

Florida Literacy Conference

Schedule of Concurrent Sessions

Wednesday, May 9

Opening General Session

Opening remarks made by Rod Duckworth, Chancellor of Florida Department of Education, Division of Career and Adult Education

Keynote Speaker - Janna Peskett

Ignite Student Learning with a Growth Mindset



why is it that some students work doggedly at a difficult task while others give up at the first sign of struggle? Student motivation and resilience is a result of a combination of effective learning strategies and a growth mindset, the belief that mastery can be achieved through effort. Research shows that our implicit beliefs about intelligence determine educational outcomes. Learn how to help adult learners and teachers change their mindsets to develop self-efficacy and resilience.

Janna Peskett began her career in education teaching mathematics to special education high school students, where she realized that, despite others' expectations, anyone can achieve at high levels. She is Director of Digital Content and Curriculum Design at [Mindset Works](#), where she oversees the creation of digital growth mindset curricula and resources.

U.S. Immigration Update - What to Expect and How to Prepare

Patrice Johnson and Camille Pachon Silva, Astera Law Group, Edly Vliet, US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS),

This session will discuss the state of immigration enforcement and regulations under the Trump Administration. Panelists will share information and resources available through USCIS and provide an update on new executive actions, current removal/deportation priorities, the DACA Program and proposed policies in Congress. There will be an opportunity for questions.

Adult Learner, English Literacy/ESOL

How to Advocate for What You Want and Need

Marty Finsterbusch, VALUEUSA

Getting what you want and need will vastly improve programs, your life and community. This workshop will consist of identifying the difference between "advocating" and "lobbying" and answering key

questions for an advocacy plan. Come learn what advocacy is and how it can help you!

Adult Learner Day

TABE 11 & 12 Refresher

Lisa Williams and Jane Silveria, Florida Department of Education

This refresher is for individuals who are currently certified to administer the TABE 9 & 10 assessment. Attendees will be updated on the new TABE 11 & 12 version. Re-certifications are required every two years, unless you are employed by FL DOC. All FDOC employees must re-certify yearly.

ABE, GED & Adult High School

What every AE Educator should know about Florida IPDAE!

June Rall, Tammy Serrano, Institute for the Professional Development of Adult Educators - IRSC

Join us for an update on what's new with Florida IPDAE! In this session you will get a hands-on look at resources that tie directly into your own specific area of expertise. This session will provide a wealth of resources that can easily be implemented into any classroom environment.

English Literacy/ESOL, ABE, GED and Adult High School

Technology in the Adult Education Classroom!

Gabriela Moffatt, Rebecca DeJesus, Orange Technical College - Winter Park Campus

This session will cover a wide variety of FREE technology resources that can quickly and easily be integrated into any classroom (including ABE, GED, AAE and ESOL). Learn about websites that provide unlimited practice problems, quizzing, screen capture and share, fast formative assessments, and engagement.

English Literacy/ESOL ABE, GED and Adult High School

Real World Applications: ABE/GED Corrections Curriculum: "Taking Care of Yourself"

Anne Meisenzahl, Kim Stralow, Charles Chatman and Rochel Abrams ACE – Leon County

This session will share evidence based lessons focused on social skills, science, CPR (Reading, Science) and computer skills (language, other academics). These lessons come from the 23-unit Leon County Schools Curriculum, "Taking Care of Yourself". While this resource is geared toward corrections, it can be used with all ABE/GED students. Participants will get a free copy of the digital curriculum.

Corrections, ABE, GED and Adult High School

Integrating Entry-Level Certifications into Adult Basic Education and Literacy Instruction

Harold Gertner, Santa Fe College

Add value to ABE and literacy programs through entry-level certifications embedded within existing curriculum. Learn practical measures for implementation of combination literacy/certification coursework with minimal effort and expense. This session will survey a series of hands-on strategies to increase literacy and student employability.

Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness ABE, GED and Adult High School

My Money Program: Tools for Educating Adult Learners About Financial Literacy

Tasha Carter, Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Consumer Services

Wondering how to incorporate financial literacy into your ABE and ESOL classroom? This interactive session will include an overview of the free financial literacy resources available from the Florida Department of Financial Services as well how to use these tools to engage adult learners in the learning process.

