



Collaborative Teaching and Early Elementary Literacy



Day 1

Co-Teaching at its Best: Meeting the Needs of All Students

Presenters: Tracy Amerman, Ed. D. and Mihri Napoliello, Ed. D.
New Jersey City University

As many school districts move towards inclusion for students with disabilities and for English language learners, strategies for co-teaching and for teaching diverse students are essential. This workshop will focus on research based co-teaching models for inclusion classrooms. We will provide effective teaching strategies for differentiating and tiering instruction in a diverse classroom, strategies and alternate forms of assessment. The presenters will address five research based co-teaching models for teaching in inclusion classrooms. Roles and responsibilities of co-teachers will be clearly defined. Co-teachers meet the needs of all students in that classroom by engaging students, accommodating and modifying instruction, and understanding cultural and linguistic factors. We will engage participants in “hands-on” activities.

Dr. Mihri Napoliello is a Professor in the Department of Multicultural Education, New Jersey City University. She has been an educator for over 30 years. She began her career as a special education teacher at the John F. Kennedy School in Newark. She later implemented a bilingual and ESL program for students at the school. As a teacher educator she has prepared teachers in bilingual education, ESL, and special education. In addition to her teaching duties at the University, Dr. Napoliello was a Professor-in-Residence at the Roosevelt School in Union City for three years where she worked with bilingual and special education classes. She is a past-president of NJTESOL/NJBE. Dr. Napoliello has provided numerous workshops to teachers in school districts throughout New Jersey.

Tracy Amerman, Ed.D. is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Special Education at New Jersey City University. She began her career as a special education teacher in New Jersey and has taught students with disabilities from elementary school age through college. Dr. Amerman has been a consultant to the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs and presently serves on the NJ State Special Education Advisory Council and on the New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education's Program Advisory Board. She has published a number of articles and frequently presents on transition for students with disabilities to post secondary life, inclusion, and assistive technology at the national, state, and local levels. She is co-coordinator of the New Jersey Transition Coordinator's Network and is an active presenter with the NJCIE speaker's bureau. Tracy received her BS and MAT in Special Education from Montclair State College and her Ed.D. in Learning and Teaching from Rutgers, The State University.

Day 2

Teaching Reading and Writing in the Primary Grades



Presenters: Monica Schnee and Judie Haynes

Teaching Reading and Writing in the Primary Grades will focus on strategies to help ELLs expand on the reading and writing skills that they learn in Grades K-3 mainstream classroom. The presenters will model a variety of literacy mini-lessons that integrate developing oral language, reading comprehension strategies, word study and writing. The integration of these strategies make up best practices that support ELLs as they learn to read, write and speak in a second language. 21st Century literacies will be discussed in the framework of how to extend students' work to include websites, digital scrapbooks, digital poetry and voicethread. This workshop is for ESL/bilingual teachers and mainstream teachers of ELLs.

*One of the top ten winners of the prestigious PBS 2010 Teachers Innovation Awards, **Monica Schnee** teaches ESL in the primary grades in River Edge, NJ. Monica was born in Argentina where she attended a dual language school from K-12. Before becoming an educator, Monica Schnee worked in television as an on-air reporter and producer in Latin America and Europe. She did her student teaching in River Edge with Judie Haynes, which was the beginning of an exciting and ongoing collaboration.*

***Judie Haynes** taught K-6 ESL for 28 years and is now working as an author and professional development provider. Her latest books entitled Getting Started with English Language Learners (2007) and Teaching English Language Learners Across the Content Areas (2010), were published by the Association for Supervisors and Curriculum Developers (ASCD). Judie presents workshops for classroom teachers of ELLs throughout the United States. She is the co-founder of the award-winning website, everythingESL.net and the incoming President of NJTESOL-NJBE.*

