



The Department of Special Education
Family Support Center
1400 Nalley Terrace
Landover, Maryland 20805

Tenth Annual Parent Empowerment Conference

“Growing and Learning Together”



Join us as we continue this journey together!

Virtual Conference Series
March 20, 2021 - April 30, 2021

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ross W. Greene (March 20, 2021)

Featured Speaker: Dan Habib (March 24, 2021)

Featured Activity: SPIRIT Club (April 8, 2021)

Schedule of Events

Speaker	Title of Presentation	Date	Time	Target Audience	Format	Zoom Registration Link
Dr. Ross Greene - Conference Keynote	Collaborative & Proactive Solutions: Moving From Power and Control to Collaboration and Problem-Solving	March 20, 2021	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Families	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlqfuiwqzIpGdyK2nZjmIkAQmRAeJynv3SW
Catherine Francoeur	Discover PGcps and Prince George's County Memorial Library System Resources	March 22, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Families	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApCuGqz4tHtYPpXn5FSbLt0mhclPTikFT
Scott Showalter	Understanding Trauma: Its Impact on the Brain and Resiliency	March 23, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Parents, Caregivers, and the Education Community	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvc-mppj4oGNDWzviP9wN2cuR6-GO9ryEB
Dr. Dan Habib - Featured Speaker	Creating A Culture of Inclusion Through Film	March 24, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUIduGrqz8rHNMVvwgHCJgcXWnW74Ph1x5t

Speaker	Title of Presentation	Date	Time	Target Audience	Format	Zoom Registration Link
Terlene D. Terry-Todd	Cruising the Caribbean	March 27, 2021	10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Early Childhood through 2nd Grade	Live (recorded link available for 1 week after performance)	https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=618023888&from=invitation
Dr. Jennifer Love	Getting Your Bounce Back: Building Family Resilience	April 6, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=618023888&from=invitation
Jennifer Holloway	TextHelp ® Read&Write at Home	April 7, 2021	10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. Or 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.	Parents of Students with the Text To Speech Accommodation	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=618023888&from=invitation
ReThink SEL	Self-Care is NOT Selfish!	April 7, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=618023888&from=invitation
SPIRIT Club - Featured Activity	Introduction to SPIRIT Club; virtual tour, followed by 60-minute exercise	April 8, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Children	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=618023888&from=invitation

Brittany Pinkney	Supports for Students with Autism in the Hybrid Learning Model	April 8, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUof--prT8qHtzld3fzawSyc8e3nEbJV-w
Kofi Dennis	I like to be me ...When I grow up!	April 10, 2021	10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Early Childhood through 2nd Grade Parents and Caregivers	Live <i>(recorded link available for 1 week after performance)</i>	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0lcOCupi8rHNFNuU3X2RNIXh2OOY8sMo6K
Dr. Sheila Jackson	How to Build STRONG Home-School Partnerships	April 13, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpcGhrToqHdfXh5u9sNtp5h32c4yFUnNo
Laura K. Sibbald	Exploring Executive Function: Building Independent Thinking Skills in Children	April 16, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvd-GhrzsjGNEDQdigJysTVMjcnzFgfRWa
Dr. Paula Schauer and Pauline Dunn	DHOH - Language and Communication In the General Education Setting	April 19, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Families of students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErC--urD0vHt36oW_1QPKkaH58tjb4P6vR

Trish Kane and Neal Lichter	1 in 52 has Autism...Who Do You Know?	April 19, 2021	Presentation 56 Minutes	Parents and Caregivers	Pre-recorded	https://youtu.be/-KWrYcrolw
Andrea Burrell	Five Tips for Incorporating Wellness and Self-Care Throughout Your Day	April 14, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live and recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUgcOuvrDopG9L2IX-g8MAg-tlXnsn8j5X9
Trish Kane and Neal Lichter	When They Wander or Run Away	April 20, 2021	Presentation 51 Minutes	Parents and Caregivers	Pre-recorded	When They Wander or Run Away
Maya Yamada	Language Deprivation and the Academic Gap of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students	April 20, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Families of students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMuceyurzlqH9b-vyAqn5Cnib42WkvEZs3Q
Dr. Jackie Gordon and Takisha Ubiera	Supporting Your Child with a Reading Disability & Reading Resources You Can Use at Home	April 21, 2021	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpce2vqDqiHNNfZq4NLx3jJnN7DDYvGPM7
Robert Parkinson and MaryAnn Pickering	Language and Communication: Closing the Language Gap	April 23, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Families of students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkf-ivqT4sG9OXlqJqllsl09iSQ4gX41IE