Financial Literacy

Adult Learner Experience

Marty Finsterbusch, VALUEUSA

Join this interactive workshop as adult learners discuss why they enrolled and stayed in their programs. Adult learners who attend this session will get an opportunity to participate in sharing their stories and experiences in life and adult education. This program will be inspiring and motivating for adult learners and informative for program providers.

Adult Learner Day

What Every ESOL Teacher Needs to Know about the New 2018 Curriculum Frameworks (Part 1 of 2)

Phillip Anderson and Christine Urena, Florida Department of Education

This double session gives teachers a wide-lens view of the new Adult ESOL curriculum and the language standards and skills and their students need to advance through the six levels of ESOL. Find out how you can be a stress and worry-free instructor who is ready to create and teach lessons that get results. Learn about the three key components of English language instruction that matter most for learner success. Both sessions are full of hands-on practical and ready-to-use activities and materials, so come and get the scoop on all the new resources for Adult ESOL.

English Literacy/ESOL

Teaching Pronunciation in Adult ESL

Dawn Blake, Intercambio Uniting Communities – Vendor Presentation

Being understood is a key to adult English language learning success. This workshop uses tools to help with pronunciation; the Color Vowel™ Chart and Intercambio's Pronunciation Fun. Everyday tools and practical tips for helping students with sounds and stress will be discussed as well.

English Literacy/ESOL

WorkWise-A Resource for Integrating Workplace Instruction into Adult Curriculum

Karen Welch, New Readers Press - Vendor Presentation

Learn some of the latest best practices to build your learners' reading, writing, math and critical thinking skills, while also developing key job readiness principles. The session will focus on exercises that tap in-demand soft skills, while integrating contextualized content in to your lesson plans.

Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness

CREATING A WIN-WIN-WIN Approach with Services to Migrant Youth!

James Haugli and Lucía Valdivia-Sánchez, Farmworker Career Development Program, Florida DOE

Pathways to Success for your Migrant/OSY and their Families – Secondary schools are focusing more on Career and Technical education and Career Pathways. Florida has a unique collaboration model that offers migrant students/OSY a seamless transition into a Workforce Career Development Program.

English Literacy/ESOL, Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness

Health Literacy Strategies for Small Agencies

Karen Strange, Literacy Volunteers of Leon County

Discussion of Literacy Volunteers of Leon County's experience with the Florida Literacy Coalition/Florida Blue Health Literacy grant; including tools and strategies that have allowed our small literacy agency to achieve the grant's objectives.

English Literacy/ESOL, Health Literacy

Exploring Health Careers: Find Your Dream Job!

Heather Hepler Surrency, Florida Literacy Coalition

Are you looking for a new career? Are you interested in helping people? Join us for this fun workshop that will explore the different kinds of health care jobs available in Florida. Many of these jobs require only a few months of training and can provide you a lifetime of rewarding work.

Adult Learner Day

Project Read Reading Comprehension Strategies for Informational and Fiction Text

Andrew Stetkevich, Language Circle Enterprises – Vendor Presentation

This Reading Comprehension program teaches both narrative and expository text reading. Students are taught processes for interacting with these two types of text. The goal is to provide direct concept teaching and multisensory instructional strategies that cut through complex text to develop active, purposeful readers.

English Literacy, ESOL Reading

Making Inferences: A Skill for All Content Areas

Daphne Atkinson, GED Testing Service

Whether reading non-fiction text or interpreting graphics, students need to be able to make inferences. Drawing conclusions and making inferences remain two of the most challenging skills for students to develop. Join fellow teachers as they explore “reading between the lines.”

ABE, GED and Adult High School

What Every ESOL Teacher Needs to Know about the New 2018 Curriculum Frameworks (Part 2 of 2)

Philip Anderson and Christine Urena, Florida Department of Education

This double session gives teachers a wide-lens view of the new Adult ESOL curriculum and the language standards and skills and their students need to advance through the six levels of ESOL. Find out how you can be a stress and worry-free instructor who is ready to create and teach lessons that get results. Learn about the three key components of English language instruction that matter most for learner success.

