

GENERAL SESSIONS

King Pine Room at the Base Lodge

Opening Keynote

Carol Ann Tomlinson

***Differentiating Instruction in the Middle
Grades: What, Why, & How***

Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Awards Luncheon

Janet Nesin Reynolds Outstanding Middle Level Educator Awards

Thursday

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Brunch & Keynote

**Argy Nestor & Leonard Middle
School Players**

***Bright Futures: It's HERE, It's BIG,
It's AWESOME***

Exemplary Practice Awards

Friday

9:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Conference Schedule

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Conference Registration & Housing Check-in Grand Summit Hotel

Thursday, October 22, 2009

7:30 a.m. Conference Registration & Coffee Base Lodge
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Exhibits Maple Room (BL)
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. General Session – Keynote by Sue Swaim King Pine Room (BL)
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Exhibits Maple Room (BL)
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Sessions Base Lodge, Hotel
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Sessions Base Lodge, Hotel
12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Luncheon King Pine Room (BL)
Outstanding Middle Level Educator Awards
Annual Business Meeting
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sessions Base Lodge, Hotel
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Sessions Base Lodge, Hotel
8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Supper on your own
Music, Dancing, Recreation, Team Meetings Sugarloaf Inn

Friday, October 23, 2009

7:30 a.m. Conference Registration Base Lodge (BL)
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Exhibits Maple Room (BL)
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Early-Bird Sessions Base Lodge, Hotel
9:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Buffet Brunch (served until 10:00 a.m.) King Pine room (BL)
Exemplary Practice Awards
Keynote by Argy Nestor & Leonard Middle School
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Sessions Base Lodge, Hotel
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Super Sessions Base Lodge

Thursday, October 22, 2009

10:00 – 11:00

Bringing Cutting Edge Maine Research to the Middle School Classroom – Tracy Vassiliev, James F. Doughty School & Dr. David Neivandt, University of Maine

The principal investigators of the Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative (FBRI), at the University of Maine, recognize the importance of involving young people in scientific research. A middle school teacher has spent

the last three summers as a RET (Research Experience for Teachers) researching the different FBRI disciplines and creating inquiry based activities, which complement the cutting edge research being conducted at the University of Maine. Several activities will be shared through this hands-on workshop.

SCIENCE STRAND

SPRUCE (BASE LODGE)

Reading Instruction and the Internet – Carla Burnham, Skowhegan Area Middle

Internet Reciprocal teaching addresses online reading comprehension, internet use, literacy strategies, and MLTI software to deliver powerful lessons for 21st century communication. Developed by Don Leu at the University of Connecticut, this researched based program provides the tools to dramatically change how students learn in your classroom.

LITERACY STRAND - TECHNOLOGY STRAND

WIDOWMAKER (BASE LODGE)

Unified Arts at the Heart – Lisa Gilman, Winthrop Middle School & Argy Nestor, Maine Department of Education

This session is for all Unified Arts educators to allow YOU time and space to share your lessons, ideas, and concerns. This will be an opportunity to talk with other educators who have similar concerns about scheduling, collaboration between disciplines, integrating technology, and/or other topics. Meet other educators in your discipline and share your own and/or favorite web site, blogs, wikis, or other resources. Bring one of your lessons to share. Copies of the lesson and examples would be helpful, but not necessary. Also, learn about Regional Professional Communities (RPC) Arts Education Meetings. Information will be shared on standards based, gifted and talented, and other topics that pertain to you.

UNIFIED ARTS STRAND

NARROW GAUGE (BASE LODGE)

LEADSTAR and Other Acronyms from The Leadership School (TLC) – Sarah Ricker, The Leadership School at Kieve

The Leadership School (TLC) uses experiential and active learning methods to teach character education. This workshop will model these methods while “doing” a selection of learning activities that are used to deliver the content of TLC’s character curriculum to middle level students. Participants will leave with “ready to use” tools for their classrooms and their schools. Participants should be prepared to be active and engaged in small and large group initiatives.

