

**The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies  
Conference**



**October 19—October 21, 2017**

**Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg East**

**4751 Lindle Road**

**Harrisburg, PA 17111**

**Session Draft/Friday, October 20, 2017**

**Time Slot #1 8:00 – 8:50**

**Ethiopia: Uniquely Historical & Unexpected Contrasts**

Susquehanna

**Interest Level:** All

***Presenter:*** Dr. Darla L. Gerlach, Gifted & Talented Education and Educational Consultant for Project-Based Learning, Shaler Area School District

Come and enjoy the only country in the world with the oldest archeological findings. Through a Fulbright-Hays Curriculum project, educators have gathered first-hand information from Ethiopians to develop rich & diverse lesson plans in history, food, agriculture, religion, gender equality and many more for your classroom.

## ***The Political Classroom: Evidence and Ethics in Democratic Education***

***West Derry***

**Interest Level: All**

**Paula McAvoy, Ph.D.**, Program Director of the Center for Ethics and Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In their book, ***The Political Classroom: Evidence and Ethics in Democratic Education***, Diana E. Hess and Paula McAvoy argue that schools are, and ought to be, political sites--places that engage students in deliberations about questions that ask, "How should we live together?"

In the book Hess and McAvoy thoroughly explore:

- what good practice looks like in the political classroom,
- findings about what students experience and learn in these classes,
- why this work is particularly challenging (and exciting) in today's political climate, and
- the ethical dilemmas that arise when teachers engage students in deliberations about political issues.

Co-author Paula McAvoy joins PCSS today and discusses these issues.

## **Making the Leap from Traditional Textbooks to Open Educational Resources (OER)**

Harrisburg

Interest Level: Secondary

**Presenters:** *Christine Gumpert, Garnet Valley High School; David Pimentel, Garnet Valley High School; Anthony Gabriele, Garnet Valley High School*

This session will highlight the process of a group of high school teachers who boldly decided to cut the cord with traditional textbooks and pursue the Department of Education's #GoOpen framework. The journey included curriculum updates using UbD 2.0, the development of guiding acquisitions skills, and ultimately the process of collecting, curating, and creating

resources to replace textbooks and ancillary materials. The session discussion will include tips for getting started and organizing the volume of work. The presenters will also address challenges and hurdles they experienced.

### **Draw the Lines: A program teaching "Do It Yourself Democracy"**

East Derry

Interest Level: Secondary and College

Presenters: David Thornburgh and Justin Villere, Committee of Seventy

Draw the Lines (DTL) is a digital mapping competition launching next spring in Pennsylvania that offers students grades 6-12 the opportunity to use their skills as “digital natives” to improve the state's political system for years to come. Capitalizing on the growing interest in redistricting, or how we draw our legislative boundaries, DTL puts DistrictBuilder, free user-friendly mapping software, into students hands to map their own Congressional and legislative districts with cash prizes going to winners at the end of every semester. DTL is a project of the Committee of Seventy, a nonpartisan nonprofit advocate for better government in PA. The DTL team is developing curricular assets to support the use of the competition in classrooms across the Commonwealth. Draw the Lines is an ideal project based learning experience that engages students in learning about their government, their state, as they tackle the issue of gerrymandering, what some call a “bug in the operating system of democracy.”

### **Using Positive Psychology in the Classroom**

Hanover

Interest Level: Secondary and College

**Presenter:** *Lisa Draper, Ph.D., Liberty High School – Bethlehem Area SD*

According to current research in Psychology, more students are being identified with anxiety disorders. Daily behaviors involving a 24/7 lifestyle of being connected could have adverse

affects on our students and teachers. Positive Psychology offers methods for improving everyone's sense of well-being. Using Bridget Grenville-Cleave's Guide, this hour will focus on overcoming unhappiness, building better relationships, developing resilience, and focusing on strengths. This interactive workshop explains what Positive Psychology is and how all teachers could implement it into their classrooms for the benefit of their students and themselves.

