

# Widening the Circle Summer Conference June 5 & 6, 2024

# Hosted by Newport Central Catholic High School 13 Carothers Road Newport, Kentucky 41071



# **DAY 1: JUNE 5, 2024**

- **DOORS OPEN & CHECK IN AT** 10:00 **BLACKBOX THEATER**
- 10:30 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME
- 10:45 SPARK TALK 1
- 11:00 ASSESSING READINESS FOR INCLUSION
- 12:15 WORKING LUNCH: TEAM VISIONING
  - 1:15 BREAKOUT SESSIONS (2ND AND 3RD FLOORS)
  - 2:30 OVERCOMING OBSTACLES AND BARRIERS: PANEL OF LEADERS & PRACTITIONERS
  - 3:30 SPARK TALK 2
  - 3:45 LARGE GROUP PROCESSING & Q&A
  - 4:15 GREELEY CENTER SOCIAL (3RD FLOOR)

## **DAY 2: JUNE 6, 2024**

- 8:45 WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 9:15 KEYNOTE: JOELLYN CICCIARELLI
- 10:00 THE FRAMEWORK: READINESS PART 2
- 11:15 BREAKOUT SESSIONS
- 12:15 LUNCH
  - **1:00** SPARK TALK 3
  - 1:15 TEAM PLAN & DESIGN WORKSHOPS
  - 2:30 COMMITMENTS
  - 3:00 CLOSING SESSION
  - 3:30 ADJOURN

**Access ALL event** documents. presentations, and resources here!





# Spark Talk 1 by Colleen McCoy-Cejka Avoiding Flea-in-a-Jar Syndrome

Colleen McCoy-Cejka is Managing Partner of Inclusion Solutions, LLC. She has been a Catholic school teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, & a Director for NCEA. She is a board member for the National Catholic Partnership on Disability and co-hosts the Catholic Teacher's Lounge. Colleen is the parent of a son with a disability and a neurotypical son.





Crystal Brooks, CCC/SLP, Ed.S. is Managing Partner of Inclusion Solutions, LLC. She has worked as a special education teacher, speech language pathologist, therapy director, state department of education professional development specialist, and Catholic high school Director of Inclusion. Crystal is the mother of three adult children.

Colleen and Crystal have developed school, diocesan, and organizational partnerships throughout the country and are working to create inclusive Catholic school communities by widening the circle coast to coast!



# Assessing Readiness for Inclusion Part 1 Facilitators Colleen McCov-Cejka and Crystal Brooks

Team
Activity

How ready is your school to be confidently inclusive for all learners? In this session, school teams will navigate a rubric to assess readiness in key areas for maximum impact. Areas to consider are curriculum, instruction, assessment, and behavior. Content from the readiness checklists and discussion among the teams will lay groundwork for Day Two's strategic planning session.

## **Breakout Sessions Detailed on Page 3**

# Overcoming Obstacles and Barriers to Inclusive Practices A Panel Discussion

Facilitated by Dr. Debbie Sullivan, Co-director GCCE, Loyola University Chicago

Panelists

Krista Baioni, St. Therese Christina Rice, Prince of Peace Deb Geers, St. Timothy Stefanie Gray, Newport Catholic Bre Johnson, St. Catherine Kathy Krumpleman, Holy Cross HS

Hear from a panel of leaders and practitioners who have experienced and overcome challenges when building inclusive communities and practices. Panelists will share stories and examples of successes and failures, victories and blunders, to help those on the journey navigate common obstacles as well as the unique challenges of their own school communities.

