

## **2025 Speed Innovating Descriptions**

### **Parent Communication (EC/LS)**

Building and maintaining strong relationships with parents in the independent school setting is imperative. This session, designed for early childhood and lower school educators, will provide strategies for effectively leading difficult conversations with parents.

*Ashley Read*

### **Parent Communication (MS)**

Building and maintaining strong relationships with parents in the independent school setting is imperative. This session, designed for middle school educators, will provide strategies for effectively leading difficult conversations with parents.

*Perrin Jones*

### **Parent Communication (US)**

Communicating with students is an educator's superpower, but responding to and sharing information with parents can sometimes put us on the defensive. This session will offer strategies to ease that discomfort, so a partnership with parents can be built that cohesively supports the student toward success and independence.

*Amy Clark*

### **Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (EC/LS)**

This quick presentation introduces Culturally Relevant Pedagogy (CRP), an instructional approach that leverages students' cultural backgrounds as assets in the learning process. It focuses on building strong relationships, adapting teaching methods to reflect diverse ways of knowing, and creating an inclusive, equitable classroom environment.

*Shannon Nadalini*

### **Narrative Progress Notes: Tips and Tricks for Capturing "Kodak" Moments (EC/LS)**

Join this conversation designed for early childhood and lower school educators seeking effective strategies to document and communicate each child's school experience and progress with clarity and intention.

*Elizabeth Pham*

### **Building a Feedback Culture in Your Classroom (MS/US)**

Giving and receiving effective and meaningful feedback is a powerful agent for student engagement as well as professional growth. In this quick session, we'll explore some actionable ways for you to leverage feedback strategies to enrich teaching and learning in your classrooms.

*Sara Zedlitz*

### **Social Justice Work in Education (EC/LS/MS/US)**

Developing the dispositions of service, civic mindedness, curiosity, open-mindedness, empathy and care for common home and vulnerable communities can be a rich part of our

educational environments. Join in a conversation to think about how as educators we can work towards these ideals at all levels.

*Maria McKenna*

### **Youth Participatory Action Research (MS/US)**

YPAR is an inquiry-based approach to student learning that asks kids of all ages to identify issues that are important to them and utilize multiple artistic modalities to reframe the traditional steps of research. Often rooted in community, this session will give you tools to reconsider what's possible when working with students as they think through real-world problems and work toward practical solutions.

*Kevin Burke*

### **Using Cognitive Science in Lessons (EC/LS)**

In this session, we will explore cognitive science principles and how they make learning and recall more effective and lasting. We will look at practical ideas that help students stay engaged. You will leave with simple, research-based techniques you can use to enrich teaching and learning in your classroom.

*Tim Reilly*

### **Everyone is Using AI. So what? (MS/US)**

AI is no longer a novelty. It is increasingly embedded in nearly every tool our students touch. This session challenges teachers to recognize the pervasiveness of AI and reimagine teaching in a world where students of all ages are already using it.

*Fred Kountz*

### **Building an Inclusive Classroom (MS/US)**

This session will offer teachers a chance to learn strategies to foster and maintain an inclusive classroom environment, including classroom design, instructional strategies, and more!

*Tia Madkins*