Both sessions are full of hands-on practical and ready-to-use activities and materials, so come and get the scoop on all the new resources for Adult ESOL.

English Literacy/ESOL

Evidence-Based Literacy Strategies for Adult Educators

Kevin Smith, Laurie Lee Florida State University, Regional Educational Laboratory Southeast

In this session, participants will experience evidence-based literacy strategies and learn about the research on which they are based through an interactive discussion focused on improving literacy instruction and intervention in adult education.

Reading, ABE, GED and Adult High School

Contextualized Learning: Health Literacy in Action

Heather Hepler Surrency, Florida Literacy Coalition

A panel of current Florida Health Literacy Initiative Grantees will discuss how they have used the grant to incorporate health literacy into their curriculums. Panelists will share an overview of their program as well as highlight successful project-based learning strategies to advance the health knowledge and literacy skills of adult education and ESOL students.

Health Literacy, English Literacy/ESOL

Interactive Lessons: Incorporating Excitement in the Classroom

Anna Schubarth, Florida Department of Corrections

This hands-on session will model multiple ways to encourage enthusiasm in learners. Attendees will receive five activity plans that will jumpstart motivation in their classrooms: Reading – masquerade, Language – pet peeves, Math – ladders, Science – ecological diversity, and Social Studies – time lines.

Corrections, ABE, GED and Adult High School

What Students and Instructors Need to Know: GED® RLA's Constructed Response

Daphne Atkinson, GED Testing Service

Attend this session to build your insights into how instruct students in writing a response that earns points on the GED® Test's Reasoning through Language Arts. This workshop will provide an overview of the skills needed and selected classroom strategies that will help you better prepare students.

ABE, GED and Adult High School

4C's + 3D's = Engaged Learning

Marie Coleman, Lorenzo Walker Technical College

Another Alphabet Soup? It may seem like it! Most agree with the necessity of the 4C's (Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity and Collaboration) to successfully survive in our complex world. Try activating them in the classroom with the 3D's (Discover, Dabble and Distribute).

Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness, ABE, GED and Adult High School

Ventures for 2018--NRS, ELP, CRS and CASAS Ready!

James Goldstone, Cambridge University Press – Vendor Presentation

The 3rd Edition of Ventures is here! Come and get a free sample of America's # 1 ESOL program for adults and see why it is often the first choice for adult learners of English and programs. See Ventures' new features and what makes it so teacher and student friendly!

English Literacy/ESOL

Communicating laws, systems and culture to adult immigrants

Dawn Blake, Intercambio Uniting Communities – Vendor Presentation

What information helps ease the transition for immigrants living in the United States? This workshop focuses on three areas around this topic; implementation in adult ESL class(es), creating conversation groups and common approaches to leading a workshop in your community using Intercambio's Immigrant Guide.

ABE, GED and Adult High School, English Literacy/ESOL

Expand and Accelerate Language Learning Opportunities using English Discoveries

Jill Rosolek, English Discoveries – Vendor Presentation

English Discoveries features multi-level, interactive curriculum in reading, listening, speaking, writing, grammar, vocabulary, standardized test preparation, career exploration and more. Its 100% online so students can access 24/7 using computers, tablets, and smartphones. Concurrent licenses plus an unlimited database provide simplified account management and access for all of your program's students.

English Literacy/ESOL, Technology

Florida Literacy Coalition Annual Meeting

Find out what's new at the Florida Literacy Coalition (FLC). Your participation is welcome as we review FLC programs and future directions. Be the first to get a copy of the newly released adult learner essay book, Moving Forward. Several student authors will read their essays, which is always a highlight! So grab your lunch and join us. Attendees will be entered to win two free 2018 Florida Literacy Conference registrations.

Opening Reception

Join us on the outdoor terrace for music, food and fun! Hor d'oeuvres and drinks will be served. Music performed by Osceola Country Landmark.