Middle Paxton—No Session

### **Keystone**

**2<sup>nd</sup> hour of invitation only Mock Trial meeting that starts at 7 am for the PBA/YLD MTP**

#### **What is the Future of Social Studies Education in PA**

Governor

Interest Level: All

***Presenter:** Dr. Mark Previte, University of Pittsburgh Johnstown*

Houser (1995) and Lintner (2008) have concluded that elementary social studies has been on the "back burner" for a long time. Are middle level and secondary social studies facing the same fate? Attendees will participate in an issues forum whose objective is to identify and discuss the significant issues facing social studies educators in the state of Pennsylvania leading to the creation of an action plan that will impact our classrooms and communities.

**Time Slot #2 9:00 – 9:50**

**Teaching the Arab-Israeli Conflict and Peace Process**

Susquehanna

Interested Level: Secondary

***Presenter:*** Steve Goldberg, Institute for Curriculum Services

Explore the history and background of the Arab-Israeli conflict and peace process through primary source documents and teaching strategies that support critical analysis of texts. Through presentation, discussion and work in small groups, participants will develop content knowledge, experience student activities, and receive a packet and links to digital resources with detailed lesson plans including primary source documents, maps, and all necessary student materials. The material is grounded in rigorous, standards-based instruction (both state and national). High school World History and Global Politics teachers, and their colleagues who seek to enrich their general content knowledge, will greatly benefit from this workshop.

### **Teaching Free Speech: What Students and Educators Need to Know Now**

West Derry

Interested Level: Secondary

***Presenter:*** , Gordon Danning, Foundation for Individual Rights in Education

Rarely in our lifetimes has there been more controversy and confusion over our First Amendment rights. Terms like "Hate Speech," "Safe Spaces," "Trigger Warnings," and Speech "Zones" are part of the new academic lexicon, which raises difficult questions about how to approach the topic of free speech with today's students. In this interactive session, Gordon Danning of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education will equip teachers with updated curricular tools to enable them to provide accurate, enriched instruction on current and historical free speech issues while preparing students for the First Amendment challenges they may face in college and in society.

## **Tactics and Techniques for a Differentiated Classroom**

Harrisburg

Interested Level: Secondary

**Presenter:** *Jim Shoemaker, Wissahickon High School*

Now, more than ever, students must be encouraged and supported to become independent, critical thinkers. Instruction designed through use of targeted assessment helps support student needs and leads to intellectual growth. We will examine DI strategies for building competency in the Social Studies classroom. Participants will explore strategies for improving reading and writing skills, as well as developing historical thinking skills. Participants will also gain practical lesson ideas and resources. The session places particular emphasis on building students' capacity for responding to DBQ's in the AP classroom; however, participants can incorporate the strategies into various academic levels.

## **Telling the Story of America's Silent Heroes**

East Derry

Interest Level: Middle and Secondary

**Presenter:** *Kevin Wagner, Carlisle Area School District*

How can individual stories engage students and improve their historical thinking and research skills?

Over 405,000 American men and women gave their lives during WWII. We know the stories of too few. Engage students to study the life of a Silent Hero. In this session, teachers will learn how to access and analyze the following types of historical sources: Using various Archival Databases (AAD) from the National Archives and Records Administration; Manuscript Census Data; Historical newspapers; and Individual Deceased Personnel Files.

The presenter firmly believes that teachers learn like their students – by doing. The presenter will model the research and discovery process with the participants and share resources that can be used to implement this process in their classrooms.

## **Global Perspective Approach to Multicultural Education in High School History Curricula**

Hanover

Interested Level: Secondary

**Presenters:** *Gillian Engelbrecht, Elizabethtown College, Dr. Rachel Finley-Bowman, Elizabethtown College*

Our world today is becoming more interconnected, leading to a growing need to understand other people, cultures, and viewpoints. Multicultural education provides that space while also giving students who do not identify with the mainstream culture a place to express themselves and find meaning in history. As America faces a demographic shift, this work will become increasingly necessary to make sure that social studies is relatable and relevant for all students so that everyone can work towards becoming a, more informed citizen. This session will explore how existing high school history curricula map to a global perspective to multicultural education.

## **Deliberation in the Classroom: Teaching Students to Communicate and Learn in a Polarizing World**

Middle Paxton

Interested Level: Middle and Secondary

**Presenter:** *Stacie Molnar-Main, EdD, School Climate Consultant, Pennsylvania Department of Education*

Deliberation is a high-leverage strategy for teaching academic content and skills in which students explore multiple perspectives in a manner that fosters effective communication, critical thinking and community building for a positive classroom climate. Participants will



experience a practical approach to learning about controversial issues and historic decisions suitable for upper elementary through high school classrooms. After experiencing deliberation, participants will learn strategies for reframing their curriculum to support deliberative learning.