OAK (BASE LODGE)

Digital Story Telling With a Purpose – Chris Toy, Learning Capacity Unlimited

This interactive session will model how the traditional vehicle of story telling can be adapted for today's classroom using digital technology. We'll share some stories, reflect on their meaning, and have some conversations about how we can adapt and apply this engaging strategy in our own work.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND – LITERACY STRAND

CARRABASSETT A (HOTEL)

What Are You Doing? Introduction to Twitter – Mike Muir, ResulTech Educational Services

Have you heard of this social networking tool but aren't sure what it is or how to use it? It is in widespread use across the world - even BabyBoomers are intrigued! It is not just for the digital natives. Here is a time to try it out and find out what it is all about. This introduction to Twitter will help get you registered, see how to post and find people to follow, as well as how to have dialog with others on Twitter about this conference!

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT B (HOTEL)

The Mandelbrot Set – Alex Briasco-Brin, Freeport Middle School

Become entangled with the most complex and beautiful object in mathematics – the Mandelbrot Set. Participants will first learn what the Mandelbrot Set is and have the opportunity to see student projects. Participants will then be given free software and some time to create “zooms” of the M-set. Hopefully, participants will see the many math connections and become comfortable enough to share the M-set with their own students. Participants must have their I-books.

NUMERACY STRAND

FLAGSTAFF (HOTEL)

Get Wise to How They Advertise – Carol Sherburne & Elaine Thomas, Dexter Middle School

Students are consumers. They need to understand the persuasive (propaganda) techniques used by advertisers if they are to be smart consumers. In this session we will work through some of the elements of the

advertising unit we used with our students to explore the subtitles of propaganda. This unit is interactive, multimedia and full opportunities for differentiation. Participants will have fun trying out some of the activities and seeing examples of student work.

CARIBOU (HOTEL)

Giving "Report Cards" a Grade – Jeff Rodman, Middle School of the Kennebunks

So much has been made of the use of formative vs. summative assessments, standards based report card vs. traditional grades reporting systems, and the need to separate achievement from effort. If all of this is true then what type of reporting system is best for middle level students? What will give parents the most and best information on their child's achievement and deficiencies and will not exhaust teachers? This interactive session is designed for teachers and/or administrators who would like to improve their reporting system or have one that is a model worth sharing. Participants are asked to bring copies/examples of their current report cards and mid-term progress reports.

LEADERSHIP STRAND

KENNEBEC (HOTEL)

11:15 – 12:15

Teachers at Work Differentiating Instruction in the Middle Grades – Carol Ann Tomlinson

It may be that student variance in the middle grades is greater than at any other time in school. Not only are there the usual differences in readiness, interest, learning profile, and economic background, but developmental differences are profound as well. Few middle school teachers look at their students and see a matched set of learners. Nonetheless, few teachers differentiate instruction robustly in response to their students' differences. This session will provide examples of ways in which middle school teachers from a variety of subjects modify instruction to benefit the full range of learners. The goal of the session is to provide concrete, practical examples of differentiation as well as images of how it might look in action in a middle school classroom.

SPRUCE (BASE LODGE)

Teachers as Writers: Why Should Only the Kids Have Fun? – Carol Duffy, Lamoine Schools

Writing prompts can be boring, but not when you use *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* by Chris van Allsburg. His collection of black and white photographs are accompanied by titles and captions. Bring your laptop or paper and pen and explore these mysteries!

LITERACY STRAND

WIDOWMAKER (BASE LODGE)

Free Form Friday – David Buck, Dirigo Middle School

Looking for ways to foster independent thought, creativity, and adventure? Wondering how to tap into student interest, while still satisfying the learning results? Free Form Friday is one science teacher's solution to this problem. Students identify topics that interest them, establish reasons why they are interested by them, and form questions for further research or experimentation. Every Friday, students work toward answering their questions, and sharing their findings with their classmates. Bring your interdisciplinary ideas!

SCIENCE STRAND

NARROW GAUGE (BASE LODGE)

Supersize You Summarizers! – Jill Spencer, Learning Capacity Unlimited (Friday PM session)

Minute for minute, summarizing activities provide great return on the instructional time invested. Summarizing leads to increased learning and achievement in every content area. But, you are thinking, writing summary paragraphs is such a turn off for students. Yes, they are! Fortunately there are a dozen or more ways of having students summarize – all of them interactive, engaging activities that you will be able to adapt and transfer to your classroom on Monday! Come spend the last session of the conference in motion learning several new summarizing strategies that will add pizzazz and learning power to your lesson plans.