Thursday, May 10

Florida Department of Education Update - Ballroom A

Lisa Williams, Florida Department Education

Description to be added at a later date

Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness

Emotional Intelligence, or how to clarify your institutions' Mission Statement

Lionel L'Esperance and Israel Caraza, Lorenzo Walker Technical College

Emotional Intelligence (EQ), is there an LCP to be earned for that? Integrating goal setting, celebrating student success, developing coping techniques, introducing new levels of self-awareness should be the foundation to a student centered learning environment. Student diversity requires creative planning and academic scaffolding .

Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness, ABE, GED and Adult High School

Health Information formatted as ESL lessons

Mary Johnston, Sydney (Australia) Local Health District

ESL classes are an effective way to provide important health information to migrant groups who are otherwise hard to reach. Learn about five resources that have been developed to provide health information in the format of ESL lessons and corresponding teacher training.

English Literacy/ESOL, Health Literacy

Redefining Blended Learning for the 21st Century

Kimberly Bartholomew, Burlington English

Learn how Burlington English defines Blended Learning to successfully meet content standard requirements, while bringing consistency to your curriculum. Our comprehensive suite of blended courses will help you successfully meet the requirements of WIOA with Integrated Education and Training (IET) and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IEL/CE).

English Literacy, ESOL Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness

Internet Resources That Are EZ-PZ Lemon Squeezy!

Kimberly Gates, FL Adult & Technical Distance Education Consortium

No matter what your students need, it's online somewhere! Vocabulary websites? Certainly! Math flash cards? Without a doubt! Language arts practice? It's there! Social media sites for the classroom? Absolutely! Learn about where to find these and more in this fun and interactive session.

Technology

Introduction to Grant Writing

Greg Smith, Florida Literacy Coalition

So you have a good programming idea for which you would like to seek grant funding. Now what? This session will provide an introduction to key components to researching, planning and writing successful proposals.

Program Management

4 Keys for Best Outcomes in Adult ESL

Dawn Blake, Intercambio Uniting Communities

All teachers want to have the best possible outcome for their class. This interactive workshop covers ways to make your teaching more interactive, structured, and engaging for students. Four key techniques will be discussed, as well as simple strategies to expand learning in your context.

English Literacy/ ESOL, Volunteers in Literacy

Motivating Strategies for Literacy at Home and in School

Dr. Willie J. Kimmons, N/ASave Children Save Schools, Inc.

An interactive, group participation workshop with helpful suggestions, strategies and recommendations for parents and teachers working together in a united front to improve children's literacy skills at home and in school. Motivational strategies and techniques will be explored.

Family Literacy, ABE, GED and Adult High School

TABE 11/12 Updates and Previews!

Mike Johnson, Data Recognition Corp – Vendor Presentation

This session provides a first look at the new TABE 11/12 and describes the new structure, length, testing time, item types, alignment to NRS EFLs and adult education standards, relevance to high school equivalency tests, and improved locator. Participants will also view the new scanning solution for paper testing.

Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness, ABE, GED and Adult High School

Integrating Career Awareness into the ABE and ESOL Classroom

Mary A. Gaston, LINCS

This mini-course introduces practitioners to career planning lessons and tools contained in the Integrating Career Awareness into the ABE/ESOL Classroom guide & other resources. Part one of a three-part mini-course; remaining 2 sessions offered virtually after the conference. Participants are strongly encouraged to commit to the follow-up sessions.

Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness

ABE/GED Boot Camp

Alexandra Haas, Gregory Underwood, Toya Bell Johnson and Caffee Bellamy, Orange Technical College - Westside Campus

This session will breakdown the components of ABE/GED Boot Camp, which was developed to improve retention and completion rates by establishing academic and career goals prior to entering the classroom.

Program Management ABE, GED and Adult High School

ProLiteracy Education Network

Todd Evans, ProLiteracy

ProLiteracy Education Network is a comprehensive collection of online courses and resources for adult literacy and ESOL instructors, program staff, trainers, and adult learners. The site also includes topical

discussion forums where literacy practitioners can gather to ask questions, network, and share ideas and resources.

English Literacy/ESOL Program Management

Let's Speak English: Teaching English Conversation Skills

Jan Demers, Literacy Council of Upper Pinellas

Participants will learn how the Literacy Council of Upper Pinellas creates opportunities for adult immigrants to learn and practice English conversation skills. They will see examples of different program models and learn about the many resources available to teachers and students.