### **Attorney Course CLE– Keystone**

one hour substantive CLE

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Mock Trial

Presenters: Jonathan Koltash

Mock Trial Presentation

Trial advocacy and more for the attorney and the lawyer to be as experts from the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division Statewide High School Mock Trial present on the mock trial effort.

One of the largest in the nation, the PBA/YLD Mock Trial Competition gives more than 300 high school student teams from across the state the opportunity to act as lawyers and witnesses in simulated civil and criminal trials before actual judges and panels of juries. Lawyers volunteer to assist students as team advisors, scorekeepers and regional coordinators. Each year, the winning team goes on to represent Pennsylvania in the national competition.

### **Using Technology to Engage Students in Primary Source Analysis**

Governor

Interested Level: All Levels

**Presenter:** *Marc Brasof, Assistant Professor of Education, Director of Secondary Social Studies and English Education Arcadia*

Technology can be a highly effective way to engage students in primary source analysis. This session will present how to use National Archives and Records Administration's DocsTeach.org to engage young people in the study of primary sources. Presenters will discuss different approaches to primary sources analysis and illustrate with hands-on examples developed for K-12 classrooms. This session will also include a discussion of scholarship that is helping to direct the development of the use of primary sources in social studies education.

**Time Slot #3 10:00 – 10:50**

*The Choices Program*

Susquehanna

Interest Level: All Levels

**Presenter:** *Mimi Stephens, The Choices Program – Brown University*

Is Syria experiencing genocide? If so, what should the U.S. response be to Syria? Let your students decide! This is a hands on session in which participants will engage in a simulation, Debating the U.S. Response to Syria, which builds students' civic engagement habits while also sharpening speaking, listening and rhetoric analysis skills. Learn about additional free resources, including lessons and videos, provided by the Choices Program that address issues of Human Rights abuses and genocide prevention. All materials are appropriate for addressing Act 70 requirements. Come ready to participate!

**Student-Developed Questions & Inquiries in the Social Studies**

West Derry

Interest Level: Middle and Secondary

***Presenter:*** Joseph Anthes, Broughal Middle School-Bethlehem Area School District

Teaching students to develop their own questions and participate in the inquiry process is a skilled practice that results in high levels of classroom engagement. This session will focus on a continuum of strategies for student-developed questions applied to literacy activities, student research and inquiry projects in the social studies. Drawing on theoretical foundations in the C3 Social Studies Framework, Dimension 1 “Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries,” and criteria for highly effective questioning and discussion strategies in component 3b of the Danielson Framework, this presentation will discuss current best practices in social studies instruction for student-developed questions and inquiries.

### **Comics & Graphic Novels in the Classroom**

Harrisburg

Interest Level: Secondary

***Presenter:*** Tim Smyth, Wissahickon High School

Comic books and graphic novels are a great way to engage students in all subjects and grade levels. Not only do they serve as a perfect hook, but they also help to teach 21st century skills (such as hypertext reading), create analytical readers and writers, and provide a window into the changing global society around us.

Tim Smyth is a high school social studies teacher of 15 years, and holds a Masters degree as a reading specialist. The topics will focus primarily on secondary social studies and Language Arts, but these lessons and skills can also inspire engagement in other school subjects as well. During this session, you will be walked-through established lesson plans that can be utilized in your class.

## **The Wall of Honor**

East Derry

Interest Level: Secondary

***Presenters:*** *Rob King, Radnor Township School District; David Wood, Radnor Township School District*

Radnor High School unveiled a Wall of Honor dedicated to the memorializing the service and sacrifice of Radnor High School students defending the United States in its twentieth century foreign wars from World War I to Vietnam. We intend to share details related to the process that we engaged in with our students who conducted research and created an iMovie presentation dedicated to the life and service of each of Radnor High School's students who gave their lives in defense of the United States. We plan to show some of the student iMovies and have a discussion based session about the project.

