

Day One
Thursday, June 20, 2024



Agenda at a Glance

Inclusion and Specially Designed Instruction

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. **Registration -- Breakfast and Browse**

9:00 - 9:20 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

Jennifer McDonough M.S., C.R.C; Principal Investigator, VCU-RRTC-ACE
Wendy Parent-Johnson, Ph.D.; Director, Rehabilitation Research and Training Center

Introduction of Speaker -- Heather Womack, M.S., BCBA, LBA

9:20 - 10:50 a.m. **Keynote Address** -- Speaker: Paula Kluth, Ph.D.

“You’re Going to Love This Kid!”: Educating Autistic Students in Inclusive Schools

10:50 - 11:00 a.m. **BREAK**

11:00 - 11:30 a.m. **Understand, Accept, and Empower with Data-Informed Decision Making**

Presenters: Lauren Vetere, M.Ed., BCBA, LBA & Taryn Traylor, Ph.D., BCBA, LBA

11:30 - 11:50 a.m. **Conference Photo**

11:50 - 12:50 p.m. **LUNCH**

BREAKOUT SESSION I

1:00 - 2:30 p.m. **“Don’t We Already Do Inclusion?”: Creating Schools & Classrooms for All”**
Presenter: Paula Kluth, Ph.D.

Without Limits: Practical Strategies for Incorporating AAC in All Environments

Presenter: Melanie Derry, M.S., CCC-SLP

Systems Change and Inclusion -- Creating a comprehensive, practical, road map for schools and divisions to support wider adoption of inclusion.

Presenter: Alison Shaner, Ed.D.

2:30 - 2:40 p.m. **BREAK and TRANSITION**

BREAKOUT SESSION II

2:40 - 4:10 p.m. **Making the Most of Your Co-Teaching Partnerships: Specially Designed Instruction**

Presenters: Shahida Persad, M.S.Ed. & Katie Ginn, M.S.Ed.

Day Two
Friday, June 21, 2024

Behavior Management Strategies (that actually work) for Inclusive Classrooms

Presenters: Heather Womack, MS, BCBA, LBA; Lauren Lenski, M.A. & Noel Woolard, Ed.D., BCBA, LBA

Empowering Academic Excellence: Strategies for Improving Postsecondary Outcomes for Students with Autism

Presenter: Staci Carr, Ph.D.

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

CoLA and Chill

Keep calm and carry on. Join us to decompress after a full day of learning because you deserve it. Registration for this event will be forthcoming.

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast and Browse

8:30 - 8:40 a.m.

Welcome and Introduction of Speaker -- Carla Goodman, M.A., VCU-RRTC-ACE

8:40 - 10:10 a.m.

VDOE State-of-the-State Address

Presenters: Blythe Johnson-Jones, Special Education Specialist, Autism, Intellectual Disabilities, Assistive Technology
Dawn Hendricks, Ph.D., Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator, Virginia Department of Education

10:10 - 10:20 a.m.

BREAK and TRANSITION

10:20 - 11:20 a.m.

Regional CoLA Meetings

Regions 1 & 8 -- Facilitators: Crystal Hence, Daniel Irwin, Sharon Jones, & Lauren Whitlock

Regions 2 & 3 -- Facilitators: Stefanie Paul, Noel Woolard, & Amy Husk

Region 4 -- Facilitators: Lauren Vetere & Karen Berlin

Region 5 -- Facilitators: Teresa Cogar, Hunter Matusевич, Lorna Bell Frizelle

Regions 6 & 7 -- Facilitators: Lynn Everett, Carla Goodman, Lauren Lenski, Holly Love, & Heather Womack

11:30 - 12:45 p.m.

Speed Share Party Pump Up

Join us for a delightful lunch and a java jolt. Let's savor flavors and conversations together.

12:45 - 1:45 p.m.

Division Speed Share

Session Facilitator: Lauren Lenski, M.A.

The Spotlight Speed Share is an avenue for sharing the amazing work being conducted in school divisions around the state. Enjoy presentations from several school divisions to present projects, initiatives, or strategies upon which they have been working to improve services to students with ASD or similar disabilities.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m.

Autism Inclusion Matters: A Panel Discussion

Panelists: Sharon Jones, VCU-TTAC; Deborah Hammer, Loudoun County Schools, Dr. Jonna Bobzien, CIEES, & Daniel Irwin, VCU-RRTC-ACE

2:45 - 3:00 p.m.

Closing Thoughts and Dismissal

Carla Goodman, M.A., VCU-RRTC-ACE