English Literacy/ESOL

The NEW GED Academy/TABE Academy

Stephanie Eichner, Essential Education – Vendor Presentation

Join us for a look at the NEW GED/TABE Academy. These exciting programs will prepare your students for their HSE success and improvement in TABE Scores. The NEW TABE Academy for TABE 11&12 will debut in the spring of 2018! Please stop by our booth, too!

Corrections, ABE, GED and Adult High School

Lead Your Literacy Program to Life!

Susan Mutschler, Citrus County Library System

Literacy program managers and staff are invited to this session to review the best management practices. A special emphasis will include: planning and program management, including forms and procedures, advocacy and getting your literacy message out, and community partnerships and fundraising. Get your questions answered!

Library Literacy, Program Management

Incorporating Mastery Learning Strategies to Teach Grammar

Wanda Phillips, Easy Grammar Systems

Dr. Wanda Phillips focuses on learning outcomes with a goal of mastery. Enjoy this highly participatory seminar as she provides ideas and strategies regarding kinesthetic and memorable learning. Enjoy activities and games that can be used with individuals or in the classroom.

English Literacy/ESOL, Learning Disabilities

Hands On Banking and the Florida Financial Literacy Initiative

Machelle Manor, Wells Fargo and Heather Hepler Surrency, Florida Literacy Coalition

This session will explore effective ways to incorporate financial literacy into adult education instruction. Participants will become familiar with the classroom/student resources available at Wells Fargo's Hands on Banking online learning center as well as learn about best practices from two Florida Financial Literacy Initiative grant-funded programs.

Financial Literacy

Reboot Your Digital Literacy

Mary A. Gaston, LINCS

In this session, learn how your program and students can take advantage of national developments in digital literacy and access. Watch demos of helpful resources, websites, and tools to get your teachers, tutors, and students “connected.”

Technology

Roundtable for Community-Based Directors

Greg Smith, Florida Literacy Coalition

Community volunteer-based literacy organizations experience unique challenges and opportunities. Join directors from around the state for a roundtable discussion on trends, promising practices, and strategies for effectively managing adult education and literacy programs.

Program Management

Seeing Beyond the Degree - Ballroom B

Scott J Vail, C4 Communications, LLC.

This session will explore recruiting and retaining non-traditional students by helping them discover why they are on this journey. You can help learners realize their future potential and overcome their present predicaments. Don't focus as much on the actual degree, but the multitude of external changes that will take place en route to it. Changing perspectives and results!

Program Management

Health Careers 101: Educating Students about Opportunities in Health Care - Ballroom D

Heather Hepler Surrency, Florida Literacy Coalition

Many job seekers are unaware of the wide range of high-demand health care jobs requiring minimal training. This session will explore how to integrate FLC's new Health Careers Guide into your existing curriculum and help students prepare for careers in health while they build core skills in reading, writing, speaking and math!

Health Literacy, Workforce Education/Career and College Readiness

Promoting 21st Century Skills in the ABE/GED Classroom

Jillian Cumbo, Orange Technical College

This session will provide strategies for connecting the Four Cs (critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity) to the ABE/GED curriculum frameworks.

ABE, GED and Adult High School

ProLiteracy's New Basic Literacy and ESL Tutor Training

Todd Evans, ProLiteracy

Come learn about ProLiteracy's new Basic Literacy and ESL Tutor Training materials. These comprehensive training materials will help you prepare prospective tutors to successfully teach ESL and literacy students in a variety of instructional settings. The modular training materials are available for face-to-face and online training.

English Literacy/ESOL, Program Management

Friday, May 11

BROKE: Financial Lessons from Athletes Who Earned and Lost Millions

Lesley Mace, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-- Jacksonville Branch

Using highlights from the ESPN 30 for 30 documentary “Broke”, this session features strategies to teach the basics of personal finance and the importance of understanding how to manage money through the stories of athletes who have earned—and lost—millions.