## **To What Extent Does Haidt's Moral Foundations Theory Reveal Liberal or Conservative Biases When Applied to Selected State's Citizenship & Government Curriculum?**

Hanover

Interest Level: Secondary

***Presenters:*** *Jennifer Lloyd, Elizabethtown College; Dr. Rachel Finley-Bowman, Elizabethtown College*

This session provides an overview of Haidt's Moral Foundations Theory and its use in assessing political intolerance among adolescent learners, particularly in light of recent events. Haidt contends that all humans use six foundations when engaging in moral decision making, but liberals and conservatives place more weight on specific foundations. In utilizing this framework, students can better understand how people (even those of divergent opinions) come to moral decisions and develop tolerance. The case studies of California, Texas, and Pennsylvania will be discussed, and audience members will be asked to consider the framework in their own teaching.

### **Fostering Informed Active Citizens: Civics Action Project (CAP) in the Government/Civics Classroom**

Middle Paxton

Interest Level: Middle and Secondary

***Presenters:** Zachary Yelson, Mastery Charter School-Pickett Campus; Micah Hart, Mastery Charter School-Pickett Campus*

It is increasingly essential that our students (especially our underserved, urban students) to see themselves as involved participants in our democracy. Come discover new ways to push your students to be informed, active citizens in their local and national government and community! We will provide the process for our version of the Civic Action Project (CAP) through a multitude of pictures and videos of students, either taking action or in post-project reflection. We will then talk through some of our best practices and lessons learned from years past. Finally, we will take Q & A from anyone in the audience.

### **Attorney Course CLE– Keystone**

one hour substantive CLE

## **Savage Inequities: A Tale of Two Schools**

Keystone

Interest Level: All

**Presenters: Anthony Maida, Methacton High School, James Williams, School District of Philadelphia;** Cristina de Arana, University of Delaware; Cooper Reichwein, [Montgomery County Community College](#)

Philadelphia's Kensington Health Sciences High School and Montgomery County's Methacton High School are less than an hour's drive away from each other but the realities of the two institutions seem dimensions apart. This session looks at a project in which students from the two school participated in an exchange, opening eyes and hearts in unexpected ways. We know the statistics-that Methacton spends seven thousand dollars per child more than is spent on the students at Kensington-but this session will showcase far more than statistics. Come see how social studies can be a bridge to educating about poverty, injustice, school funding and more.

### **– Governor**

Turning your work into scholarship: Publishing in *Social Studies Journal*, a publication of PCSS

Interest Level: All Levels

Presenters: **Dr. Jessica Schocker**, Penn State Berks, **Dr. Sarah Brooks**, **Millersville University**

The editors of *Social Studies Journal* will share information about the process of publishing a paper in the *Journal*. This session is appropriate both for established scholars looking to learn more about SSJ and for emerging scholars and practicing teachers or student teachers who are looking to learn how to turn their practical, theoretical, and research work into a publication in

the *Journal*. The editors will be available to answer questions and participants will have an opportunity to discuss their ideas and learn from others during the session.

**Time Slot #4 12:30 – 1:20**

**Creation & Stability: Maintaining the Relevance of the Social Studies in a Changing World**

Susquehanna

Interest Level: All

**Presenters:** *Tyler Hilbert, Clarion University of PA;; Ashley Deen, Clarion University of PA; Antonio Cercone, Clarion University of PA; Nicholas Chrimes, Clarion University of PA*

This session aims to offer examples of how both teacher preparation programs and in-service teachers can meet the NCSS Standards for Pre-Service Teachers. The key focus shall be on the fifth standard, which emphasizes informed action to be undertaken by teacher candidates within the social studies. Clarion University has devised a system to address this standard through the creation of the Clarion University Council for the Social Studies, an organization operated by teacher candidates who lead on campus events for local school districts. The session will be led by these teacher candidates who have participated in the program and will highlight various programs that can be replicated in a social studies classroom.

**Spaces of Diversity & Dialogue: Social Justice in the Classroom**

West Derry

Interest Level: College

**Presenter:** *Pritpal Kaur Ahluwalia, Kaur Foundation*

Come explore how to introduce the experiences of a minority community (Sikh-Americans) into the classroom as a starting point for dialogue about broader social justice and civil rights issues such as identity, bullying, profiling and discrimination.