OAK (BASE LODGE)

Introducing iTunesU – MLTI Statewide Integration Mentor

iTunesU is a rich source of audio and video content from schools and universities across the country and from right here in Maine. Join us in a tour of iTunesU where you can harvest podcasts for classroom use or for your own professional development. Bring your laptop and a headset.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT A (HOTEL)

“MARVEL”ous Tour – Pricilla Bryant-Gaffney, Massabesic Middle School

Take a tour of MARVEL, Maine’s reliable and relevant electronic resources. Bring your laptop.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT B (HOTEL)

No Crash Math – Where Everyone goes to Victory Lane – Valerie Albertini & Elaine Thomas, Dexter Middle School

A sharing of my NASCAR-themed math system that creates a supportive, safe learning environment where the emphasis is on teamwork and responsibility for one’s own progress. Originally designed to motivate math-phobic students, NCM has evolved into a combination of workshop model lessons, tests used as formative assessments, data-based interventions, and collaborative projects that are used to demonstrate knowledge. We will have a chance to try out parts of several projects. You don’t have to be a race fan (or even a math fan) to find something you adapt to your classes.

NUMERACY STRAND

FLAGSTAFF (HOTEL)

Schoolwide Read: How Warsaw Students and Staff Focused on Bullying – Richard Woodbury, Warsaw Middle School

In 2008-2009 at Warsaw every staff member and student in each FISH (advisory) Group read the novel, *Three Cups of Tea*, a young adult fiction novel on bullying. At the end the groups used an extended FISH Group Time to create projects and activities that reflected the theme and impact of the book. Richard Woodbury will describe his project that became a school-wide project through Fish Groups, Warsaw's advisory. Richard will also share the new book for Warsaw's second school-wide book for the 2009 -2010 school year: *Three Cups of Tea*.

CARIBOU (HOTEL)

"Whatever it Takes! " Come Explore East Asia through the Lens of Differentiation – Mary Hebert & Jean Beaulieu, Middle School of the Kennebunks

This seminar presents a travel itinerary of "highways," "detours," and "landmarks" as we unpack the interdisciplinary unit: Explore East Asia. Multiple pathways for ongoing assessment lead to the culminating summative assessment - the inquiry project. Explore East Asia Night is a community celebration of the students' research. We hope that as you journey with us, you will feel confident in planning unit explorations of your own that differentiate for needs of students with diverse interests, learner profiles and levels of readiness.

KENNEBEC (HOTEL)

2:00 – 3:00

Invasive Crab Data Collection and Analysis at Moose Point State Park – Patricia Bernhardt & Tracy Vassiliev, James F. Doughty School

Classes at the James F. Doughty School conducted timed transects at Moose Point State Park. This collection of meaningful and useful data has placed our students in the role of scientist by collecting, analyzing and reporting their statistically sound data. This long-term study is conducted to determine the presence and/or relative abundance of the invasive Asian Shore Crabs (*Hemigrapsus sanguineus*).

SCIENCE STRAND

SPRUCE (BASE LODGE)

Middle School RTI – Krista Poulin, Massabesic Middle School

What does RTI look like in a middle School? Massabesic Middle in Waterboro, Maine is in the beginning stages of putting together a reading plan. Come hear their literacy coach talk about the journey so far and where they are going next. (This presentation will turn into a round table discussion. Come willing to share what’s happening with your school or district in relation to RTI).

LITERACY STRAND

WIDOWMAKER (BASE LODGE)

The Thin Line: Raising Awareness and Stimulating Community Action on Eating Disorders – Cathy Plourde, Add Verb: Theatre for Health & Wellness Education

According to the 2005 Maine Youth risk behavior survey, 19% of middle school students went without eating for 24 hours or more to lose weight or keep from gaining weight.

