

OCTOBER  
**20**  
2018

CONNECTICUT  
EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION

# NEW TEACHER CONFERENCE



Heritage Hotel and  
Conference Center,  
Southbury, CT



Conference and  
registration information



# CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS



## **A. BREAKOUTEDU: UNLOCKING A KEY TO STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

BreakoutEDU brings the concept of an escape room into the classroom; students work together to solve a series of critical thinking puzzles in order to open locks on a box. The puzzles vary depending on curricular needs/content, and the goal is to get all the locks off and open the box within the given time. Students draw on previous knowledge and apply new learning as they apply creative strategies to solve problems together. Breakouts can be done with any grade level on any topic. (elementary/middle/high)

## **B. CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING: SAFE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT MINDSET AND PEDAGOGY**

Participants will define culture, race, ethnicity, and nationality; recognize the elements of a culturally responsive environment and self-assess their progress toward such an environment; identify misperceptions about being culturally responsive; engage in meaningful conversations intended to enhance their comfort with diversity; develop classroom activities to engage students from various backgrounds as well as strategies for engaging their families; understand that cultural competency is a journey; and create a plan for improvement. (elementary/middle/high)

## **C. DEGREES NOT DEBT**

Do you have student loans? Are you looking for ways to reduce your debt? Then this session, led by CEA's educational issues specialist, is for you! Bring your mobile device and get your FSA ID ready, because we'll cover income-driven repayment options and federal loan forgiveness programs you may be eligible for based on your existing loan types, as well as what we can do to ensure these programs continue. NEA and CEA are here to help you get degrees, not debt! (elementary/middle/high)

## **D. DEVELOPING INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECT-BASED CURRICULUM**

Design cross-content curriculum that focuses on authentic projects and emphasizes skill building. Using proven methodology, you will learn how to design multiple projects

that support an end-of-year mini-capstone. Participants are encouraged to use their own curriculum to support their work during the session. (high school)

## **E. GOOGLE BASICS: GOOGLE CLASSROOM 101**

This workshop will help acclimate those new to the Google Apps for Education with the basics of Drive, sharing, collaborating, and converting files. Teachers will also learn about the features and functions that make Google Classroom a great tool for managing courses, communicating with students, and tracking and managing their progress. Please bring a laptop or other internet-accessible device. (elementary/middle/high)

## **F. PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: PENSION ISSUES FOR EARLY CAREER TEACHERS**

You may be years away from retirement but it's never too early to start planning! This workshop will provide you with an overview of the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement System with a particular emphasis on issues of interest to teachers in the early phase of their career (i.e., less than ten years of service, although all CEA members are welcome).

Come and gather the information you need to answer the following questions, and more:

- How does the retirement system work?
- Can I get retirement credit for other work that I've done?
- What happens if I decide to work part-time or take a leave of absence?
- What are my options if I decide to leave teaching?
- How long do I have to work to collect a pension?
- I have heard that my social security benefits may be affected. Is that true?

(elementary/middle/high)

## **G. SUPPORTING STRUGGLING WRITERS IN EVERYDAY CLASSROOMS**

This workshop will help teachers fill their professional toolkits for working with struggling writers. Teasing out the root of the problem for students can be challenging.

Together, we will explore strategies for uncovering the heart of the struggle as well as ways of working through it. Teachers will walk away with ready-to-use tools, tips, and

strategies to support all the writers in their classrooms. (elementary/middle)

## **H. TEACHER EVALUATION: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AND WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO GET A PROFICIENT OR HIGHER RATING**

This workshop begins with an overview of the statutory requirements regarding teacher evaluation and breaks down the components of the Connecticut Guidelines for Educator Evaluation. The provisions of ESSA and potential impact on educator evaluation are also discussed. This interactive session includes "inside secrets" for helping early career educators achieve a proficient or higher rating and demonstrates how to prepare for a successful preconference, plan for classroom observation, and set student learning objectives that are rigorous but attainable. (elementary/middle/high)

## **I. TEACHERS AND THE LAW**

Get familiar with the laws that impact your everyday teaching environment and your rights as an educator. Tenure, assaults, investigations, proper technology use, and the interplay certain state agencies have with public school teachers are among some of the topics that will be discussed. CEA's role in developing and supporting laws that enhance the professional status of teachers will also be explored. (elementary/middle/high)

## **J. WHAT IS BEHAVIOR? HOW CAN I MANAGE IT?**

Every teacher needs to identify and learn behaviors in order to create a positive learning environment and effectively deal with those behaviors. Learn to:

- Define and identify behaviors
- Identify the function of a behavior through the use of ABC data collection (Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence)
- Use this data in instructional planning (pre-K through 3)

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# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Register at [www.cea.org](http://www.cea.org) under Upcoming Events.
- The conference is free for members and includes lunch. Attendance certificates will be available at the conference.
- In case of inclement weather, call CEA at 1-800-842-4316 or 860-525-5641 for the status of this conference.
- If you have questions, contact Mary Behrens at 1-800-842-4316, 860-725-6320, or [maryb@cea.org](mailto:maryb@cea.org).



## AGENDA

- 8:30 am ..... Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 am ..... Welcome, CEA President Jeff Leake  
Opening Session
- 10:00 am ..... Session I
- 11:30 am ..... Break
- 11:45 am ..... Session II
- 1:15 pm ..... Lunch

