

North ABE Spring Regional

Thursday, March 26-Friday, March 27, 2020

Timberlake Lodge
144 SE 17th Street
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

atlas ABE Teaching & Learning
Advancement System

 **HAMLIN UNIVERSITY**

www.atlasABE.org

This ABE training opportunity is being offered in conjunction with the MN Department of Education and the ATLAS program at Hamline University. CEUs indicating attendance will be provided.

THURSDAY AGENDA

12:45-1:00 Check in at ATLAS Registration Desk – *Be sure to eat lunch prior to the meeting*

1:00-4:00 **READING PREPARATION** STAR Alphabetics and Fluency Assessment, **Birch Room** – *Marn Frank, ATLAS* – This 3-hour training will cover key diagnostic reading assessment (DRA) terms and the purposes, processes, and tools for assessing alphabetics (or word recognition) levels, phonics knowledge, and reading fluency levels. It is intended for support staff and volunteers who are willing to assist with testing (as well as support teaching) in their MN STAR programs. New and continuing MN STAR teachers are also welcome to attend to refresh or expand their assessment knowledge of new processes and level names. If you have a blue binder (STAR Diagnostic Reading Assessment), bring it along!

4:00-4:45 Check in at the ATLAS Registration Desk

4:30-5:30 Dinner, **Oak Room** – *A light dinner will be provided to all participants and presenters*

5:30-7:00 **CONCURRENT SESSION 1 (choose one):**

(A) **Annual ABE Grant Application Workshop, Hickory Room** – *State MDE Staff* – Join state staff for the ABE grant application workshop session for local ABE administrators and interested staff. Annual ABE consortium grant applications are due June 1, 2020 and are required for all ABE consortia to receive state and federal funding. We will share details, tables, and key tips about the annual grant application as well as information about the 5-year narrative submission process. Please bring any questions you have for the Minnesota Department of Education. Participation in this in-person session here, or via the May 6 webinar, is strongly encouraged but not required by each ABE consortium.

(B) **MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS** How to Teach ABE Students About Mental Health, **Birch Room** – *Colleen Crossley, PANDA* – Does your class have lively discussions about the importance of maintaining good physical health, but clam up if staying fit MENTALLY is mentioned? We all know that good mental health is vital to students' well-being, but how do we summon the courage to go there? Come to this workshop and leave prepared to introduce common mental health topics and concerns of your students. Explore related multimedia lesson plans and supplementary materials in a fun and interactive environment. Teachers will walk away with several handy lesson plans, as well as easy access to numerous online resources. **Please bring Laptop or other device for accessing link to Google slides Unit Plans.**

7:00-7:15 BREAK

7:15-8:45 **CONCURRENT SESSION 2 (choose one):**

(A) **Fostering Student Success through Transparency, Birch Room** – *Stephanie Sommers, ACES/ATLAS, and Matt Dehmer, Moorhead ABE* – In this hands-on session, participants will learn some basic principles related to creating transparent assignments. These include having a well-defined purpose, task, and criteria for success. We will talk about why transparency is important, especially when working with learners who previously have not had successful school experiences. Creating clear and transparent assignments allows students to focus on and put more thought into the content because questions about what the teacher is looking for have already been answered. When assignments are designed with transparency as a goal, both the skills and knowledge that the students will gain by completing them are made clear to the teacher and the students. Even if you don't do regular lesson planning, come to this session to get some ideas from an ABE teacher from the North Region about how transparency can be done in a one-room schoolhouse.

(B) **Current Issues in Minnesota Adult Education, Hickory Room** – *State MDE Staff* – Join state adult education staff for information and discussion on a variety of topics, including IET, WIOA, IELCE, HiSEAs, SiD, CTE, and the rest of our system's alphabet soup! We'll give you updates relevant to the statewide ABE system and facilitate discussion around key issues. Come with your questions and ideas.

NOTE: BE SURE TO PICK UP YOUR CEUs AT THE ATLAS REGISTRATION DESK

FRIDAY AGENDA

7:00-8:00 Breakfast in hotel breakfast room for hotel guests (**NOTE**: Coffee and tea only will be available for the morning sessions)

7:45-8:15 Registration – **CHECK IN AT THE ATLAS REGISTRATION DESK**

8:15-8:45 Welcome & Announcements, **Oak Room** – Patsy Egan, ATLAS; Astrid Liden, MN Department of Education; Marisa S. Geisler, ATLAS

9:00-10:30 **CONCURRENT SESSION #1 (choose one):**

(A) **Occupational Certificates in Northern Minnesota? Yes, You Can!, Oak Room** – Kirsten Fuglseth, Northwest Service Coop; Tracy Chase, AEOA; Jessica Turner, Brainerd Adult Education – Adult career pathways are complicated, yet rewarding! Join three leaders from ABE programs across Northern Minnesota to hear about how they are providing relevant, high-demand occupational certificates to their learners. Examples include ServSafe instruction, on-ramps to certificates as part of P2P grants, as well as ParaPro delivery. Panelists will share how programs were established, as well as lessons learned, challenges, and successes. Come learn from your colleagues, share your experiences, and consider how you might expand occupational prep programming in your area.

(B) **ENGLISH LEARNERS Stay on Track with ESL Learning Stations, Birch Room** – Sara Chlebik, Northwest Service Coop – Build confidence and independent skills through student-centered learning in class stations. This is an opportunity to gain fresh ideas to accompany the materials you already use in your ESL classroom. These stations are easy and inexpensive to create, and can be used for independent or group learning. They can also be used as informal assessments or simply to build up skills in reading, writing, listening, or speaking.