The Thin Line is a unique 30-minute play that breaks the silence surrounding eating disorders – the mental illness with the highest fatality rate in the country. Geared toward engaging youth, health educators and teachers, parents and local service agencies, the *Thin Line* helps audience members recognize the symptoms of eating disorders, promotes prevention and intervention, and acts as a powerful catalyst for both personal and community action. Following the performance, playwright and former teacher Cathy Plourde discusses the power and practicality of using arts-based education in eating disorder awareness, advocacy, and community outreach.

UNIFIED ARTS STRAND

NARROW GAUGE (BASE LODGE)

Multiple Intelligences: What Are They And How Can We Use Them? – Nicole Fecteau, Biddeford Middle School

Have you ever considered the multiple intelligences of your students? How about for yourself? Together we will identify and explore multiple intelligences and how they fit in daily at your school, in any content area. Come in and reflect on yourself and your practices.

OAK (BASE LODGE)

Wake Them UP with Wikis – Heather Perkinson & Mat Holmes, Falmouth Middle School

What's a wiki? What's 21st Century school library? How can both be used to maximize student learning? Learn how a teacher librarian and a 6th grade teacher worked together to engage students in their study of ancient China, researching art objects and creating a digital museum. Set up your own online wiki with PBWorks and leave ready to use this tool in your classroom to invite active student participation in any content area.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT A (HOTEL)

So You Think You Know Maine: A Studywiz Experience – MLTI Statewide Integration MentorCome to this session to experience Studywiz the way students do. We will log you into a class where you will use the various Studywiz activities to learn more about the State of Maine. At the end of the session we will distribute these activities in a package that you can easily upload into your own Studywiz school for use with your students.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT B (HOTEL)

You Don't Have to be Einstein! – Michele Demkowicz, Winthrop Middle School

Many teachers say they lack the confidence and competence to successfully teach math. This session will explain the similarities of numeracy and literacy. You will learn that learning your 123s is like learning your ABCs. Specific strategies will be shared.

NUMERACY STRAND

FLAGSTAFF (HOTEL)

Addressing Harmful and Hateful Language – Brandon Baldwin, Office of the Attorney General

Think of all the problems that affect your school's climate. A recent survey report on Maine schools indicates that students rank hateful language as the most serious of these problems. The old cliché teaches that words will never hurt us, but we know better. What's really happening in our schools? What's the impact of hateful language on individual learners and the school climate? And what can we do as individuals and institutions to address this problem?

CARIBOU (HOTEL)

Professional Learning Groups: A District-Wide Journey – Anne Miller, MSAD 53

MSAD 53 in Pittsfield has embarked on a district-wide initiative to establish Professional Learning Groups for every teacher and administrator in grades 5-8. Training and meeting in the the spring and summer, we have embarked upon a year-long journey as a Professional Learning Community that will focus on growth through our specific PLG's. Through training and sharing ideas and focus, each PLG Leader is prepared to work with others k-8 in our twenty-plus PLG's. This session will describe the process, composition, and focus of the PLG's.

KENNEBEC (HOTEL)

3:15 – 4:15

Make Poetry Come Alive – Julie Sanborn, Peggy Lincoln, & Dan Tompkins, Medomak Middle School

Would you like to learn how to integrate your language arts class with music and technology? This workshop will show how our students developed a poetry project by writing a 20-line poem, which they enhanced and expanded with music and technology. We incorporated *iPhoto*, *Garage Band*, *Keynote*, and *Smartboard* (optional). We will present some of the students' projects to you. This was an exciting experience for us to work together as a team. Come and see how we are doing this at Medomak Middle School. This presentation will be a hands-on training session. Bring your laptop!

LITERACY STRAND - TECHNOLOGY STRAND

SPRUCE (BASE LODGE)

A Wealth of Health Activities – Susan Crowell, Massabesic Middle School

Middle school students have tremendous power to influence their lives through the choices they make and the goals they pursue. But how can we unleash this in positive, healthy ways? In this session, participants will learn about strategies that help students become engaged learners and encourage thinking and making connections. Examples of students' work and an outline of activities will be shared during the session. These activities could also be easily adapted for other content areas.