### **Incorporating Dances from Around the World into Your Social Studies Curriculum**

Harrisburg

Interest Level: Elementary and Middle

***Presenters:** Dr. Stratton Schaeffer, Millersville University; Dr. Julie Lombardi, Millersville University*

Participants in this “feet on the floor” active session will learn a variety of international dances which can be used in social studies classrooms. This presentation focuses on the teaching methods for young learners to develop global awareness and an appreciation of diverse cultures. These teaching techniques emphasize the use of skill-based classroom instruction which results in increased self-efficacy. This presentation will enhance the participant’s ability to effectively teach well-designed inter-course curricula which is imperative for future elementary and middle school teachers. We believe these effective training techniques increase student learning and behavior change.

### **Using Iconic Images to Teach Women’s History**

East Derry

Interest Level: Middle, Secondary and College



**Presenters:** *Kimberly Imel, Indiana University of PA; Marielle Nackley, Indiana University of PA*

Women's history tends not to receive much attention in the middle school classroom. Through a PowerPoint presentation and audience participation, we want to suggest ways of using iconic images introduce students in middle school grades to women's history. This session highlights the changes in popular images about women and women's activism throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The idealized images of the Gibson Girl and the Flapper are examined alongside the activism of club women and the creative genius of the women of the Harlem Renaissance.

### **National Geographic Learning**

Hanover

Interest Level: Secondary and College

**Presenters:** *Ashlyn Little, National Geographic Learning; Allison Loosli, National Geographic Learning*

National Geographic Learning is committed to engaging educators and students in Social Studies. Our exclusive partnership with National Geographic provides a unique opportunity to share the groundbreaking fieldwork and expeditions done throughout the year by explorers through our print and digital content, courses, and inspiring events. Our promise to educators and students is to inspire and motivate through enriching content, engaging visuals and photographs, and through people including National Geographic Explorers and by our own expert author team. Looking for a way to expand your social studies curriculum? Look no further! Here at National Geographic Learning, we have three middle school core Social Studies programs: World Cultures and Geography, World History, and our brand new US History for 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school. These programs as well as our supplemental resources showcase our

National Geographic Explorers as well as relevant and engaging content. This will be presented via a PowerPoint session.

Preserving American History, One Story at a Time. Bringing the Past to life in your Classroom Through Digitized Veteran Histories

Middle Paxton

Interest Level: Middle and Secondary

***Presenter: Matthew Fash, The United States Navy Memorial***

*Learn how the United States Navy Memorial has initiated a program in support of the Library of Congress Veteran History Project to archive and preserve the stories of our Nation's Veterans and those who have witnessed history. Discover not only ways to include students in this process but the benefits of then sharing these histories with your classes. The results of a recently defended Doctoral Study as well as instructional tools will be shared. Sign up to receive information about the benefits of an oral history program at your school, hear from educators who have taken part in the Navy Memorial Student Interview Program, find out new ways to enhance your instructional activities by utilizing the Navy Memorial archives, and most importantly, learn about the extraordinary opportunities available for students who participate in the Student Interview Program.*

**Attorney CLE—one substantive**

**Supreme Court Cast Studies Jigsaw: A Street Law Lesson**

KeystoneInterest Level: Middle and Secondary

**Presenter:** *Alicia Ross, Blue Ridge High School* Elizabeth Chapman, Cambria Heights High School

Teaching Supreme Court cases can be a challenge for diverse learners. Participants will engage in this interactive session on how to make landmark and current cases accessible and engaging for all students. Three cases and three approaches/scaffolds will be demonstrated and discussed. The session will close by highlighting additional resources available from Street Law, Inc.. Both presenters were participants in the 2017 Street Law Supreme Court Summer Institute.

**Crime Scene Investigation: Analyze the Evidence; Solve the Mystery - Help to Engage Your Middle School Students**

Governor

Interest Level: Secondary and College

**Presenter:** *Lori Swiger, Social Studies. com*

Participate then discuss how to engage middle schoolers deeply in primary source analysis, with a crime scene twist. Get ready to have a good time! Middle School students are unique and in addition to teaching them how to think like historians, analyze primary sources, and the content we must cover perhaps the tallest order is still just engaging them. In this workshop we will specifically address key standards from the Common Core ELA/SS Standards in a highly engaging, crime scene, primary source analysis experience. Take away full lesson. Experience in session can be applied to both World and US History.