Jared Ciner	Fitness	April 26, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Families and Children	Live	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlfuuuqTMrHdL64_jSZfaimRCPrvSrM_9u
Marlo Lemon and Gicel Martinez	Family Engagement	April 27, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocu6tpzMvHdf9l3VquCAjoKvREl6rKf7F
Marlo Lemon and Gicel Martinez	Learn the Signs, Act Early	April 28, 2021	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkd-yspj0iHtCD2ehupJddYzcPQqi69koq
Sarah Wayland, Ph.D.	The Rumble Rage Cycle: How to Help Your Child with Big Emotions	April 29, 2021	6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Parents and Caregivers	Live and Recorded	https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpfuyvqiltGNVqCWj10FYdOq8OxgAGR4

Session Descriptions

Session Title: Collaborative & Proactive Solutions: Moving From Power and Control to Collaboration and Problem-Solving

Presenter: Dr. Ross Green

Description: This is the evidence-based model Dr. Ross Greene described in his influential books *The Explosive Child*, *Lost at School*, *Lost & Found*, and *Raising Human Beings*. The Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (CPS) model has transformed thinking and practices in countless families, schools, inpatient psychiatric units, and residential and juvenile detention facilities throughout the world, and has been associated with dramatic reductions in adult-child conflict, challenging behaviors, disciplinary referrals, detentions, suspensions, seclusions, and physical, chemical, and mechanical restraints. The model represents a significant departure from discipline-as-usual: it focuses on solving problems rather than on modifying behavior, emphasizes collaborative rather than unilateral solutions, encourages proactive rather than reactive intervention, de-emphasizes diagnostic categories, and provides practical, research-based tools for assessment and intervention. Participants in this workshop will leave with an understanding of the underpinnings of the model, its refinements over the past 8-10 years, and practical assessment and intervention tools that can be brought back to and used in these diverse settings.

Session Title: Discover Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) and Prince George's County Memorial Library System Resources

Presenter: Catherine Francoeur

Description: Overwhelmed by everything that is available on the internet? This workshop will introduce you to reliable, trustworthy, and vetted resources provided by PGCPS and the public libraries to help your child (and you!) with their educational and entertainment needs.

Session Title: Understanding Trauma: Its Impact on the Brain and Resiliency

Presenters: Scott Showalter & Dr. Tarik Harris

Description: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are traumatic or stressful experiences, such as abuse or neglect, that occur during childhood or adolescence. ACEs can harm a child's brain and its development, which can lead to long-term negative health and social outcomes. Armed with powerful new insights into how toxic stress changes the physiology of early brain development, we can begin to find sustainable solutions to childhood trauma by empowering resilient, self-healing communities. This presentation is designed to support widespread awareness, promote understanding, and empower communities to improve health

and well-being throughout society.

Session Title: “Creating a Culture of Inclusion through Film”

Presenters: Dr. Dan Habib, Filmmaker

Description: Drawing from his personal parenting experience and from conversations with thousands of families and educators around the country, documentary filmmaker and parent-advocate Dan Habib will lead an interactive discussion and share powerful film clips with attendees. Habib’s presentation focuses on strategies for building self-determination in kids with disabilities; supporting effective transitions from preschool through adulthood; and strengthening collaboration between families, students, and educators. Habib’s presentation and films vividly show the innovative educational approaches that help students with physical, intellectual, and emotional/behavioral disabilities to succeed.

Session Title: I LIKE TO BE ME...WHEN I GROW UP!

Presenter: Kofi Dennis, Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist

Description: Join Kofi as parents and their babies help to bring their favorite books, rhymes, and songs to life with movement, instruments, scarves, and streamers, singing and dancing together! Wolf Trap Institute Family Involvement Workshops are led by Wolf Trap Teaching Artists and bring young children and their siblings, parents, and caregivers together through shared arts experiences.

Session Title: Getting Your Bounce Back: Building Family Resilience

Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Love, E.D., Supervisor, Language Access & Engagement
Office of Interpreting & Translation

Description:

Facing challenges and experiencing certain stressors in our day-to-day lives is a normal part of family growth and development. Resilience is how we are able to respond to these challenges and stressors. In this session, participants will explore critical protective and promotive factors centered around building family resilience. Participants will also engage in reflective activities to support preparedness to effectively manage stressful situations, promoting healthy and positive outcomes.

Session Title: TextHelp ® Read&Write at Home

Presenter: Jennifer Holloway, Instructional Specialist, Assistive Technology & Accessibility

Description: If your child is receiving a Text-To-Speech accommodation as identified on his/her Individualized Education Program (IEP), then this session is for you. Come learn about how to use Texthelp® Read & Write for Google Chrome. Texthelp® Read & Write for Google Chrome is a literacy support tool that offers help with everyday tasks like reading text out loud, understanding unfamiliar words, and focus tools like dual highlighting.