Spark Talk 2 by Quinlan Cejka Belonging



# **Breakout Sessions**

Day 1	ROOM	Day 2
Air Traffic Control: Executive Functions  Presenter: Dr. Michelle Lia		Aligning Assessment with Instruction Presenter: Dr. Michelle Lia
This interactive breakout session will share strategies for supporting self-regulation, inhibition, mental flexibility, and other cornerstones of executive function. Together, we will review a scenario and share how we would approach that group of students.	303	This session will be about looking at what you plan to teach and making sure your assessment is created and aligned to instruction. The application of UDL, accessibility for ALL students, and alignment of the assessment with the unit of instruction will be explored.
The Big 3 of SLD (Specific Learning Disabilities)  Presenter: Sue Milano, M.Ed		Demystifying Autism Presenter: Sue Milano, M.Ed.
Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, and Dyscalculia are prevalent in every classroom. Learn the basics of these disabilities as well as strategies and accommodations that help students to succeed in school.	304	The prevalence of Autism has increased to 1 in 36 people. Learn characteristics of Autism, misconceptions, strategies, and routines that help teachers make classrooms effective and meaningful for these students.
Building a Positive Classroom Environment Presenter: Dr. Kaitlin Reichart		Tiers of Behavioral and Emotional Support Presenter: Dr. Kaitlin Reichart
This breakout session will look at the purpose of building a positive classroom environment along with strategies for building a positive environment.	305	This breakout session will explain tiers of support for students and provide examples of how to support the emotional and behavioral development of students.
The Third Teacher: The Learning Environment Presenter: Colleen McCoy-Cejka	Media	Leading the Charge and Rocking the Boat Presenters: Dr. Debbie Sullivan & Colleen McCoy-Cejka
Besides the teacher and the content, the learning environment has significant influence on each student's learning experience. Consider use of space, sensory input, engagement, and tools for learning.	Center	This discussion-based session for people in leadership roles explores the realities, challenges, and rewards of leading change. What skills are most needed to lead inclusive communities?
Making Meaningful ConsultationMeaningful! Presenter: Crystal Brooks, CCC/SLP, Ed.S.		Modifications Workshop Presenter: Crystal Brooks, CCC/SLP, Ed.S.
Grant funding through the federal law, the IDEA, serve students eligible for special education. Make sure every student is counted and you know how to prepare for the next consultation with the LEA.  Don't leave any funding on the table!	306	When students require modified curriculum above or below grade levels, teachers need to know how to design instruction and maintain rigor. Learn the basics of modifications for instruction and assessment to help students grow & thrive.





## Day 2

# Keynote: Everything I Need to Know I Learned From my Son and Mr. Rogers Joellyn Cicciarelli, President and Publisher of Loyola Press

In this touching and personal keynote address, Joellyn shares unexpected milestones in her journey as a professional and as a parent that led her to make inclusive education a priority at Loyola Press. It is in the unexpected, the challenging, the heartbreaking, and the beautiful that lessons are learned that push us to become what we were created and called to be.



With 25+ years' experience in publishing, Joellyn Cicciarelli has written numerous children's books and developed award-winning literacy programs, religious education curriculum for all ages, and books and resources for adults. She was editor for Fred Rogers of Mister Roger's Neighborhood, producing his longest-running book series for teachers.

Joellyn is the architect of Adaptive Finding God, a comprehensive faith formation program for children with disabilities and the author of a variety of children's books and curricula, including The InvestiGator Club Prekindergarten Learning System.

Prior to this role, she served the organization as Vice President of New Product Development and Director of Curricula Development, leading the editorial and design teams. Joellyn has been a speaker at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress, the Mid-Atlantic Congress, and a variety of regional and diocesan events.

#### **Assessing Readiness Part 2: The Framework**

Presenters: Crystal Brooks and Colleen McCoy-Cejka

This session allows participants to take a critical look at detailed components such as resources, personnel, and leadership supports to determine which areas are clicking and which need work. The Framework is a detailed checklist to guide schools to leave no stone unturned when thinking about how to best serve all students. This is a **team activity** and will culminate in the afternoon strategic planning workshop.

# Spark Talk 3 by Crystal Brooks Non-Negotiables: We are ALL Special Education Teachers

#### Team Plan & Design Workshop

During this workshop, school teams will use the data they have collected from the two readiness assessments as well as learning from the earlier breakouts sessions to determine priorities and create an action plan.

Team Activity

Each school team will share a firm commitment they have decided to make to move their community a step further toward creating places of belonging for ALL students.



#### **Meet Our Presenters**

**Dr. Michelle Lia** is a Co-Director of the Greeley Center for Catholic Education at Loyola University Chicago. She is a product of Catholic education from age of 4 to 22 years! She worked in Catholic and public schools for 17 years as a classroom teacher and a reading specialist.

Dr. Lia provides coaching and professional learning to educators in Chicago and across the country in these areas:

- instruction
- literacy
- curriculum
- Universal Design for Learning
- instructional coaching

For the Greeley Center, she also acts as a coach of the coaches and a professional learning consultant. Dr. Lia teaches courses in undergraduate and graduate programs in the School of Education.