UNIFIED ARTS STRAND

WIDOWMAKER (BASE LODGE)

Science Literacy – Michaela Lamarre, Brenda Ireland, & Dan Solari, Saco Middle School

This session will discuss how the Science PLC at Saco Middle School used data from the MEAs to improve instruction through creation of a Science Literacy Unit. The outcome of implementing this unit leads to increased student performance on constructed-response-format questions and a better understanding of basic science reading, writing, and process.

SCIENCE STRAND

NARROW GAUGE (BASE LODGE)

Teaching to the Front – Bill Zima, Massabesic Middle School

As educators, our job is to not teach our students everything, but to prepare them for anything. Current brain research has identified the importance of the frontal cortex as the seat of rational thought. This session will focus on adolescent brain development and strategies we can use to support math, reading and behavior by targeting and teaching to the frontal lobes.

OAK (BASE LODGE)

Web 2.0 Tools – MLTI Statewide Integration Mentor

The Read-Write Web has become a powerful collection of tools for educators. In this session we will explore several Web 2.0 tools that teachers are using in lessons with students as well as to form a Professional Learning Network for themselves. Learn about Twitter, Flickr, Delicious, VoiceThread, and more.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT A (HOTEL)

Maine Explorer – MLTI Statewide Integration Mentor

If you haven't heard, there is a program on all MLTI laptops called Ecobeaker Maine Explorer. It was designed expressly for the MLTI program. Each "lab" within the program visits (virtually) a different habitat in Maine and uses that habitat to explore ecological concepts such as runoff, succession, keystone predators, invasive species and the "edge effect." Plus there is a 6th unit that lets students see "under the hood" and get their first glimpse at computer programming. Each lab is designed to take just one to two weeks of instructional time. Maine Explorer comes with NoteShare notebooks with complete lesson plans, handouts and assessments, all aligned with the new MLRs. Each lab has a specially designed field exercise that brings students outdoors.

SCIENCE - TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT B (HOTEL)

Time – Let’s Think Outside of the Traditional Schedule Box! – Jill Spencer, Learning Capacity Unlimited
(Regular session--any time)

What are your school’s or team’s big goals for the year? Are you using time in creative ways to help you meet those goals? Come explore ways your school and/or team can shape and reshape time within your schedule to actually use time more effectively as you pursue learning goals for your students.

LEADERSHIP STRAND

FLAGSTAFF (HOTEL)

Classroom “Constitutions” in a Student-Centered Community – Kelly McGowan, Massabesic Middle School

We the people of Period 2... In this session you will learn how to create a student-led classroom "constitution" and the variety of ways in which the process can be used throughout the year. In a student-centered classroom, this is an important way to build community, create student buy-in, and have fun while doing it.

CARIBOU (HOTEL)

Do you really want to become a middle school administrator? You must be crazy! – Bob Griffin, Sacopee Valley Middle School

An interactive presentation geared toward teachers interested in becoming middle school administrators. Discussion topics will include certification, the interview process, relationships with students, staff, parents, and surviving your rookie years as a new administrator.

LEADERSHIP STRAND

KENNEBEC (HOTEL)

Friday, October 23, 2009

8:00 – 9:00

FISH Time: Advisory that Works – Lori Stevens & Anna Peterson, Warsaw Middle School

Student Portfolios, Exercise, Team Building, and FISH Philosophy, OH MY! Warsaw Middle School's Fish Time Advisory Groups meets 5 days a week at the beginning of each school day. Student Portfolios that culminate in Student-Led Parent Conferences each spring; two days of exercise each week, two days of team building and other activities, and SSR every Friday comprise our FISH Time activities. Students from grades 5-8 make up each FISH Group. Learn how this successful advisory program has evolved into a successful program for staff and students.

SPRUCE (BASE LODGE)

Formative Assessment in Science – MLTI Statewide Integration Mentor

In grade 7 - 12 science classes, students are often laboring under misconceptions and misunderstandings. Oftentimes, teachers don't really know what those problems are until the unit test and then it may be too late. Predict-Observe-Explain, Assess2Learn, ConceptTest, and Diagnoser are assessment techniques that address different aspects of teaching and learning in the science classroom. Time will be given to explore the respective websites. Each of these tools will be introduced and discussed so participants will be able to start using what suits them best in their own classrooms.

