives for improving school behaviors and climate.

📣 Speakers



John Nwosu Licensed Professional Counselor, Brave Tomorrow Counseling and Consulting



Channelle Joseph-Nwosu Atlanta Public Schools

All Aboard the School Culture and Climate Train

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Empire Room 2

Parent/Community Engagement Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Are you interested in being a change agent within your school building? Are you interested in working to meet the needs of your population? If so, then climb aboard for a journey to explore the goals and objectives of a professional learning community geared towards developing a structured system to support students and families.

🗣️ Speakers



Premlata Miller New Hope Elementary (Henry)



Sarah Hinton School Counselor, New Hope Elementary

Serving Every Student by Sharpening our Skills: Techniques for School Counselor Supervision

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Oconee River Room 1

Tools for working smarter, not harder Issues in Counseling Graduate Students

Supervision often ends for school counselors at graduation. Join this session to learn about supervision techniques you can use with counselors in training working with you as interns or with peer school counselors working with you as colleagues. Considerations and techniques for supervision that work in each scenario will be explored. Research shows that participating in peer supervision helps reduce stress and burnout for school counselors and contributes to their counseling skills and theoretical knowledge.

[Grimes GSCA_Fall_Conference_2021 Supervision Techniques.pptx](#)

🗣️ Speaker



Lee Grimes Associate Professor, Valdosta State University

No Place For Hate

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Olympia Room 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Issues in Counseling Social Emotional Learning Ment...

During this workshop, participants will learn how to engage their schools in a powerful initiative to address bias and bullying in K-12 Schools. No Place For Hate© (offered FREE to schools from the Anti-Defamation League) provides an organizing framework for combating bias, bullying and acts of hatred, leading to long-term solutions which create and maintain a positive school culture. Implementation tips will be presented as well as supporting school climate data from the program.

🗣️ Speakers



Jennifer Diaz Gwinnett County Schools



Nathan Blankenship Education Coordinator, ADL (Anti-Defamation League)

Post-Secondary Programming for Special Populations

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Olympia Room 2

Career Development College Readiness Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

This session will explore the importance and value of identifying and providing students within special populations with individualized support, resources and equitable access to post-secondary options. Join this session for a bird's eye view of the selection process and post-secondary programming for High Achievers, First-Generation, and Students with Disabilities using Clearinghouse, and other data.

🗣️ Speakers



Joanna Key Career Academy Specialist , Gwinnett County Public Schools



LaKeisha Hull Career Academy Specialist, Meadowcreek High School

Inspiring Systemic Change: Fusing Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum with Annual Student Outcome Goals

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Parthenon 1

Comprehensive School Counseling Program Social Emotional Learning

With the increased emphasis on Social Emotional Learning (SEL), school counselors are met with the challenges of how to effectively implement SEL program interventions that inspire systemic change. How can school counselors ensure that SEL efforts produce measurable and effective outcomes? In this session, the presenter will showcase the planning, process, and successful outcomes that one school counseling program experienced as a result of intentional SEL alignment with the ASCA National Model.

🗣️ Speaker



Lindsay Harman, PhD, LPCA, NCC Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Denver

The Challenger vs. The Collaborator: Strengthening the Principal/School Counselor Relationship

🕒 9:45am - 10:45am, Nov 5

📍 Willow Room

Tools for working smarter, not harder Comprehensive School Counseling Program Academics/Acade...

Have you ever had a difficult time advocating for a comprehensive school counseling program? Learn how

you can advocate as a collaborator versus a challenger in order to provide a comprehensive services for your students. School counselors will be able to walk away with various examples and steps to help strengthen their principal and school counselor relationship.

Speakers



Fabion Vicks Counselor, Dutchtown Middle School (Henry County Schools)/SCUTA



Diana Virgil School Counselor, SCUTA & Daleville High School

11:00am

Awards Luncheon and Closing Session with Tara Brown - "Embracing the Power of Your Leadership Footprint"

🕒 11:00am - 1:30pm, Nov 5

📍 Grand Hall 7

Welcoming Remarks

Dr. Chon Hester, President

Region Roll Call

Francene Breakfield, 2021 Conference Team

Introduction of Speaker

Jessica Scott, 2021 Conference Team

Keynote Speaker

Tara Brown

It has been said that 'we never touch another so lightly that we do not leave a trace'. In this humorous inspirational keynote, Tara emphasizes that we are all leaders in some capacity, regardless of title or position, and that kids are constantly seeking leaders who they can follow. Through powerful stories of her time spent both teaching and coaching diverse populations, Tara emphasizes the importance of embracing intentional actions that will inspire and motivate. Characteristics of great leaders will be discussed and attendees will take away tremendous encouragement with which to embrace the power of their leadership footprint on a daily basis.

Awards Presentation

Jessica Thompson and Jarvis Wilcher

Professional Recognition Co- Chairs

Invitation to 2022 Annual Conference

Laura Ross, President-Elect

Prizes

2021 Conference Team

Closing Remarks

Dr. Chon Hester, President

 **Speaker**



Tara Brown Keynote Speaker