Session Title: Self-Care is NOT Selfish!

Presenter: Colleen Carroll, Professional Services Manager, Rethink Ed

Description: In this workshop, you will discuss why self-compassion is so important and learn strategies to take care of yourself during these challenging times. You will explore how to intentionally practice self-compassion strategies. You will also learn additional stress management strategies and tips to help support your own personal wellness and those around you.

Session Title: Introduction to SPIRIT Club & Exercise

Presenter: Jared Ciner, Founder, and Director of SPIRIT Club

Description: Join SPIRIT Club's Founding Director, Jared Ciner, as he takes you on a virtual tour and leads you through a total-body fitness class designed for people with and without disabilities! SPIRIT Club offers virtual and in-person classes and personal training that ensure fitness is accessible for everyone. Trainers employ an integrated exercise environment that supports people with and without disabilities. This live class, offered just for Prince George's County Public Schools, requires no equipment other than a chair.

Session Title: Supports for Students with Autism in the Hybrid Learning Model

Presenter: Brittany Pinkney, M.A., C.A.S, NCSP, School Psychologist

Description: This workshop will cover strategies and considerations for families as students with autism return to their school buildings. We will specifically discuss the supports that can assist students with this transition and their academic programming.

Session Title: Cruising the Caribbean

Presenter: Terlene D. Terry -Todd, DC/MD/VA Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist

Description: Join Ms. T on a trip to the sunny West Indies, a journey full of songs, dances, and stories. You and your family will take an imaginary voyage to the seashore and a Caribbean marketplace while exploring props and costumes, which bring songs and dances from the Caribbean to life. Wolf Trap Institute Family Involvement Workshops are led by Wolf Trap Teaching Artists and bring young children and their siblings, parents, and caregivers together through shared arts experiences.

Session Title: How to Build STRONG Home-School Partnerships

Presenter: Dr. Sheila Jackson, Ed.D. - Director, Department of Family and School Partnerships

Description: Developing a good relationship with your child's teacher will make it easier for you to share concerns and work together to help your child succeed. Let's review some tips for building and maintaining a STRONG partnership. Parents are the key!!

Session Title: Five Tips for Incorporating Wellness and Self-Care throughout Your day

Presenter: Andrea Burrell, NBCT, M.A., Special Education Instructional Specialist Office of Instructional Supports, Assessment, and Accountability; Department of Special Education

Description: During this interactive workshop focused on self-care, participants will have the opportunity to identify ways in which stress shows up in their lives; explore and practice practical self-care tips for stress reduction; and, engage in a gentle, relaxing yoga flow. Participants should dress comfortably, have a yoga mat and a journal (or note-taking app) handy.

Session Title: Exploring Executive Function: Building Independent Thinking Skills in Children

Presenter: Laura Sibbald, M.A., CCC-SLP

Description: Executive function is described as the "management system of the brain". Participants will explore the components of executive function and learn how to build and support these skills to enable increased independence in children.

Session Title: Educating Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in the Mainstream: Factors That Increase Success

Presenter: Dr. Paula Schauer and Pauline Dunn

Description: In this workshop, we will discuss best practices and strategies for increasing parent and student engagement and home-school connection to improve academic outcomes. For oral Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. Methods for fostering independence in the care and usage of hearing assistive devices and developing the self-advocacy and compensatory skills needed to access the hearing environment will also be addressed.

Session Title: 1 in 52 has Autism...Who Do You Know?

Presenter: Trish Kane and Neal Lichter

Description: 1 in 52 children in Maryland are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Undoubtedly, you are interacting with someone with autism whether in your home, your neighborhood, your school, or your workplace. Understanding ASD is one way to improve your interactions with someone on the spectrum. Our presentation will provide a practical and experiential opportunity for you to learn strategies and tips for success.

Session Title: When They Wander or Run Away

Presenter: Trish Kane and Neal Lichter

Description: The statistics are frightening. Forty-nine percent (49%) of children with autism and 26.7% individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities elope (often from a safe environment); more than 1/3 cannot communicate their name, address, or phone number; and, 71% of deaths related to wandering are caused by drowning. This webinar addresses reasons why individuals might elope as well as safety preventive measures parents and caregivers can put into place.

Session Title: Language Deprivation in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students, Academic Gap, Solutions & Strategies

Presenter: Maya Yamada

Description: Participants will have an opportunity to actively engage online in understanding what language deprivation is and the impact it has on Deaf/Hard of Hearing students' academic gap. The second part of the presentation will involve solutions and strategies to prevent language deprivation.