SCIENCE STRAND - TECHNOLOGY STRAND

NARROW GAUGE (BASE LODGE)

LEADSTAR and Other Acronyms from The Leadership School (TLC) – Sarah Ricker, The Leadership School at Kieve

The Leadership School (TLC) uses experiential and active learning methods to teach character education. This workshop will model these methods while “doing” a selection of learning activities that are used to deliver the content of TLC’s character curriculum to middle level students. Participants will leave with “ready to use” tools for their classrooms and their schools. Participants should be prepared to be active and engaged in small and large group initiatives.

OAK (BASE LODGE)

My World – MLTI Statewide Integration Mentor

Help students gain a better understanding of the world around them, and how to use a Geographic Information System (GIS) for exploration, analysis and presentation of findings. This session will give an overview of what a GIS is and does, how to build map images and where to find geographic and environmental data to support your teaching.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT A (HOTEL)

Successful After School Programming (that are FUN!) – Debbie Barnett, Winthrop Middle School

The Winthrop Middle School Fun After School Program (FAS) is an exciting concept in after school programming. We will cover how the program got started, the impact on the school (academically and behaviorally), volunteerism and Q&A. Fun is the key.

CARRABASSETT B (HOTEL)

Bright Futures! Maine's Vision for Middle Level Education for the 21st Century - Jill Spencer and Chris Toy, Learning Capacity Unlimited

Bright Futures is the final report of Maine's Middle Level Commission has just been released. Come participate in an overview of the document as we engage one another in conversation about its key recommendations and implications for us and our students.

LEADERSHIP STRAND

KENNEBEC (HOTEL)

11:15 – 12:15

Creating Tomorrow's Ecologists Today: Learning to "Read the Landscape" – Meg Edstrom, Ferry Beach Ecology School

"Tomorrow's Ecologists Today" will serve to introduce ecological concepts, practices and skills for emerging scientists through hands-on games and field ecology activities. Workshop content and methodology will serve as an introduction for educators to engage those new to the field of ecology as well as a catalyst for more complex study. The proposed No Child Left Inside legislation (HR 3036), Environmental Literacy, teacher training, and the Maine Learning Results (of course!) will be addressed.

SCIENCE STRAND

SPRUCE (BASE LODGE)

Fired Up to Teach *Fahrenheit 451* to Early Adolescents – Lisa Ericson & Gabrielle Martin, Winslow Junior High

Middle level students can be hard to engage in reading a class novel at the end of the school year. So why teach a novel with as complex text as *Fahrenheit*??? This unit was developed with current research in mind, and uses many strategies to maximize students' participation and appreciation of this classic sci-fi novel. Presenters will share the unit and demonstrate an activity or two.

LITERACY STRAND

WIDOWMAKER (BASE LODGE)

The Maine Community Heritage Project and Beyond – Gail Hagelstein, Presque Isle Middle School

Local history? Boring. Family history? Even more so. So what happens when you combine local history, technology and middle school students with the Maine Community Heritage Project grant? Presque Isle Middle School students discovered their hometown history was anything but boring. They made connections and were engaged in helping to create Presque Isle's website on Maine Memory Network. Co-curricular programs included the PIMS History Club and a series of Lunch Box Lectures.

EXEMPLARY PRACTICE AWARD WINNER

NARROW GAUGE (BASE LODGE)

Bring One, Get Tons! Sharing Effective Practices Among Ourselves – Chris Toy – Learning Capacity Unlimited

Come to this session ready to share one of your favorite classroom activities with your colleagues. Leave with tons of ideas from middle level educators from all over Maine! The more, the merrier in this session!

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

OAK (BASE LODGE)

Noteshare, Porta Portals, Pod Casts, Digital Stories, and More! – Lori Stevens, Warsaw Middle School

Warsaw Staff have jumped on board with the MLTI Program over the past six years, and many teachers are technologically savvy because of the commitment the school and individuals have made to the MLTI Program. Training for all staff has happened every year through MLTI, and Warsaw's own Lori Stevens has become a key to the success of our school's teachers and students in utilizing technology. Lori will work with participants in use of NoteShare, Digital Story-Telling, etc.