(C) **Introduction to Khan Academy for Distance Learning, Hickory Room** – Susan Wetenkamp-Brandt, Literacy Minnesota – In this hands-on session, we will explore how to use the free website Khan Academy to support distance learning. Khan Academy is approved for distance learning proxy hours, and has great content for math, science, social studies, and more. Learn how to set up classes, enroll learners, assign content, pull distance learning hours, and tips and tricks for success. **Please bring a laptop or Chromebook to be able to fully participate.**

10:30-10:45 Refreshment Break

10:45-12:15 **CONCURRENT SESSION #2 (choose one):**

(A) **Queering the Classroom: LGBTQIA+ Representation in Literacy Instruction, Birch Room** – Erin Cary, Lyndale Education Program, and Kris Klas, St. Paul ABE – In this session, ABE professionals in the LGBTQIA+ community invite you to reflect on and discuss topics of gender and sexuality in ESL/ABE classrooms and instruction. We will have the opportunity to evaluate common literacy instructional materials and brainstorm how to include more queer representation. Presenters will provide lesson examples for teaching gender-inclusive language, beginning with the emergent reader level. It is our intention to create a space where participants are welcome but not required to share aspects of their identity or experiences related to the topic.

(B) **READING PREPARATION Layers and Lists of English Words, Oak Room** – Marn Frank, ATLAS – The number of words in the English language has grown over many centuries and is constantly changing. The current Oxford English Dictionary includes over 170,000 words (more than in French, German, or Spanish). Of that total, the “average” native English speaker knows (but may not use frequently) 20,000 to 35,000 words. Do you wonder where our many words come from? Do you ponder which words are most important to teach? Do you seek strategies and resources for selecting words? If so, join this lighthearted session to learn about: (1) the history and layers of English, (2) lists of high-frequency words, and (3) strategies for selecting or finding words for instruction.

(C) **Mobile Devices at Work: Apps & Tools for Teaching, Learning & Student Support, Hickory Room** – Susan Wetenkamp-Brandt, Literacy Minnesota – Phones and tablets are powerful tools for communication and learning – so let’s put them to work! In this hands-on session, we will try out a variety of apps and websites such as Remind, Socrative, Padlet, Flipgrid, Google Keep, and more. We will also explore options for projecting from your phone so you can demonstrate to your students how to use new apps. **Please bring a laptop, phone, or tablet that you can have apps installed.**

12:15-1:15 **LUNCH – Oak Room**

1:15-2:45 **CONCURRENT SESSION #3 (choose one):**

(A) **Let's Explore with Singapore Strips, Birch Room** – Kris Klas, St. Paul ABE – Making sense of word problems, grasping the meaning of mathematical operations, and visually representing algebraic equations can be challenging for many people. In this workshop, come prepared to explore how Singapore strips (aka bar models or tape diagrams) can be utilized for everything from performing basic operations to proportional reasoning to solving for the unknown. This strategy is (almost) a one-size-fits-all!

(B) **Resources for Navigating the 2020 Census, Oak Room** – *Hannah Buckland, MN Department of Education* – State Library Services at the Minnesota Department of Education has partnered with the Minnesota State Demographic Center to provide support to library workers, ABE instructors, and other community partners in helping the public complete their 2020 Census forms. Because the 2020 Census will be available for completion online, ABE students who lack internet connectivity, a device, and/or digital literacy skills may ask for assistance for any of these three essentials. Join us in this session as we become familiar with the 2020 Census forms, discuss how to respond to common questions about the Census, and review referral options for instances when people need more support with Census completion than you can provide.

(C) **ENGLISH LEARNERS BEST PRACTICES Say What? Enhancing Listening Instruction for Adult Learners, Hickory Room** – *Erin Cary, Lyndale Education Program* – In this session, participants will learn how explicit listening instruction impacts language acquisition and fosters independence for language learners. Participants will identify authentic learning tasks that adult learners encounter daily, try out a variety of listening activities across multiple levels, and discuss which explicit listening strategies are used for each one. Participants will be provided with listening lesson planning materials and have opportunities to explore how they can be used to integrate more explicit listening strategies into existing curricula or to create lessons from scratch, directly applying their new knowledge from the session in group workshopping activities. The session will end with participants generating instructional goals to help build learners' confidence and ensure effective communication beyond the classroom.

2:45-3:00 CEUs ***BE SURE TO STOP BY THE ATLAS REGISTRATION DESK TO PICK UP YOUR CEUS***

Workshop Information

- **Cost:** \$20 per person for Thursday only; \$25 for Friday only; \$25 for both Thursday and Friday (*get Thursday for free!*)
- **Parking:** Parking is complimentary in the hotel parking lot.

Registration

- **Register online at** <https://atlasabe.org/>
- **Registration deadline:** **Friday, March 20, 2020.**
- **Event/Registration questions:** Gail Rutan, ATLAS Events Manager, grutan01@hamline.edu
- **Payment/Billing questions only:** Marisa Geisler, ATLAS Operations Manager, mgeisler02@hamline.edu

Hotel Reservations

A hotel block will be reserved at Timberlake Lodge (144 SE 17th Street, Grand Rapids, MN 55744) for Thursday, March 26 for discounted rate of \$124 for 2 queen beds; \$119 for king bed. **This rate is valid until Wednesday, March 18.** Please note that ATLAS will cover the cost of room and tax for the discounted rate only. *After March 18 you will be responsible for any additional incurred expense.* **To make a reservation call (218) 326-2600 and mention that you are with the North ABE Spring 2020 Regional.**

**NOTE: Registrations must
be received by
Friday, March 20, 2020
(after this date, a \$15 late fee
will be applied)**