Session Title: Supporting Adolescent Students with a Reading Disability

Presenter: Dr. Jackie Gordon and Takisha Ubiera

Description: Participants will gain an understanding of Specific Learning Disability in the area of reading as well as Dyslexia. The presenters will share best-practice strategies used by classroom teachers to help students improve their reading skills. Parents will also be provided with strategies and resources to support their adolescent students with reading at home.

Session Title: Language Gaps & My Deaf / Hard of Hearing Child

Presenter: Robert Parkinson and MaryAnn Pickering

Description: Hear from parents, teachers, and students about the challenges experienced and the opportunities accessed on their journey to developing language proficiency. For a child who is Deaf or hard of hearing, what strategies will ensure fluency in English? What are the ways by which parents and caregivers can help their children significantly improve their language skills and how critical is this for success in all other courses they will take? Join us for this reflection and discourse and be prepared to have your say.

Session Title: Family Yoga with SPIRIT Club

Presenter: Marcela Garro

Description: Join Marcela from SPIRIT Club as she leads you through a total-body fitness class designed for people with and without disabilities! SPIRIT Club offers virtual and in-person classes and personal training that ensure fitness is accessible for everyone, and trainers employ an integrated exercise environment that supports people with and without disabilities. This live total body workout class, offered just for Prince George's County Public Schools, requires no equipment other than a chair.

Session Title: Family Engagement

Presenter: Marlo Lemon and Gicel Martinez

Description: Do you want to learn more about how to be more engaged in your students' schooling? This workshop will give you ideas and suggestions as well as discuss barriers and challenges parents may face. Join us for a candid discussion on

how we can be more engaged in our school communities. When our children see us actively participating, it increases student achievement.

Session Title: Learn the Signs, Act Early

Presenter: Marlo Lemon and Gicel Martinez

Description: An introduction for parents on how you can follow your child's development by watching how he or she plays, learns, speaks, and acts. Learn which milestones your child should reach between birth and 5 years and what to do if you are concerned about your child's development.

Session Title: The Rumble Rage Cycle: How to Help Your Child with Big Emotions

Presenter: Sarah Wayland, Ph.D.

Description: When your child is losing it, there are predictable stages they go through – from rumble through rage to recovery. If you have a child who is easily or unpredictably triggered to fight, flight, or freeze, it's hard to know how to respond. In this presentation, Dr. Sarah Wayland will explain why meltdowns are not purposeful behavior – they are neurologically based and need to be addressed as an involuntary response to something in the environment that the individual is having trouble with. Learn to identify the behaviors that indicate that a child is starting to rumble and how to handle it. If you can't address the rumble, learn how to identify the signs of a rage, and how to avoid making that worse. Learn why restraint is not helpful during a rage, and what to do to help your child safely get through it to recovery.

Presenter Bios

Andrea Burrell

Andrea Burrell is a passionate and driven educator of 20 years. Throughout her career, she has held several leadership roles in Prince George's County Public Schools, including Special Education Chairperson, Central Office Mentor Teacher, National Board of Professional Teaching Certification Cohort Lead and Mentor. She is currently a Special Education Instructional Specialist with Prince George's County Public Schools who develops, facilitates, coaches, and monitors the professional learning of district personnel charged with educating students with disabilities. Andrea is also a certified Social-Emotional Learning Facilitator and yoga instructor who is passionate about the well-being of others.

In addition to being a Nationally Board-Certified Teacher, Andrea holds certifications in

special education and school administration. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Special Education from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and her Master's Degree in Teacher Leadership from George Washington University. Andrea is also a certified Social-Emotional Learning Facilitator and yoga instructor who is passionate about the well-being of others. She actively seeks opportunities to embed wellness practices into the professional learning she shares with educators, students, and families.

Colleen Carroll

Colleen Carroll is a Professional Services Manager at Rethink Ed. She earned her BCBA in 2018 from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. With her degree and over 20 years of experience, she has held a variety of supervisor roles supporting learners with various disabilities in both public and private settings. Her current role at Rethink provides her the great opportunity to support our partner districts in providing implementation guidance for a variety of Rethink programs, including the SKILLS and Social-Emotional Learning Programs.

