

First Annual Professional



Development Conference

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

EmpowerED

Journey to Success

# Course Selection Menu



*The Mission of Todd County Schools is Teaching all students from a rigorous and aligned curriculum; Caring by building positive mentoring relationships with all students; and Serving by using varied, research-based instructional strategies that make learning relevant to the needs of our students and the community.*

*Sessions take place at 45-minute increments in the morning and afternoon; however, there are sessions that are longer and full day sessions. Teachers should work with their principal to align their professional learning with school and individual priorities. There is additional professional learning opportunities provided during the summer at GRREC.*





# DAY AT A GLANCE

July 16, 2025

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. - Check In

8:30 a.m. - First Session Begins

9:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. - Break

9:30 a.m. - Second Session Begins

10:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Break

10:30 a.m. - Third Session Begins

11:30 - Lunch

1:00 p.m. - MAP 27hr. Session Begins



# SCHEDULE

Name of Session	Presenters	Location	Room
Session 1			
Escape Room	Brook Wagoner	JCCJES	203
CPL, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	Lesley Haddock (3 hr. Training)	JCCJES	211
New Teacher Boot Camp 1-3 years	Dr. Kelly Groves	JCCJES	201
Making Learning FUN (Elementary)	Donna Williams, Sheila Woodall, Kim Sparks	JCCJES	206
Preschool Year Long Planning	Kim Justice (All Day Training)	JCCJES	205
ARC Chairperson Training	Jason Gibson (1.5 hour Training)	JCCJES	214
Building Positive Relationships with Students	Lee Quarles	JCCJES	216
Session 2			
Financial Literacy for Educators	Rick Martin, Ray Busery	JCCJES	214
Strengthening the Core (K-5)	Krista Stratton, Kendra Haley	JCCJES	201
Co-Teaching at its Best	Trish Knepper	JCCJES	203
Padlet	Natassja Clark	JCCJES	108
Beyond the Exit Ticket	Rachel McCain	JCCJES	206
Session 3			
Sketch Note Taking	Lexie Johnson	JCCJES	208
Strengthening the Core (K-5)	Krista Stratton, Kendra Haley	JCCJES	201
Using Ad	Mary Skipworth	JCCJES	216
All Things SED	Abby Dill	JCCJES	203
Aristotle	Aristotle Rep.	JCCJES	214
Session 4			
MAP Fluency (K-2) 2hr. Training	NWEA Rep.	JCCJES	214
MAP (3-12) 2hr. Training	NWEA Rep.	JCCJES	216

# DESCRIPTION OF SESSIONS

**Escape Room** ~ Creating escape rooms for students is an engaging way to incorporate technology into the classroom while promoting problem-solving, teamwork, and critical thinking. Digital tools like QR codes, interactive puzzles, and online lock simulations can enhance the experience, making challenges more immersive. Teachers can align escape room themes with curriculum topics, ensuring educational value while keeping students motivated. Incorporating technology also allows for customization, enabling educators to adjust difficulty levels and provide instant feedback. Overall, tech-driven escape rooms make learning more interactive and enjoyable. The lesson will utilize google based programs.

**CPI 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** ~ This will be a CPI refresher of the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention course for currently certified staff. This training provides staff with the skills to safely recognize and respond to everyday crisis situations, including safe disengagements and restrictive interventions.

**New Teacher Bootcamp** ~ The New Teacher Bootcamp is designed to support educators who are new to the profession or transitioning into teaching roles. It will include conversations and resources aimed at helping teachers develop effective classroom strategies, understand curriculum requirements, and build confidence in their teaching abilities. A focus on practical tools, classroom management, and lesson planning will be discussed.

**Making Learning Fun** ~ Using Games to Make Learning Fun training for K-2 focuses on integrating playful and interactive activities into the classroom to enhance student engagement and learning. This training emphasizes the educational benefits of games, such as improving problem-solving skills, fostering collaboration, and reinforcing key concepts in subjects like math, reading, and science.

**Preschool Year Long Planning** ~ This 6-hour session will provide preschool staff an opportunity to review the first-year implementation of the PreK on My Way curriculum. Curriculum mapping and unit planning for the upcoming school year will be reviewed and revised. Michele McCloughan, literacy coach, will be providing guidance and support through this process.

**ARC Chairperson Training** ~ The ARC Chair facilitates the ARC meeting by leading discussion of the topics identified in the ARC notice of meeting provided to parents and other applicable members of the ARC team. The purpose of the training session is to review the requirements and procedures of IDEA and to familiarize the attendees with the Kentucky Administrative Regulations and our local Special Education Policies and Procedures.

**Building Positive Relationship in the Classroom** ~ Building Relationships with Students training focuses on equipping educators with strategies to foster positive and meaningful connections with their students. This training often emphasizes the importance of trust, empathy, and communication in creating a supportive learning environment. Participants learn techniques such as active listening, personalized interactions, and creating inclusive classroom practices that make students feel valued and understood.

**Financial Literacy for Teachers** ~ Financial Literacy is necessary for each Teacher. In the old days, an employee had 3 pockets for retirement savings: social security, personal savings, and their pension. This course will talk about a Roth IRA (#1 thing to start according to Suzie Orman and Dave Ramsey) as well as a 403B IRA (which many of you already have). There are significant advantages/disadvantages of both. We will talk about the importance of an emergency fund, as well as look at your Kentucky Pension. Because Kentucky Teachers do not participate in Social Security it is vital that they are prepared for retirement. The two presenters are retired Tennessee Teachers (who have social security), but understand the challenges faced as one gets ready to retire.