CARRABASSETT A (HOTEL)

MIMIO Across the Curriculum! – Alyse Geele & Stephanie Lund, Rockland Area Middle School

Join us for a session of learning and trying the newest technology to hit RDMS. In this time, we will be focusing on using and integrating a MIMIO machine in the content areas to enhance and connect instruction. Come along and integrate technology with whatever you teach.

TECHNOLOGY STRAND

CARRABASSETT B (HOTEL)

RTI Skills Blocks at Warsaw Middle: Addressing Math and Literacy Needs within the Middle School Environment – Sandy Nevens, Warsaw Middle School

At this session, will discuss how one middle level school addressed math and literacy in response to the school's CIPS status by implementing RTI skills blocks that addressed student needs and skills while preserving the heterogeneous classroom.

NUMERACY STRAND

FLAGSTAFF (HOTEL)

Growing Up GREEN – Mary McCarthy, Middle School of the Kennebunks

At the Middle School of the Kennebunks, eighth grade art students add an environmental and digital dimension to their art classes with the “GREEN ROOM Project,” a yearlong interior design activity in connection with Kennebunkport’s Nonantum Resort. For the third year in a row, middle level arts students have redesigned the hotel’s guest rooms in an environmentally conscious manner from floor to ceiling. In addition, with their innovative technology project, “I came, I saw, Ipod,” the same students created audio-video podcast tours of our local area with a “student twist,” in conjunction with our new local Apple Classroom at the Maine Mall in South Portland. These audio pamphlets can be downloaded to the guest’s Ipod prior to the vacation or upon arrival at the hotel. Mary will share the two projects and give attendees numerous ideas for community service and the use of the Ipod as a teaching and learning tool. Discussion will revolve around: allowing kids choices, change in how we deliver information, and 21st Century Classroom being outside the school “box.”

UNIFIED ARTS STRAND

CARIBOU (HOTEL)

DT’s, IG’s, DDT’s: One Path to School Consolidation – Ben Vail, Medomak Middle School

Consolidation of two or more schools or organizations can be a daunting task. The anonyms in the title are part of a plan that led to the successful Medomak Middle School project. A basic overview, handouts, group simulation and discussion will all be part of this presentation. Come gather ideas that might be helpful with your consolidation.

LEADERSHIP STRAND

KENNEBEC (HOTEL)

12:30 – 2:00 Super Sessions

Inventing a Middle School Kindness Program – Diana Mullins & Tom Sferes, Biddeford Middle School & Michael Chase, The Kindness Center

Working with Michael Chase, founder of the “Kindness Center,” Biddeford Middle School began a year-long “Kindness Initiative” to create a culture of kindness. Students were challenged to ask themselves, “Am I being Kind?” in every interaction with their peers, teachers, parents, and others. This workshop will show how Biddeford Middle School evolved, through a series of presentations by Michael Chase, through teaching the specific elements of a kind heart, and through the establishment of a 200 student “Kindness Crew,” into one of “the kindest middle schools in Maine. This presentation will include short video excerpts of our kindness journey, and take-along materials that will assist others schools who wish to begin a similar initiative.

EXEMPLARY PRACTICE AWARD WINNER

SPRUCE (BASE LODGE)

Middle Level Wipe Out – Jon Hawley and his Leonard Middle School Entourage

You have seen the TV show..... well this session is nothing like that except for the high energy and creative challenges that participants will experience. Come and get the latest experiential educational tricks and tools to bring back to your classroom. Learn how to use these high energy and engaging activities to build community and caring in your classroom. This is an active session so wear comfortable clothing and leave inhibitions behind.

WIDOWMAKER (BASE LODGE)

Poverty and Discipline – Mike Muir, ResulTech Educational Services

Many of the students we are struggling to reach and find hard to teach are students of poverty. One reason we are often challenged is because of the hidden rules. Understanding the difference between the hidden rules of poverty and the hidden rules of middle class helps teachers understand why they are getting certain behaviors, why certain tried and true strategies don't seem to work, and why they might be having a hard time reaching hard to teach students.

CARRABASSETT A (HOTEL)