Jared Ciner

Jared is SPIRIT Club's Founder and Director. He is also a lead trainer and is dual certified. "In 2011, I spent a summer in Ethiopia volunteering at the Fregenet Foundation, organizing athletic programs for Ethiopian children from severely impoverished families. This experience helped me realize the positive impact that structured fitness could have on the mental, physical and emotional well-being of those participating. After graduating from the University of Maryland with a BA in Psychology, I received my personal trainer certification from NASM and began working two jobs: one as a fitness trainer at a local gym, and the other as a Support Counselor for adults with disabilities, including autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy. In 2012, I founded SPIRIT Club, a fitness organization that provides specialized programs that accommodate people of ALL abilities including those with physical and developmental disabilities."

Kofi Dennis

Kofi Dennis has been a Master Teaching Artist with the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts since 1998. As a professional percussionist and storyteller, Kofi provides Arts Integrated classroom residencies and professional development workshops in music and creative drama for early childhood educators both locally, nationally, and internationally. Kofi also conducts an arts integrated program (known as "Baby Artsplay") for infants up to five years, together with their parents at various county libraries and other centers. He is the music teacher at IDEAVENTIONS Academy for Mathematics and Science in Reston, VA. Kofi Dennis is well known as part of the duo, Anansegromma; presenting traditional African music, drums rhythms, and storytelling. He also teaches the traditional djembe drumming and has the unique opportunity of working with juvenile and adult prisoners in area county jails, sharing his talents of storytelling and drum rhythms. Kofi is a

graduate of the School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana, and studied early childhood and adolescent education at Komenda College, University of Cape Coast.

Catherine Francoeur

Catherine Francoeur has been the Prince George's County Public Schools' Professional Librarian since 2004. Her focus is to assist all staff in their educational needs and to promote all of the wonderful resources available through PGCPs and Prince George's County Memorial Library System!

Marcela Garro

Marcela is one of SPIRIT Club's talented lead trainers. She is dual certified in both fitness and in working with people with disabilities. "I am a Certified Personal Trainer through NASM and I specialize in weight loss, strength & conditioning, and endurance training. I am originally from Costa Rica where I grew up loving soccer and being active. I eventually became a professional soccer player and found my passion for fitness and movement through the sport. I consider exercise to be my 'medicine and happy hour' and I'm happy to share my love of fitness with my clients all while keeping my sessions fun and enjoyable. Outside of the gym you can find me outdoors enjoying nature, eating sushi, or hanging out with my 2 dogs Maui and Peewee."

Dr. Jackie Gordon

Dr. Jacquelyn Gordon has been employed by the Department of Psychological Services, Prince George's County Public Schools for the last 21 years. Throughout her career, Dr. Gordon's special interests have included effective instruction in heterogeneous settings, supporting the emotional and social development of Talented and Gifted Students, and the identification of the most appropriate assessment models for identifying disabilities among minority youth. Dr. Gordon is also a Nationally Certified School Neuropsychologist. In this role, she provides consultation to school teams in translating clinical neuropsychological evaluations into functional educationally relevant interventions.

Dr. Gordon received her Bachelor of Science, Masters of Education, and Doctor of Philosophy Degrees from Howard University. Dr. Gordon has served as the External Evaluator for several of Howard University's National Science Foundation funded-projects, including the *Howard University Interdisciplinary Science Research Experiences for Middle Schools* project. Involvement in projects such as the aforementioned has included development of evaluation methodology, construction of measurement tools, use of statistical theory and tests to determine the extent to which the programs have achieved their predetermined goals and objectives, and development of formative and summative written reports. Dr. Gordon also previously served as adjunct professor at Howard University at different periods between 2006 and 2017. Dr. Gordon has presented locally

and internationally on a range of topics (e.g., autism, learning difficulties) to educators in k-12 institutions as well as higher education, and parent groups.

Ross W. Green, PH.D. (Keynote Speaker)

Dr. Ross Greene is the originator of the innovative, evidence-based model of intervention called *Collaborative & Proactive Solutions* (CPS) as described in his influential books *The Explosive Child*, *Lost at School*, *Lost & Found*, and *Raising Human Beings*. He also developed and executive produced the documentary film, *The Kids We Lose*, released in 2018. Dr. Greene served on the faculty at Harvard Medical School for over 20 years, and is now Founding Director of the non-profit *Lives in the Balance* (www.livesinthebalance.org), which aims to disseminate the CPS model and support caregivers through a vast array of free web-based resources; advocate on behalf of behaviorally challenging kids and their caregivers; and advocate for systemic changes to encourage the use of non-punitive, non-adversarial interventions. He is currently adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychology at Virginia Tech and adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Science at University of Technology Sydney in Australia. Dr. Greene's research has been funded by the Stanley Research Institute, the National Institutes of Mental Health, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. He lectures and consults extensively with families, general and special education schools, inpatient psychiatric units, and residential and juvenile detention facilities throughout the world.

