VISION AND VOICE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE

"A Vision for their Voice and A Voice for their Vision"

Saturday, February 7, 2015
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Building H

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Goals

The main goal of this conference is to serve as a catalyst to create connections between schools, parents, and the community that are strengthened by the shared goal of increasing student achievement by engaging all.

Together we will:

Equip Educators to enhance their family engagement programs and build capacity in parents and stakeholders to improve learning for students.

Empower Parents to be informed decision makers in their child's education and to be contributors towards the success of their child as well as their child's school.

Enlist Communities to reach out and strengthen the connections between families and schools to create and sustain lasting partnerships to improve education.

Encircle Students with a strong network of support that will provide academic enrichment from schools, families, and community.

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE

	Session 10:15-11	Session 11:15-12	Session 3 12:45-1:30	Session 4 1:45-2:30
Building H Room 101-A	Cool or Not Cool: Social Media Safety	Cool or Not Cool: Social Media Safety	Math Across the Grades	Math Across the Grades
Building A Auditorium	Bullying Protection	Bullying Protection	Internet Safety/ Protecting Your Child in the 21st Century	Internet Safety/ Protecting Your Child in the 21st Century
Building H Room 101-C	Making Reading Meaningful at Home	Making Reading Meaningful at Home	Behavior Management	Behavior Management
Building H/ Upstairs Room 242/243	Descubra lo que esconde el teléfono de su hijo	Manejando el Comportamiento de su Hijo	Contestando sus Preguntas sobre los Cambios a las leyes de Inmigración	Contestando sus Preguntas sobre los Cambios a las leyes de Inmigración
Building H/ Upstairs Room 235/236	Kids & Money	Kids & Money	Not So Extreme Couponing	Not So Extreme Couponing
Building H Room 101-B (Activity Track)	Did You Know You Have Super Powers?	The Importance of Play	Come & Play!	The Importance of Play
Building H/ Upstairs Room 244	Arts & Crafts for Kids	Arts & Crafts for Kids	Arts & Crafts for Kids	Arts & Crafts for Kids

WORKSHOPS DETAILS

Bully Protection - Bullies are everywhere, so this workshop focuses on how to protect yourself or your child from being a target. I am passionate about giving students and educators practical tools that make their lives better. Come join me for an entertaining and informative session that will change the way you think about bullying. (Dr. Lisa Drake/Calhoun City Schools)

Come & Play! - You are invited to come and play with the energetic Shannon Bond, marshmallows, foam noodles, balloons and laughter to awaken your and your child's ability to problem solve and succeed. You and your child will giggle, smile, laugh, think, learn and succeed. It will be a workshop full of "vitamin self worth" and a nourishing dose of play and triumph. (Shannon Bond)

Contestando sus Preguntas sobre los Cambios a las leyes de Inmigración - Un abogado especialista en inmigración le orientará sobre los cambios en las disposiciones y leyes de inmigración que se esperan en el futuro inmediato. Puede traer dudas y preguntas particulares para ser respondidas por este experto. (Christian Sotomayor)

Cool or Not Cool: Social Media Safety - With the digital world constantly evolving, it can get tough to draw the line on what's acceptable and what isn't on the internet. Trolling. bullying and other types of risky behavior have a much bigger impact than some kids and adolescents may think they do. This workshop explores topics of maintaining healthy boundaries when it comes to social media and other forms of digital communication, such as texting. (Lauren Jones/Hospitality House)

Descubra lo que esconde el teléfono de su hijo - En estos tiempos los padres necesitamos ayuda para entender las redes sociales en las cuales nuestros hijos mantienen perfiles y comparten con otras personas. Esta sesión está dedicada a ayudar a los padres a sentirse más en control de unos medios de comunicación que probablemente no entienden por completo y a como tener conversaciones con sus hijos sobre este tema. La sesión también le ayudará a conocer datos importante sobre el uso de teléfonos inteligentes y los riesgos poco conocidos que estos encierran. (Belisa Urbina)

Did You Know You Have Super Powers? - That's Right! You can communicate without using your voice. You can bend foam noodles and cross fields of chunky peanut butter at will. The fantastically funny and vivacious, Shannon Bond, invites you to join her in an adventure of discovery. Your confidence will soar, your smile will widen and your heart will grow as you surprise yourself with the powers you possess. (Shannon Bond)

Internet Safety/Protecting Your Children in the 21st Century: The internet is wonderful place full of knowledge, entertainment, and ideas, but it can also be a scary place for young children and teenagers. This session will discuss basic concepts of internet safety for both parents and children. Learn about privacy concerns, potential pitfalls, social networking do's and don'ts, Geo-tagging, and responsible behavior while on the internet. Come and enjoy a laid back, but educational session about internet safety. (Craig Ellison/Floyd County Schools)