**Time Slot #5 1:30 – 2:20**

### **Teaching Social Studies through Political Cartoons**

Susquehanna

Interest Level: All

***Presenter:** Kimberly McCleary, Historical Society of Pennsylvania*

Through history, political cartoons were a popular way to disseminate information. When combined with an increased use of photography, images present a powerful way to connect students to historical topics. Political cartoons help students to learn multiple opinions and perspectives of individuals living through the time period they are studying. HSP plans to exhibit unit plans which enable students to analyze political cartoons.

By utilizing specific cartoons from different points of history students will develop their critical thinking skills in order to understand the author's point of view through the use of symbolism, analogy, and irony. Students will use both their language and historical knowledge to determine the author's purpose and whether or not the cartoon was effective.

### **America's Second Founding: Origins & Applications of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment**

West Derry

Interest Level: Middle and Secondary

***Presenter:** Alyssa DeTreuX, national Constitution Center*

Join the National Constitution Center for a session devoted to understanding the history behind and modern implications of the 14th Amendment. The workshop balances presentation of history and civics content with classroom-ready resources to make the origins, evolution, and modern debates of the 14th Amendment meaningful and approachable for students. The

Center's innovative Interactive Constitution is featured as a resource for 21st Century learners. The session includes a combination of lecture, discussion, and modelled classroom activities.

### **What If Everything You Knew About Hinduism Was Wrong?**

Harrisburg

Interest Level: Middle, Secondary and College

***Presenter:*** Aesha Megta, Hindu American Foundation

This session helps teachers understand some of the common misconceptions when teaching about Hinduism. It goes over Hinduism's core philosophies, as well as important points to keep in mind when discussing the religion and social practices in India. Teachers will be equipped with new teaching strategies, as well as updated, accurate, and culturally competent resources for their classrooms. This will be a PowerPoint presentation with online resources highlighted.

### **Despair, Apathy, Spite, and Multiple Choice Questions – The Great American Civics Crisis of the 21st Century**

East Derry

Interest Level: Middle, Secondary and College

***Presenter:*** Mark DeLucia, MS, Community College of Allegheny County

The 2016 presidential election has proven to be one of the great tests of the civic resolve of the American people; pulling in political observers at varying degrees of civic engagement and

exposing the vulnerabilities and ailments of the American body politic; ours was a political system fueled by unproductive impulses and a notable dearth in critical thinking and analysis. This presentation's aim is to identify the weak spots in American civic engagement – namely a public that has grown increasingly apathetic, cynical, and spiteful toward civic principles. The presentation will also identify how educators can play a role in objectively and positively shaping the civic attitudes of their students in a more productive and hopeful direction.

### **How to Engage Your School with Geography Awareness Week**

Hanover

Interest Level: Elementary, Middle and Secondary

***Presenter:*** *Kristy Snider, Pocono Mountain School District*

Teachers will have an opportunity to learn about Geography Week Lessons and to gather materials to share with their students regarding the theme “The Geography of the Civil Rights Movements.” Now more than ever, students need to be aware of civil rights campaigns from the past through current times, and how those affect where students will move today and in the future. Topics will include our spatial landscapes, difficulties such as transportation and access to other resources, ways to be involved and justice sought.

### **Medal of Honor Resource: Connecting Today's Heroes to the Next Great Generation!**

Middle Paxton

Interest Level: Secondary and College

***Presenter:*** *Cory Etchberger, Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation*

The session will introduce attendees to the free resources available through the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation's Character Development. The presenter will demonstrate how using the oral and video histories of Medal of Honor Recipients and citizen heroes are beneficial to students in preparation to become the next greatest generation. By engaging with the stories of these decorated veterans, students can understand the history of our country and the world while simultaneously discussing the values of courage, commitment, sacrifice, integrity, citizenship, and patriotism. Attendees will walk away with access to the resource and ideas for using it with students.

### **Attorney Course – Keystone**

#### **One hour ethics/one hour substantive**

Youth Courts: Systems Change through Social Studies

Presenters: Gregg Volz, Esquire and Kathy Smith, Esquire, Harcum College, Brian Foster, LEAP-Kids Youth Court Trainer

Longtime lawyer/educators Kathy Smith and Gregg Volz have moved to the Harcum campus to create a course on youth court that will bring Harcum students into regional schools as resources for schools creating and maintaining youth courts.