Dan Habib (Featured Speaker)

Dan Habib (pronounced “Habeeb”) is the creator of the award-winning nationally broadcast documentary films *Including Samuel*, *Who Cares About Kelsey?*, *Mr. Connolly Has ALS*, *Intelligent Lives*, and many other short films on disability-related topics. Habib is a project director at the University of New Hampshire’s Institute on Disability.

Habib's films have been nominated for Emmy awards, translated into 17 languages, and used worldwide to support inclusive education and disability rights.

Before joining UNH in April of 2008, Habib was the photography editor of the *Concord Monitor* (NH). He was twice named the national Photography Editor of the Year and has been a judge of the Pulitzer Prizes. In 2012, Habib received the Champion of Human and Civil Rights Award from the National Education Association, and in 2013, he received the Justice for All Grassroots Award from the American Association of People with Disabilities. Habib delivered a widely viewed TEDx talk titled “Disabling Segregation” on the benefits of inclusion to students with and without disabilities.

From 2014-2017, Habib served on President Barack Obama's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities—a committee that promotes policies and initiatives that support independence and lifelong inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.

Dr. Tarik Harris

Dr. Tarik Y. Harris Sr. is the Regional School Prevention and Intervention Specialist at the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS), an independent agency under the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). As the Regional School Prevention and Intervention Specialist, Dr. Harris collaborates, supports and provides technical assistance to local school systems, administrators, Mental Health Coordinators, students, and parents throughout the state of Maryland. Prior to joining MCSS, Dr. Harris was an Educator for over 21 years, serving as a Crisis Intervention Resource Teacher, School Counselor, High School Dean of Students, and Assistant Principal. Dr. Harris is a certified Mental Health First Aid Youth and Adults Trainer, ACE Interface Master Trainer, Maryland Police Training Commission Instructor, and One Love Ambassador.

Pauline Heard-Dunn

Pauline Herd-Dunn is currently an itinerant teacher in the program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHOH) students. In her 29-year teaching career with PGCPs, she has served in several capacities within the DHOH program, including classroom and resource room teacher at the various levels of instruction.

Jennifer Holloway

Jennifer Holloway is the Instructional Specialist for Assistive Technology for Prince George's County Public Schools in Prince George's County. In addition, she is also a certified reading specialist, a highly qualified educator, a national presenter, a workshop facilitator, and a professional development trainer.

Jennifer writes assistive technology manuals, plans and procedures for school districts and coordinates and facilitates local, state, and national consortiums/panels and conferences addressing the various needs of assistive technology and universal design for learning.

Jennifer's vision for the future of K-12 education is universal access to 21st century tools to create lifelong learners in our global community. Jennifer believes strongly in the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and the power of assistive technologies to meet the needs of all students.

Dr. Sheila Jackson

Dr. Jackson joined Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPs) in 1987, serving as a daily parent volunteer in her children's local public schools. She was hired in 1991 as a Parent Facilitator of the Comer School Development Program (SDP), the nation's longest-lasting school reform initiative based at Yale University (since 1968), and the school system's primary model for comprehensive school reform and targeted parent/community engagement 1985-2015.

Dr. Jackson holds a B.A. from the University of Virginia in Biology and M.S. from McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland College) in Curriculum, Instruction, Supervision, and Administration. She is certified by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) as an Administrator I and completed her doctoral studies and dissertation focused on Effective Engagement of Middle School Parents and Families to attain her E.D. from the University of Maryland, College Park in May 2016.

Dr. Jackson remains a nationally certified director for the Yale University Child Study Center's Comer SDP Regional Professional Development and Training Center in Prince George's County, in existence since 1994. As a member of Yale University's National Faculty for Comer SDP, she coaches SDP implementation in districts across the United States. She is a highly sought-after local and national consultant on parental engagement, personal development, professional development, team and relationship development, collaborative coaching, collaborative planning, school reform, cultural valuing, community development, and child and adolescent growth and development.

Marlo Lemon

Marlo received her Bachelors of Science degree from Coppin State University and Masters of Teaching and Administration from Loyola University. As an adjunct professor, she teaches the "Working with Families of Students with Disabilities" course at Towson University. In her most recent position, she served as a Parent Coordinator for Baltimore County Schools - Birth to Five Office. In this position, she encouraged, empowered, and gave support to families of children with disabilities. As a Professional Development Facilitator, she has trained and mentored teachers on literacy for Johns Hopkins University and Howard County Public Schools. In her position as Educational Specialist for the Maryland State Department of Education, she worked in Title I schools, early childhood, and special education. She is thankful for her years of teaching for Baltimore City and Baltimore County Public School Systems because it allowed her to impact so many children and families. She is a relationship builder and believes ALL children can achieve. However, she is most proud of her role as a wife for over 20 years and mother of her three children, one who has autism and another with learning disabilities.