Financial Literacy

Retelling as an Effective Reading Comprehension Strategy for Underprepared Learners

Iris Strunc, Northwest Florida State College

According to research, students who must summarize text will have to give the article more than a cursory glance to retell it. Writing summaries requires students to identify main ideas and retell them-- two essential skills for reading comprehension. This interactive workshop will model these strategies.

Reading

ESOL Games to Learn English

Leah Consuegra-Guevara, Orange Technical College - Avalon Campus

This session will show you how to incorporate simple, everyday games to promote language acquisition in your classroom.

English Literacy/ ESOL

Let's Toast !

Grace Acevedo, Orange Technical College - Winter Park and Scott Maloney, Toast Masters

Toast Masters and ESOL have discovered a win win collaboration! Since 1924 Toast Masters operates clubs all over the world that helps its members improve their communication skills. Learn how ESOL classes are partnering with Toast Masters to help their students practice communication and public speaking skills.

English Literacy/ESOL

Creating More Effective and Engaging Classrooms with Differentiated Instruction

Arzu Leushuis, Florida State University - School of Teacher Education

Differentiated instruction is an approach that can be implemented with different instructional strategies to encourage students to actively participate in the learning process. This engaging approach to learning focuses on how to value students’ diverse backgrounds and how to help them find their potential for success.

Reading, English Literacy/ ESOL

Welcoming Classrooms and Communities - Bridging Divides and Fostering Belonging

Rachel Peric, Welcoming America

This session will explore strategies for creating more inclusive environments in which students and community members of all backgrounds – including immigrants - can thrive and belong. Participants will explore and share practical strategies and walk away with new approaches to apply as educators and advocates.

English Literacy/ESOL

What You Don't Know About Personal Finance CAN Hurt You!

Lesley Mace, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta- Jacksonville Branch

The cost of financial illiteracy is high. The inability to understand interest rates, the importance of saving, or the cost of carrying credit card debt affects all aspects of an individual's life. Receive a toolkit of free financial literacy resources in this interactive session

Financial Literacy

Transforming Dependent Learners into Independent Learners

Catherine O'Neil, Orange Technical College

This session will provide strategies for structuring your ESOL classroom in a gradual release atmosphere that facilitates independent learning inside and outside of the classroom.

English Literacy/ ESOL

Nonparticipation in Adult Education: Reasons Adults Give and Their Solutions

Margaret Patterson, PhD, Research Allies for Lifelong Learning, Marty Finsterbusch, VALUEUSA

Ever wonder why adults don't come through your doors as learners? A new VALUEUSA research project asked adults for their reasons. This session shares not only reasons but also their motivations and the sometimes surprising solutions they recommended. Learn ways to get potential learners into adult education - and how!

Program Management

Adult Literacy Level Readers

Julie Whiteacre, Florida Department of Corrections/Florida State Prison

This session offers a short explanation of the differences between how adults and children learn to read. Links to videos will be provided along with time to review some learning activities that can be used in one-on-one instruction to group instruction.

Corrections

Strategic Main Idea Instruction to Improve Comprehension of Struggling Readers

Iris Strunc, Northwest Florida State College

In order to comprehend, students must be actively involved in creating meaning by transforming information and building their own connections to the text. This interactive workshop will provide positive, practical, research-based strategies for instructors to unlock reading comprehension for struggling students by identifying the main idea of paragraphs.

Reading

Closing General Session and Awards Luncheon – Rachel Peric Welcoming America



Rachel is the Executive Director of [Welcoming America](#). Inspired by her family's refugee story and by the worldwide movement of welcomers, Rachel works to create communities where all residents – including immigrants and refugees – can thrive and belong. Since joining the organization in 2011, she has served as the organization's Deputy Director and in other senior leadership roles, helping grow Welcoming America from a nascent startup to an award-winning organization with a global footprint.

Previously, she served as Executive Director of the Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy (MCAEL), as a regional director with the United Way of the National Capital Area and managing international development programs with Management Systems International (MSI). Ms. Peric holds a BA from Johns Hopkins University and a Masters in Public Management from the University of Maryland.

Note: This is a preliminary list of Conference sessions and may be changed or modified. It does not include General Sessions.