

The Connecticut State Department of Education & The State Education Resource Center present the

18th Annual Paraeducators as Partners Conference



Partners *in* EXCELLENCE

\$ 95⁻
*Fee includes Conference materials,
continental breakfast and lunch.*

Thursday, November 14, 2013
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT ♦ 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT BREAKOUTS

- 1 Supporting English Language Learners**
Maria A. Carrillo-Huerta and Janet N. Y. Zarchen, SERC Consultants
This session will use video, hands-on activities, and discussion to provide practical strategies for supporting English Language Learners. Participants will explore the different stages of language acquisition and how to make content comprehensible to ELL students.
- 2 Common Sense about the Common Core Standards in English Language Arts**
Stephen Proffitt and Greta Skiles, SERC Consultants
Connecticut adopted the Common Core State Standards in 2010, and districts have been shifting instruction to meet these new, more rigorous expectations for reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This session will provide an overview of the shifts to language arts instruction and some practical strategies for supporting students.
- 3 Challenging Behaviors: Strategies Utilized to Help De-Escalate**
Terry Miller and Matthew Spar, SERC Consultants
Many students need additional layers of support to succeed in the classroom and in a school-wide setting. This session offers alternative methods to analyze and assess appropriate individual behavior, respond to particular behaviors, and manage escalations. The presenters will introduce a competing pathways analysis tool to chart the progression toward more desirable behaviors, especially for students with attention deficit disorders.
- 4 Supporting Access and Participation Using Assistive Technology**
Tom Boudreau, CSDE Consultant, Carolann Cormier, MS, CCC-SLP, ATP Education Specialist, CREC, and Smita Worah, Ph.D., SERC Consultant
This session will provide an overview of assistive technology and its significance for students with disabilities. The presenters will demonstrate commonly used AT in the classroom as well as strategies that can be used by paraeducators to support students using AT.
- 5 Helping Students Master the Math Common Core**
Jennifer Silverman, Mathematics Education Specialist, Education Connection and Clare Wurm, SERC Consultant
The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics call for learners to gain deeper understanding of math concepts. This shift in emphasis requires new instructional methods. This session will provide an overview of the math standards, including the eight Standards for Mathematical Practice. Participants will learn various teaching strategies that support the math practices and guide all students to better math comprehension.
- 6 CCSS and Instructional Strategies for Paraeducators Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders in General Education Settings**
Barbara Giaquinto, SERC Consultant, and Dr. Christine Peck, BCBA-D, CES
Paraeducators seek effective instructional practices for students with autism spectrum disorders. This session supports paraeducators in linking those practices to the Common Core State Standards and implementing them in all educational settings. It will cite evidence-based instructional support strategies such as visual supports, self-management, and peer supports in the context of the CCSS and a general education environment.

Register at:

www.ctserc.org/catalog

Participants will choose breakout sessions at the event on conference day.

Awards Ceremony
"Paraelector of the Year"
presented during lunch

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Partners
as Partners



25 Industrial Park Road
Middletown, CT 06457

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Keynote



The Power of Paraelectors: A Pathway to Excellence

Perri Mordica, Ed.D.

Perri is the Director of Pupil Services in Southington Public Schools. In her previous role as an education consultant at the Connecticut State Department of Education, Perri focused on inclusive practices, training and support of paraeducators, Response to Intervention, learning disabilities, and early literacy. She authored various state guideline documents and served on the State Advisory Council for Paraprofessionals and State Advisory Panel for Scientific Research-Based Interventions (SRBI). She has presented on topics related to her work at the local, state, and national levels.

Perri has also served the field of special education as a paraeducator, special education teacher, and private consultant. She earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Hartford and a master's in Special Education and sixth-year and administrator certification in Educational Leadership from Central Connecticut State University. She has also served as adjunct faculty at Central and Southern Connecticut state universities.

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