Dr. Jennifer Love

Dr. Jennifer Love currently serves as the Supervisor of Language Access and Engagement in the Office of Interpreting and Translation in Prince George's County Public Schools. She is proud to have worked for 18 years in the school system, having been born and raised in Prince George's County. She earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in education and language acquisition from Wake Forest University. Her journey in education has included serving in various instructional and leadership roles in which she has connected with staff, motivated students, and opened doors to family engagement, especially within the international community. Dr. Love currently leads a dedicated team of interpreters and has instituted a full-time translation unit, in order to effectively facilitate language access resources

for over 55,000 families across the school district. Both locally and nationally, Dr. Love is a respected author, presenter, and consultant on effective practices in language access and English learner family engagement and is committed to authentic engagement and learning opportunities to positively impact student achievement. One of the initiatives that she developed in Prince George's County was recognized by the former White House Initiative for Educational Excellence for Hispanics as a national *Bright Spot in Hispanic Education*.

Dedicated to elevating family engagement, Dr. Love served on the core team with the Maryland State Department of Education to create Maryland's first PreK-12 Family Engagement Framework. Her passion is education and engagement equity, and she has been a visionary and esteemed leader in the field, having served for six years as President of the Maryland English Language Learner Family Involvement Network (MELLFIN) and currently serving on multiple state and regional advisory councils. She earned a Doctor of Education in Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Educational Leadership in Special Education as part of a grant cohort of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education. Dr. Love enjoys travel, and treasures time spent with her loving husband and amazing sons, learning and growing around the world!

Gicel Martinez

Gicel has been supporting underserved and diverse communities in a variety of roles for several years. For the past ten years, she has worked as a Para Educator with Special Education students in Prince George's County. Gicel is currently working on her undergraduate degree in social work and brings her expertise and passion to Parents Place of Maryland as a fluent Spanish speaker to serve Maryland's Latinx population. As a parent of a young child on the autism spectrum, she understands first-hand what bilingual families' experience. Gicel lives in Prince George's County with her husband and her two sons.

Robert Parkinson

Robert Parkinson (M.Ed. - Mathematics Education, MA - Deaf Education) - An educator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for more than 20 years, Robert has worked in high schools in Jamaica, South Carolina, the District of Columbia, and Maryland. At the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, he served at the helm of the STEAM program in an administrative capacity. His is of the belief that all students can attain their fullest potential if provided the opportunities to thrive in a language-rich environment that both recognizes and embraces their uniqueness.

MaryAnn Pickering

Mary Ann White-Pickering is a Deaf Para-Educator who has worked with the PGCPD Deaf and Hard of Hearing program since 1992. Maryann has supported students with academic and language development skills. She is excited to share her experience with conference participants. Being a third-generation deaf adult, Maryann has seen the benefits of access to language at an early age. With deaf, deafened and hard of hearing family members on both

sides of her family, Mary Ann believes effective communication is the foundation for children's success in school and life!

Brittany Pinkney

Brittany Pinkney is a nationally certified school psychologist with Prince George's County Public Schools. She resides in Maryland with her two daughters, Laila & Olivia. Ms. Pinkney earned her undergraduate degree in Psychology and her master's degree and certificate of advanced study in School Psychology from Towson University. She currently provides academic and behavioral support to over one hundred children with autism at her assigned school. She also provides consultation services to her school team to ensure that the most effective practices are being implemented for her students.

Dr. Paula Schauer

Dr. Paula Schauer joined PGCPs as the Instructional Specialist for Audiology in 2017. She has over 30 years of experience as a pediatric and educational audiologist and worked for 10 years as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland College Park. As a member of both the Department of Special Education Programs and Services and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing leadership teams, she has shared tools to promote student and parent engagement, and supported initiatives to promote students' communication skills and accessibility to the curriculum.

Scott Showalter

Scott Showalter, Ed.S., is a conscientious and team-oriented leader who serves as the Mental Health Coordinator for PGCPs. He is also a national award-winning school psychologist who received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and graduate degree from the University of Kansas. In 2016, he was one of two people across the nation honored by the National Association of School Psychologists for his advocacy efforts to improve education and mental health services for children, youth, and their families. Mr. Showalter provides oversight of over 60 mental health clinicians who address the mental health needs of students in over 90 schools. During his career, he has conducted more than 200 workshops, coordinated the school system's crisis team during over 200 crises, headed the development of several school system administrative procedures, led many parent support groups, and taught courses designed for various school professionals.