Youth courts are student run alternatives to juvenile justice and school disciplinary systems.

Students are trained by lawyers, law students, law and justice professionals and teachers to perform all court functions (judge, bailiff, jurors, etc.). Positive peer pressure helps offenders reflect on their behavior, recognize that actions have consequences, and accept responsibility.

Neuroscience informs us that the stress and trauma disadvantaged youth experience impairs their decision making and impulse control. Absent nurturing relationships with stable adults, some youth fail to acquire the executive function skills to cope with their environment. Teachers confirm such youth have problems following instructions and socializing. Without effective intervention they fall behind, becoming a danger to themselves and their community.

Youth court participation in under-resourced schools improves life outcomes for these youth. Youth court participation in well-resourced schools helps educate the next generation of social justice leaders.

Youth court participants report its transformative impact as they learn coping skills they otherwise fail to acquire, and will use the rest of their lives. Using restorative justice as a participatory tool, youth court students contribute to the well-being of their school and community. The most empowering courts limit the role of adults to trainer and mentor, trusting youth, and empowering them to control the entire process. Youth courts can operate after-school or be integrated within Social Studies classes, the preferred method of the Harcum program.

Social Studies and the C3 Framework: More Important than Ever

**Governor**

**All levels of interest**

**Presenters:** Christine Woyshner, Ph.D., Temple University, Jill Beccaris-Pescatore, Ph.D., Montgomery County Community College, Jodi Bornstein, Ph.D., Arcadia University, Jessica B. Schocker, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, Berks Campus

This session will address the four subject areas of the C3 Framework using an inquiry approach. The subjects covered in the C3 framework are economics, geography, history, and civics. Each presenter will share engaging teaching strategies for each of the content areas, with an emphasis on diversity and social justice.



## **Time Slot #6 2:30 – 3:20**

### **Getting Hired for a Social Students Position**

Susquehanna

Interest Level: All Levels

***Presenters:** Dr. Mark Previte, University of Pittsburgh Johnstown; Ira Hiberan, Retired Administrator and PCSS Executive Secretary; Chris Zanoni, Somerset Area School District; Jonathan Rutledge, Westmont Hilltop School District; James Kearney, Radnor Township School District*

- Participants will be able to recognize skills and protocols for effective job interviews.
- Participants will be able to participate in a mock interview
- Participants will be able to critique a mock interview.

#### **CONTENT**

- Successful job interview strategies

#### **TECHNIQUES**

- Interview strategies
- Question and Answer

## **West Derry**

### **Teaching Sustainability in the Social Studies**

Interest Level: All Levels

**Presenters:** *Natalie Torti, Environmental Charter School; Madeline Frankestine, Environmental Charter School*

How can you create empowered, engaged, change-makers? Start by empowering and engaging students in change-making. NOW! We will demonstrate how teachers at Environmental Charter School use habits of systems thinking, active-engagement, and authentic ("real world") content to create a mindset of sustainability in our learning community. We encourage students to analyze the complexity and connectivity of the systems that surround us. Join ECS educators for a session that explores methods for approaching complex topics such as climate change and human impact on the environment through social studies content. *Bring curiosity, leave with inspiration and tools for your classroom.*

**History Day**

**Harrisburg**

**This Is Why We Fight: The Importance of Discussing Oppositional Viewpoints in a Social Studies Classroom**

Middle Paxton

Interest Level: Secondary

***Presenter:*** Michael Perrotti, PhD, California University of PA

An engaged social studies classroom is vital for many reasons. One of these is to enhance our students' abilities to examine, discuss, and engage in opposing viewpoints and perspectives. Students can often learn about the social, political, economic, and cultural trends of historical periods (and today) through the lens of those that voiced (or acted) in opposition to those trends. This presentation will first discuss the cognitive and educational importance of providing these viewpoints in the classroom. This interactive discussion session will then highlight real-life examples and activities for classroom teachers, along with an interactive period to discuss how these voices can be utilized in any social studies classroom.

**Attorney Course CLE – Keystone**

**2<sup>nd</sup> hour of youth court**

Presenters: Gregg Volz, Esquire and Kathy Smith, Esquire, Harcum College

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Governor