Sue Milano, M.Ed. is the Director of Programs and Advocacy at Inclusion Solutions, LLC. Sue has worked in public, charter, and private schools educating students with disabilities for over 25 years. She developed the first inclusive program within a PreK-8th grade Catholic school in her home diocese and has consulted with principals and learning specialists seeking to enrich other Catholic school communities across the country. She is knowledgeable of federal programs and has ensured students benefit from the funding they are entitled to.

**Dr. Kaitlin Reichart** is the Greeley Endowed Chair. In this role, Dr. Reichart teaches within the Educational Leadership program, provides coaching and professional learning to schools throughout the country, and contributes to the research field.

Previously, Dr. Reichart worked as a elementary school principal and teacher within Catholic Schools. Dr. Reichart's doctoral research focused on the effects of an intervention

Catholic Schools. Dr. Reichart's doctoral research focused on the effects of on classroom engagement and reading comprehension.





Dr. Debbie Sullivan is Co-Director of the Greeley Center for Catholic Education at Loyola University Chicago. Dr. Sullivan teaches graduate courses for Loyola's Catholic Principal Preparation Program. She is passionate about Catholic school leadership plans as well as building the leadership capacity of those already ministering in Catholic Schools. Dr. Sullivan holds a B.A. in History, an M.A. in Educational Administration as well as an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Loyola University Chicago. She began her career as a junior high history teacher and worked for the Archdiocese of Chicago for 25 years. Upon receiving her M.A., she moved into the role of principal and was recruited to move to the Office of Catholic Schools to serve as a Regional Director for the Archdiocese of Chicago just prior to earning her Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction.

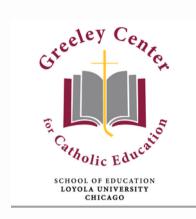


## Parking and Check In

Look for outdoor signage that directs you to the entrance for the Chapel/Black Box doors. Park in the south lot and enter through the Chapel/Black Box Theater entrance. Check in will be just inside these doors. Doors will open by 9:45am.

**Event Sponsor**: The Andrew M. Greeley Center for Catholic Education at Loyola University Chicago

The Andrew M. Greeley Center for Catholic Education was created to support the mission of pre-Kindergarten-12th grade Catholic schools through consultation and professional learning.





To Principal Ken Collopy, AP Stefanie Gray, and All of the Newport Catholic Faculty & Staff

## **Special Thanks**

Thank you to Superintendent Kendra McGuire and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michele Ulrich for their leadership and partnership in this endeavor. We are so grateful!





Quinlan Cejka for assistance with the event and for sharing his story!

Our friends at Loyola

Press for their support
and especially Joellyn
Cicciarelli for her story
and time with us!





Our friends at
Fire Foundation
Northern Kentucky
for their support of
Catholic schools!

# **Let's Stay Connected!**

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www.linkedin.com/in/colleen-mccoy-cejka-8007b03b

www.linkedin.com/in/crystal-brooks-1096b73/

https://www.linkedin.com/in/suemilano/

**X** @Inclusion4kids

## **Need More Summer PD?**

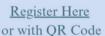
#### **Summer Book Study!**

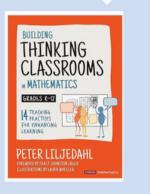
Building thinking Classrooms in Math!

Learn instructional strategies for math that are effective for ALL LEARNERS.

Crystal Brooks will lead the exploration of this wonderful resource by Peter Liljedahl

June 11th, 18th, 25th, July 1st 11:00-12:30 am MST







#### **Summer Book Study!**

Become an Adaptive Teacher! Learn instructional strategies that are effective for ALL LEARNERS.

Crystal Brooks will lead the exploration of this wonderful resource by John Barone and Charleen Katra.

> June 11th, 18th, and 25th 9:00-10:30 am MST

> > Register Here or with QR Code



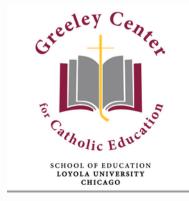




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Inclusion Solutions, LLC offers online mini-courses! New courses added every month. Visit: https://inclusion-solutions.teachable.com/



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