Kids & Money: Have you ever wondered what kids should know about money, and when? This session will offer parents and teachers helpful perspectives about what kids should be learning about money at each stage of development. Teachers and parents will learn what kids at each stage of development should know about money and some practical ways to teach those things. Also appropriate for kids, this session will include a hands-on learning activity. (Maegan Dockery & Stephanie Graves/ Northwest Georgia Credit Union)

Making Reading More Meaningful at Home: Children's book author, former teacher, and parent of two young boys, Leslie McKinney, will share life tested strategies to make reading at home productive and fun. She will share strategies to increase fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and the lifelong joy of reading. You will leave with an awareness of what active reading strategies are and how they impact reading and writing. (Leslie McKinney)

Manejando el Comportamiento de su Hijo - Todos los padres en algún momento hemos tenido preguntas sobre cual es la mejor manera de lograr que nuestros hijos se comporten de una manera adecuada. Nos sentimos con frecuencia faltos de armas e ideas de como lograr un buen comportamiento en nuestros hijos. Una de las soluciones está en donde menos lo espera. (Belisa Urbina)

Math Across the Grades— We will explore the progression of math content from kindergarten through 5th grade. Teachers from all grade levels will lead participants through math activities for multiple grades. (Jennifer Greer/Floyd County Schools & Jennifer Wright/Rome City Schools)

NOT So Extreme Couponing-Getting to Destination Graduation by Meeting Your Children's Needs - Come learn how to use couponing and smart phones apps to make the most of your money. There are special deals around town that may be waiting for you to take advantage of to make your family's money go farther. (Donna Carver/Floyd County Schools)

The Importance of Play - This session will allow parents to understand how "just playing" helps their child learn as well how to use games and activities to encourage parent involvement. (Regina Smith/Parenting Consultants)

How Family - Friendly Is Your School?

Part of the Georgia Family - Friendly Partnership School Initiative

	1	2
Before viewing the Georgia Virtual Family - Friendly Partnership Schools , take a minute to complete this self assessment. *How family - friendly is your school?* In column one place a check mark beside the items you feel represent your school. Then, after viewing the Georgia Virtual Family - Friendly Partnership Schools review your choices . *Do you still think your school is family - friendly in those areas?* Now using column two place an X beside the items you would like to improve or implement in your school.		
1. The school is easy to find within the community and the front entrance of the building can be easily identified.		
2. The front of the school depicts a welcoming environment that naturally makes families and visitors feel accepted and at ease.		
3. The school provides various guest badges upon sign in representing either a parent, a volunteer, or a visitor.		
4. The front office staff is friendly and helpful. They assist and recognize visitors immediately, as well as answer the phone and treat visitors politely.		
5. The school has friendly signs throughout the building in languages all parents can understand welcoming, thanking, and directing families on how to get around to key rooms and locations.		
6. The school provides regular opportunities for parents to volunteer in many different capacities throughout the school.		
7. School faculty and staff acknowledge parent presence with a positive attitude and provide many opportunities for parent—teacher communication.		
8. Student work is displayed throughout classrooms and halls along with the standards rubric and teacher feedback.		
9. The school has a parent resource center that provides families with important educational resources, offers workshops, and provides support services.		
10. The school has a Parent Involvement Coordinator who serves as the primary contact person for families and links them to the school.		

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	1	2
11. The school provides regular events and opportunities for parents to visit during school and non-school hours.		
12. The school is open and accessible for extended hours to encourage family and community use of areas such as the gym, auditorium, cafeteria, grounds, athletic fields, etc.		
13. The principal holds weekly open office hours as well as opportunities to meet with groups of parents through advisory councils, town hall meetings, or other events.		
14. The school engages in regular communication with all families and makes sure parents receive all important correspondences by delivering them in multiple forms and in languages representative of the school's population.		
15. The school regularly asks for parent input and feedback regarding school climate and culture.		
16. The school recognizes, respects, and reaches out to all families regardless of culture, ethnicity, language, or disability.		
17. The school provides professional development for staff on topics of parent involvement, cultural competence and sensitivity, and communication with parents.		
18. The school has active involvement from community partners in and outside of the classroom.		
19. The school has active parent organizations that encourage and recruit all parents to participate.		
20. All parents, faculty, staff, administrators, and community members view the school as welcoming, inviting, and family friendly.		

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VENDORS

Georgia North Western Technical College
Amerigroup
Betts and Associates
Building Positive Families
The Council on Alcohol and Drugs
Exchange Club Family Resource Center
Georgia HOPE
Grands Who Care
Harbor House/CASA
Highland Rivers Behavioral Health
Hospitality House
Insure Georgia
Leslie McKinney
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Federation of Families
Northwest Georgia Credit Union
Pinnacle Developmental Services
Rome Floyd County Commission on Children & Youth
Rome Little Theater
Ser Familia
The Sexual Assault Center of Northwest Georgia
The Teen Center
Wells Fargo
Willowbrook at Tanner