**Strengthening the Core (K-5)** ~ We invite K-5 teachers to join us for a session dedicated to enhancing language comprehension (background knowledge, vocabulary, language structures, verbal reasoning, and literacy knowledge). This session will focus on refining Tier1 core instruction by integrating the LETRS framework into our HMH curriculum. No prior LETRS training is necessary. Practical strategies will be highlighted so that all teachers can easily incorporate these structures into their daily routines and instructional units.

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**Co-Teaching at its Best** ~ Co-teaching, what does it look like? We will delve into different models for co-teaching and examples of what each teacher does during a class period.

**Padlet** ~ Padlet is an interactive, digital tool that allows students to collaborate, share ideas, and engage with content in real-time. By providing a visually dynamic and user-friendly platform, it encourages creativity and active participation in group discussions or projects. Its versatility supports diverse learning styles, making it an effective way to enhance student engagement. I intended to focus on sample lessons - a silent gallery walk, Socratic seminar, and group project ideas. I will bring student samples as well.

**Beyond the Exit Ticket** ~ Are you in a formative assessment rut? Are you looking to add variety in your lesson closure? Are you tired of doing all the summarizing for your students? Attend this session to experience some creative closure activities.

**Sketch Note Taking** ~ Sketch Notetaking training focuses on teaching participants how to combine visuals, text, and design elements to create engaging and memorable notes. This method, often called "sketchnoting," helps improve information retention, creativity, and focus. Participants learn techniques such as using icons, arrows, and containers, as well as organizing content in non-linear layouts.

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**Using AI** ~ This training will focus on leveraging AI tools to enhance teaching practices and promote efficiency in the classroom. Participants will explore practical applications of platforms like Brisk, which can create engaging PowerPoint presentations based on preferred websites, saving time while delivering quality content. Additionally, the session will cover effective utilization of MagicSchool AI, guiding students to harness its capabilities responsibly. Emphasizing critical thinking, the training will provide strategies for ensuring that students engage with AI as a supplementary resource, fostering their independence and creativity in learning.

**All Things SEL** ~ The fundamentals of SEL training are geared to make participants gain a mental model of social and emotional learning, clear up misconceptions, and make connections between SEL and what they already believe about supporting children. The training will provide skills that can be applied in direct work with youth, colleagues, and community.

**Aristotle** ~ A remote presenter from the company who will teach staff how to utilize Aristotle K12 to help with classroom management and student Chromebook monitoring.

**MAP Fluency (K-2)** ~ MAP Fluency is a specialized assessment tool developed by NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) that measures students' reading fluency, accuracy, and comprehension.

**MAP (3-12)** ~ MAP Growth for grades 3-12 is a comprehensive assessment tool designed to measure students' academic progress and readiness in subjects like reading, mathematics, language usage, and science. Developed by NWEA, this adaptive assessment provides educators with valuable insights into each student's individual learning path, regardless of their grade level or proficiency.

The **MAP** tool empowers teachers to deliver targeted instruction, address gaps in learning, and challenge students to achieve their academic potential.



# Out of District PD Opportunities



June 5	Understanding and managing Behavior During the Acting Out Cycle
June 6	Supporting Regulation with 1-2-3 RESET: Embedding a Trauma-Sensitive Framework into the Classroom
June 9	Health & PE Network
June 11	Inclusive Scheduling (Virtual)
June 13	Getting Started with Building Thinking Classrooms
June 17	CoreFirst: Going Beyond MTSS Concepts to core Practices that Result in Outcomes
June 18	CoreFirst: Going Beyond MTSS Concepts to core Practices that Result in Outcomes
June 18	AI for Educators
June 20	Mega Math Meet Up
June 23	SDI for Special Education Teachers: Gearing up for Inclusion/CO-teaching
June 23	The Four Dimensions of Teacher Clarity
June 24	Building success: Systematic Instruction for Students with Low-Incidence Disabilities
July 7	Getting Started with OpenSciEd High School
July 8	Getting Started with OpenSciEd High School
July 8	New to Designing for Engagement?
July 9	Best Practices for Running a Structured Behavior Program
July 14	Getting Started with OpenSciEd Middle School
July 15	Getting Started with OpenSciEd Middle School
July 15	Manipulative, Models, and Math...OH My: Creating the Culture of Mathematical Thinking
July 21	Science of Reading: Bootcamp Elementary
July 22	Welcome to the Journey: foundations for New Teachers
July 22	Science of Reading: Bootcamp Elementary
July 24	Creative Interventions for Traumatized Children
July 24	The DBQ Project 101: Introduction and Getting Started
July 25	The DBQ Project: Advanced Strategies for Implementation
July 25	Creative Interventions to Build Emotional Regulation and Social Skills
July 28	Science of Reading Bootcamp: Secondary
July 29	Science of Reading Bootcamp: Secondary
July 31	Making Math Accessible: Enhancing HQRs with Math Language Routines



**REGISTER HERE BY MAY 9, 2025**

**<https://forms.office.com/r/bfnNCuzunu?origin=lprLink>**



# Todd County Schools

Teaching, Caring, Serving