



Minnesota Association of Alternative Programs

## *Breakout Sessions -At a Glance*

MAAP 101

October 5, 2018

Ivan Sand Community High School-Elk River, MN

### **Registration 8:30-9:00**

**Welcome 9:00-9:40**-Get a brief history of the MAAP organization and the incredible professional networking we can provide. Also, a representative from MDE will go over some of the valuable resources you have access to through the Department of Education. Have a danish and be on your toes to answer MAAP trivia questions. Steve usually has some prizes!

### **Session 1-9:40-10:40**

#### **Educator and Student Discussion Panel- Room 102**

It may not always feel like it, but we really are on the same side. Join us for a panel discussion to answer your questions and find out, from both staff and student perspectives, what is and isn't working today in education. Get advice on how to connect with your students and learn how you can truly connect with them and engage them in the learning process.

#### **Student Discipline Discussion-Tom Hoffman - Room 106**

Student discipline is always a tricky topic and no two events are exactly the same, especially in an alternative setting. We want to establish boundaries while also maintaining strong relationships with students. Casual conversation with an experienced administrator will provide strategies that will help you be more effective in dealing with disruptions while also keeping kids in school.

#### **Student Voice & Choice within Structurer-Kelly Holstin - Room 108**

Students benefit from structure, and it is also possible to provide voice and choice within that structure. Join MN State Teacher of the Year, Kelly Holstine, as she shares both the journey of Tokata Learning Center and her personal journey to create personalized learning opportunities for students. There will also be time to discuss questions, fears, and thrills about becoming an ALC teacher.

Kelly Holstine has over 25 years of experience working with youth. She has worked in the fields of media, teambuilding, social work, and education. Holstine holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from the University of Massachusetts, a Communication Arts and Literature teaching license, and a

Master of Arts in Education from Augsburg University. Holstine helped to design and open an Area Learning Center in Shakopee in 2012. She was named Minnesota State Teacher of the Year in 2018.

### **Session 2-10:50-11:50**

#### **What the Heck is MAAP STARS?-Patti Haasch - Room 102**

MAAP STARS is 25 years old and it makes a difference! Want to know more about it? Come to this session to find out how to start a STARS Chapter, learn about resources that are available to help you, hear how others have incorporated STARS into their school and find out what extraordinary life-changing experiences it offers for you and your students.

#### **Blue Collar Yoga-Delon Musselman - Room 104**

An experiential learning activity including the implementation of 14 primary neck stretches, relaxation breathing, and visualization, addressing the tension we carry in our neck and shoulders. This experience brings it down, levels it off, smoothes it out, and leaves the tension behind opening the door for clear thinking. Come and leave your stress behind.

#### **Robotics-Jana Timm - Room 106**

Get a glimpse into the Robotics program implemented at Freshwater Education District. This a hands on session that will allow you to be an active learner and provide strategies for incorporating a robotics program into your own school.

#### **SPED in Alternative Settings-Rachael Lehman - Room 108**

Gain perspective on providing SPED services in an alternative setting that will not only keep you out of hot water, but also provide the best outcomes for students.

#### **Student Led School Tour-Students of Ivan Sand and Sue Yankowiak - (12:20-12:50)**

What better way to get a perspective on what alternative education is than going right to the horse's mouth? Students on the panel will share their experiences including why they chose alternative education, how they have become successful students, their struggles, and what they look for in a teacher. You will also get a unique perspective on a day in the life at Ivan Sand Community School as the students will be answering your questions during a guided tour of their program!

### **Session 3 12:50-1:50**

#### **Chemical Dependency Issues-Charity Allen - Room 102**

This course will explore current adolescent drug trends. It will also help you understand reasons why students are abusing mood altering chemicals, how to address student's chemical use and/or abuse and lastly, how to handle tricky situations around students using chemicals.

#### **Sacred Circle (90 minute session)-Delon Musselman - Room 104**

De will guide the Sacred Circle Process. Sacred Circle is a communication process focusing on speaking and listening skills. It has been used in many MAAP schools. Circle provides an opportunity to experience the power of the collective mind and heart. Circle allows everyone safe expression of ideas and emotions. You will be actively engaged in this session. (consecutive pm sessions) It would be ideal if

participants attend the entire session. However, we understand there may be other things you want to engage in during the conference and being this is a longer session, we encourage you to come and go from circle as you please.

### **Social Worker Perspectives-Rana Burge - Room 106**

Our students have unique needs and experiences. The role of a social worker in an alternative high school is a critical and a demanding one. Participate in conversation with an experienced social worker to become more familiar in your role and discuss potential challenges.

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## **Session 4 2:00-3:00**

### **ACES Study-Mike Travers - Room 102**

Research shows negative correlations between the number of stressors in students lives and their success in school. A significantly higher percentage of students in MAAP schools deal with more stress than their peers in traditional schools. Learn more about the challenges your students face and how to adapt your teaching to meet their needs.

### **Sacred Circle (Cont.) -Delon Musselman - Room 104**

De will guide the Sacred Circle Process. Sacred Circle is a communication process focusing on speaking and listening skills. It has been used in many MAAP schools. Circle provides an opportunity to experience the power of the collective mind and heart. Circle allows everyone safe expression of ideas and emotions. You will be actively engaged in this session. (consecutive pm sessions) Feel free to join even if you did not participate in the first half!

### **Language Arts You Can Use on Monday-Emily Dirksen - Room 106**

During this session we will take a look at some non-traditional approaches to teaching language arts using elective type classes. We will look at things that I've done in my classes that have helped the students become successful. Attendees of this session will take away various novel units, grammar and writing ideas that could be implemented immediately into their own classes.

### **Burnt Out Already? Let's Talk!-Cory Anda - Room 108**

As teachers, we get so ingrained in our work and put so much time into teaching that we burn ourselves out so fast. So sometimes we forget to do one of the most important things at the end of the day and that is reflect. In this session we will be doing an open discussion about how the beginning of the year is going. We will be discussing what is working, what is not working, teaching strategies, coping strategies, and much more. Collaborate, discuss, and reflect.