



Elective Sessions

We will be covering topics that fall into four focused areas:

- Classroom Management/Student Engagement
- Subject & Grade Level Content/Pedagogy
- Professional Engagement/Development
- Unionism/Understanding and Navigating the Union World

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT/STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Classroom Couture - Management with Style

Come and learn successful techniques that will help increase student engagement in a fun student centered way. Discover how a theme based management system impacts the classroom environment. You will leave with strategies that can be immediately implemented. See how music transitions will impact and transform your classroom - along with other dynamic Rick Morris strategies.

- *Alison Scranton & Cheryl Lane*

Ninja Classroom Management Moves: Creating a Classroom Kids Love Coming To

In this fast-paced and interactive session, teachers will learn the essential elements of a welcoming, calm, organized, and engaging classroom where all learners can succeed. Filled with tips, strategies, and tools to guide the new teacher, Ninja Classroom Management Skills will give you the confidence you need to run your room smoothly and well leaving you free to do the thing you do best: teach.

- *Rebecca Mieliwocki*

The Adolescent Award Brain - Positive Classroom Management for the Most Challenging Classrooms

Research shows that during adolescence, brains are more attuned to awards and rewards than punishment, than at any other time in life. Harness this knowledge with a variety of positive classroom management strategies that can salvage even the most challenging behavior environments. Strategies include not only how to use rewards, but also how to incorporate technology to create positive relationship environments with your students. Ways to rescue even a bad day, with the worst classroom management meltdowns are presented. This presentation's content is aligned with Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies.

- *Julie Smith*

7 Factors: #StrengthBased Student Engagement for the #RockstarTeacher

Say what you mean, and mean what you say. Myth or reality? Tried and true #superhero #strategies to ensure a strength-based classroom where trust and respect conquer the classroom universe! Rest, relax, rejuvenate and reflect as others #marvel at your #agency and new found powers!

Individualize your classroom management strategies by focusing on your ethic of care, and your strength-based approach. Fill your classroom universe with respect and trust with the simplest strategies and technology tools. Bring a device! Laptop, iPad, cell phone or pencil will do! Activate your agency now! Have leftover energy at the end of the day!

- *Tricia Hyun*

Academic Conversations

Academic conversations are back-and-forth dialogues in which students focus on a topic and explore it by building, challenging, and negotiating relevant ideas. In this workshop, teachers will experience activities/protocols that promote academic conversations to create a student-centered classroom.

- *Deborah Cress & Jennifer Cordova*

Classroom Culture and Management for Secondary Educators

Teachers will deepen their understanding of what classroom culture is, why it matters, how to create structures to build students' motivation, and help students take ownership of their academic performance through the use of tools that encourage the development of safe, trusting, respectful, and well managed classrooms.

- *Marisa Brown & Juliana Tapper*

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT/DEVELOPMENT

Assessment, Assessment, Assessment, Oh My!

We will delve into the nebula that is formative assessment with a look at several high-tech, lo-tech, & no-tech formative assessment strategies that teachers can immediately implement to assist them regardless of content area, or curriculum taught. (content-specific, and cross-curricular strategy lists will be shared as a Bonus!)

- *Robert Bassett & Hassan Yahya*

How to Continue to Find Meaning in the Teaching Profession

Research shows that 50% of all beginning public school teachers leave the profession within the first five years of teaching. How can you learn to not become one of those statistics? This session will address the difficulties facing beginning teachers, what we know about these teachers and the career cycle of teachers as a whole, the symptoms of burn-out, and what teachers can do to renew themselves in the profession. Theoretical and practical advice from long-time veteran teachers will be shared.

- *Leslie Young*

Working with Special Education Students

- *Karen Taylor*

Evidence Building and Formative Assessment: The Library of Congress, Primary Sources and Visual Thinking Routines

Opinion/Argumentative Writing: K-12, All content areas! Come and learn about using Library of Congress Primary Sources and Visual Thinking Routines as formative assessments and to help build strong evidence gathering and argumentation/opinion writing skills!