Laura K. Sibbald

Laura K. Sibbald, M.A., CCC-SLP is a nationally certified speech-language pathologist who has extensive experience supporting the social-emotional and pragmatic language needs of students and families within the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region. Laura graduated from George Washington University in 2011 with a Master's in Speech-Language Pathology. In order to further support student growth and achievement, Laura earned additional certifications in Relationship Development Intervention (RDI), and Educational Leadership

and Supervision. Laura co-authored both the Trauma-Informed Social-Emotional Toolbox and the Parenting Toolbox focused on developing problem-solving pathways and building resilience in children and families. Laura serves as a member of the Multicultural Affairs Committee of the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association, focusing on community engagement to promote understanding of diverse communicators. She has developed and implemented a variety of professional learning opportunities surrounding social-emotional competence at the local, state, and national level, including being an expert panelist at the 2020 Parenting Autism Summit.

Terlene D. Terry-Todd

Terlene D. Terry-Todd is currently a Master Teaching Artist for the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts, the founding artistic director for the Reston Institute for the Arts. She is a certified dance and Adapted Physical Education specialist for Fairfax County Public Schools, national presenter on dance education and a free-lance performing arts consultant and choreographer and CEO of Ms. T Productions. She has been a dancer, actor, choreographer, and professional teaching artist for over 35 years. Mrs. Terry-Todd holds an undergraduate degree in Physical Education from Hampton University, an MS in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, and a MA in Dance History and Choreography from American University. Terry-Todd is a national and international presenter of workshops, masterclasses, and teacher professional development training workshops. She has developed creative programs for students of all abilities and disabilities for more than 35 years. Terry-Todd has received numerous awards and accolades for her choreography, contributions to the arts, and her work with special needs children. She has designed and implemented numerous dance education programs for private and public schools and has received support grants to sustain these endeavors. Terry-Todd has served on the faculties of both Howard University and American University and has been appointed to, among others, the Virginia State Commission on the Arts Advisory Panel. Ms. Terry-Todd, a strong advocate of wellness and fitness, has created the 'healthy choice stories' series for children. This series uses storytelling as a way to convey the importance of preventing obesity and promoting good nutrition and fitness. Her first book of the series is titled, "SWEETIE'S HEALTHY START."

Takisha Ubiera

Takisha Ubiera is currently a Resource Support Teacher for the Office of Instructional Support Assessments and Accountability, a subdivision of the Department of Special Education, in Prince George's County, Maryland. Along with her fellow team members, Takisha helps develop and conduct professional learning opportunities for educators related to research-based interventions and educational assessments. From 2006 through 2018, she served as Special Education Resource Teacher at Magnolia Elementary and Yorktown Elementary. Takisha was also the Special Education Chairperson for several years while at

Yorktown Elementary. She always tells others that she became a teacher by default because she intended to become a school psychologist.

In May 2006, she graduated with honors from Delaware State University (B.S. in Psychology). She earned her certification in Special Education in 2008. In May 2017, she graduated from Loyola University with a Master's of Education in Literacy and a certification as a Reading Specialist. In a few weeks, Takisha will obtain her Administration 1 certification. Takisha is extremely passionate about honing her craft to help struggling readers become "proficient and advanced" in reading. In February 2020, Takisha was selected as a presenter for the Learning Disability Association (LDA) Conference where she presented about Universal Design for Learning.

Dr. Sarah Wayland

Dr. Wayland has a Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology is a Certified RDI (Relationship Development Intervention) consultant, and a Special Needs Care Navigator. Dr. Wayland founded her company, Guiding Exceptional Parents, to help parents learn how to confidently and effectively help their children with ADHD, autism, learning disabilities, and other brain-based differences at home, at school, and in the community. She has been deeply involved with disability support organizations including The Arc, the Parents Place of Maryland, the Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee in both Prince George's County and in the State of Maryland. In addition to hosting trainings, lecturing, and working with individual clients, Sarah is co-host of the online Parenting Autism Summit, and co-editor of the book "Technology Tools for Students with Autism". You can learn more at www.guidingexceptionalparents.com.

Maya Yamada

Maya Yamada, an oral deaf woman, who uses sign language and spoken language to communicate, began her career as a Teacher of the Deaf at Eleanor Roosevelt H.S in 1996 and has been teaching for 25 years. She is passionate about bringing healing, support, and solutions to parents who have deaf or hard of hearing children. Maya Yamada is the mother of an 8-year-old who has a progressive hearing loss. During her free time, she volunteers to teach American Sign Language (ASL) and provides support to parents of deaf and hard of hearing children in the evenings.

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thank you!