- *Karen Sher*

Taking Care of Yourself for the Long Haul

This session is about how educators can protect their physical, mental and emotional health. I present 36 small changes that, compounded over time, can have a huge, positive impact on health and career longevity. Though the emphasis is on managing stress in the school environment, we also discuss support networks, reasonable expectations and fitness. This is not a motivational speech, but scientifically proven strategies for personally positive outcomes.

This workshop is interactive; each participant will leave with a written, personalized plan, based on their own needs and which of the 36 items resonate with them. As one-shot presentations rarely influence long-term behavior, I follow up with weekly emails, for three years, that have tips and reminders.

- *Dan Wold*

Cultivating Teacher Leaders: A Progressive Approach to Growing and Diversifying the Teaching Profession

Cultivating Teacher Leaders is a series of components designed to mitigate the teaching shortage and diversify the teaching profession in California. Participants in any level of this cycle of teacher leadership development will become the next generation of teacher leaders and will continue the cultivation for future generations.

- *Al Rabanera*

Teaching with Technology

My presentation will guide new teachers on how to fully immerse technology into their own classrooms. A full training session will cover the basics on how to: acquire technology for the classroom, creating a learning environment with technology, and how to stay engaged with current trends in technology. This program is designed for all grade level, middle school, and high school teachers, as well as special education teachers in mild/moderate/severe settings.

- *Eric Bunyan*

SUBJECT & GRADE LEVEL CONTENT/PEDAGOGY

Steeplechase!

The Steeplechase is a competition in which students, 3 or 4 to a team, attempt to solve puzzle-oriented problems. Teamwork and collaboration are vital ingredients for success. Examples of problems: counting the number of objects in a sealed plastic container, opening a combination lock given clues for each number, building a tower, matching locations and cities on a map, and deciphering cryptic messages. Students rotate from station to station, from one problem to the next, until they have attended each of the stations. Depending on the size of one's class, the event can include anywhere from 6 to 10 stations. The event can be held outside (preferable) or inside the classroom and lasts approximately 45 minutes. The Steeplechase format can be adapted to review for tests in multiple subjects. Kids (and adults) love the competitive nature of the event.

- *Michael Stern & Keiley Agost*

Literacy Practices: Taking a Closer Look at Text Elements of Fiction

In this presentation, participants will walk away with a month-long unit on how to introduce Fiction text elements: character, setting, beginning, events, ending, problem, solution, and central message. Participants will receive charting, text, and student motivation ideas.

- *Nancy Lara*

Building a Bridge Between Common Core and NGSS & Engineering

This session will provide practical tools that can help you to become better acquainted with the NGSS & Engineering Standards and how they can be used to enhance literacy skills in English Language Arts. The session is geared for multiple-subject teachers with little scientific background. It is designed to show that all learning is enhanced when 3D instruction becomes a part of the curriculum.

- *Camie Walker & Denise Bradford*

STEM-ulating student minds through project based activities

Trying to implement STEAM in your classroom but can't find the time? Learn how to incorporate STEAM activities across all subject areas through hands on, real-world projects. By using STEAM activities as the focal point of instruction, students will dive deeper into content application and discover meaning and relevance in their learning. Walk away with several ideas and examples that will allow you to begin STEM-ulating your students' minds!

- *Jesse Ramirez & Jeff Ramirez*

Implementation of the NGSS in the High School Classroom

The presentation will be a short guide/introduction of the NGSS, followed by a short easy guide of how to utilize the standards, finalizing with a simple tool that can be used to prepare a lesson plan

- *Antonio Gamboa*

Teaching Toward WOW!: The Art of Unforgettable Teaching

Discover how students can overcome boredom and perfectionism permanently. Teaching toward “WOW!” is teaching toward amazement, not just comprehension. It is tapping the wonder and “genius” of childhood itself, when we learned from everything with all of ourselves. It is teaching facts, understanding, and judgment through the senses, imagination, and emotions. It is finding the “YES” in each student and teaching to it. It is remembering that teaching is always a creative act, a performing art, and a place where imagination fosters intellect, and clarity and understanding require mystery and surprise.

- *Jon Pearson*

Acceptance Workshop Write to Power!

Description: A creative writing workshop where participants will define and write about personal history and truths as a deeper exploration into self-identity. As educators, we must use our ability as leaders of the youth to ensure we are giving each youth we come into contact with an opportunity to tell their personal story. This creative writing based workshop will explore each educator’s story while collecting an array of tools and skills needed to deeply engage students and assist them with writing their own personal truths. Drawing from personal experience and memories, participants will produce a declarative poem about who they are and how they choose to define themselves in today’s society. While participating, educators will gain an array of engagement strategies needed to take this workshop back to their sites and produce personal, creative and inspirational student writings. This Professional Development training will be facilitated using a writing workshop format that will require heavy participation in order to stimulate a teacher centered safe-space where participants are free to speak their truths as they relate to their current teaching roles.

- *Patrice Hill*

Bridging Classroom Culture to Content in Secondary Mathematics

Why is it so hard to build classroom culture in a math class?! I don’t have time to build classroom culture, we have standards to get through! This session will help Teachers deepen their understanding of what classroom culture means as they explore the importance and power of building a positive classroom culture in the secondary mathematics classroom. Join us as we learn two strategies to bridge a particular classroom culture building activity with secondary math content.

- *Juliana Tapper*

UNIONISM/UNDERSTANDING & NAVIGATING THE CTA WORLD

Enjoy Member Benefits for You, Your Family, and Your Career

Learn about your numerous exclusive Member Benefits, just one of the advantages of your association membership. CTA and NEA Member Benefits staff will provide an overview of almost 50 different programs designed for members to save you and your family time and money, and help with your finances, insurance protection, professional development and retirement planning. You’ll be happy to learn about these programs early in your career so that you can join the thousands of members enjoying the value of Member Benefits as soon as possible!

- *Gina Parish & Sean Mabey*

Retirement Savings Made Easy

It's important to learn about the importance of preparing for a comfortable retirement early in your career. To help you make good decisions, CTA Member Benefits will explain the importance of supplementing your pension benefits and beginning to invest as early as possible to benefit from compounding interest. We will distribute and discuss numerous CTA resources that have been designed to help you make important investment decisions. The new CTA Retirement Savings Plan will be featured.

- [*Gina Parish & Dana Madhavan*](#)

Resisting Corporate Reform in the Era of Trump

Where did the "corporate reform" now afflicting our schools come from? And how can it be resisted? We will look back at the past dozen years, and discuss how the Trump administration has shifted the landscape as we seek to stem the tide.

- [*Anthony Cody*](#)

Generation Debt: Student Loan Forgiveness

The latest NEA Member Benefits research shows recent graduates are leaving universities with greater and greater debt. This presentation focuses on how teachers who teach in "high impact schools" can get a portion of their Stafford and Perkins loans forgiven. We'll also discuss the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program. Only applies to undergraduate and graduate degrees and those who have not consolidated their loans.

- [*Sean Mabey*](#)

Investing in Our Profession: The CTA Institute for Teaching (IFT)

Member-driven creativity, passion and innovation are the keys to transforming our profession. This session will provide an overview of how the IFT's strength-based approach has empowered CTA members to transform their classrooms, their schools and their school communities. IFT Grants provide resources to fund the passions that our members feel for their work and their students. If you would like to find out how you could get up to \$20,000 to fund a project for your classroom or at your school site, this session is for you.

- [*Dick Gale*](#)

Professionally Speaking...

This session will help you in explaining your union values and work to the public. Engage professionally with community members, parents, news media and other professionals about how political and economic issues impact teaching and learning.

- [*Cynthia Menzel*](#)

Working Through Your Union to Advance Social Justice Causes

In these times, educators must lead the fight for equity and justice for our students and their families. Learn how we can work together to use union power to reclaim our schools, our profession, and our society.

- [*Helen Farias*](#)

How to Use Social Media to Build Your Personal Brand and Advocate for Education

This workshop will use real-life examples to show how educators are using Twitter and Instagram to build their own brand, personal learning network and participate in national conversations about education issues and advocacy. Learn about what makes a good Twitter bio, education-related hashtags and social media best practices. Educators will leave this workshop with a better understanding of content creation, social media strategies, and resources for the classroom. Great workshop for educators who want to learn how hashtags will help build your network and enhance your experience at #CTANEW!

- *Samantha DeMuro & Ed Sibby*
