

September 29, 2023

***“May the God of hope fill you all joy and peace...”***

***Romans 15:13***

Welcome to the 2023 Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph Professional Development Day! Our theme for this school year is “Joyfully Catholic,” which reminds us that our faith is a source of joy, inspiration, and strength. It is the guiding light that infuses our teaching, leadership, and interactions with students, colleagues, and the wider community.

The purpose of today is to allow you to share the joy of Catholic education with other educators from across our Diocese, to learn something new that you can take back to your school/classroom, and to be reminded of the joy of being a Catholic School teacher. We have been blessed with a variety of speakers joining us today to share their gifts and talents with you. We know there will be sessions for each of you to choose from that will meet your needs to learn and grow professionally!

Today we are excited to offer two amazing keynote presentations.

Through the generosity of the FIRE Foundation, we are happy to welcome Dr. Sean Smith, from the University of Kansas and Dr. Michael Faggella-Luby, from Texas Christian University to our Diocesan professional development day. Dr. Smith and Dr. Faggella-Luby’s presentation is titled **“All are Welcome: Answering the Church’s Call through Effective Solutions.”**

Our good friends at FRIENDZY will be providing our other keynote address. Joy Roberts and Julie Widman, Co-founders of Friendzy presented the Keynote at NCEA 2023 and we are so blessed to have them share their expertise and inspiration with us all. They will be presenting **“Bouncing Back: Resilience Through Times of Trauma and Stress”**.

Please plan to attend both keynote presentations as scheduled. More details about each of these sessions are provided in the program.

**Today would not have been possible without support from the following:**

- St. Pius X High School and St. Patrick’s Catholic School and Parish for allowing us to use their facilities for our PD Day;
- The FIRE Foundation for their generous support;
- All of the talented presenters for sharing their gifts and talents with each of us;
- The Professional Development Committee for planning and support; and
- The Catholic Schools Office team, for all the work that went into planning and facilitating this day.

Thank you for your dedication, your passion, and your love for our Catholic schools and students. May God bless you abundantly as you carry out your important mission of educating the hearts and minds of our students.

In joy and faith,

Dr. Karen Kroh  
Superintendent of Schools

## 2023 Fall Professional Development Day Schedule

8:00 am – 9:00 am Hospitality and networking at St. Pius X High School

9:00 am – 10:00 am Keynote Speakers

Friendzy Co-Founders Joy Roberts and Julie Widman Present  
*Bouncing Back: Resilience Through Times of Trauma and Stress*  
**For Middle & High School and all Specials Teachers**  
**St. Patrick's Church**

Dr. Sean Smith Presents  
*All Are Welcome: Answering the Church's Call through Effective Solutions*  
**For ECC & Elementary Teachers, Special Educators and Counselors**  
**St. Pius X High School Auxiliary Gym**

10:00 am – 10:15 am BREAK

10:15 am – 11:15 am Keynote Speakers

Friendzy Co-Founders Joy Roberts and Julie Widman Present  
*Bouncing Back: Resilience Through Times of Trauma and Stress*  
**For ECC & Elementary Teachers, Special Educators and Counselors**  
**St. Patrick's Church**

Dr. Sean Smith Presents  
*All Are Welcome: Answering the Church's Call through Effective Solutions*  
**For Middle and High School and all Specials Teachers**  
**St. Pius X High School Auxiliary Gym**

11:15 am – Noon LUNCH – Provided by Grandma's Catering

12:00 pm– 1:00 pm Break Out Session I

1:00 pm – 1:15 pm BREAK

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm Break Out Session II

\*\*\*\*

11:15 am – 2:00 pm **Principals and Directors** will be meeting in the Logan Room at St. Pius X High School for a "Chat and Chew" with Dr. Jo Weller at The Brown Family Foundation and a special administrator's section with FRIENDZY.

# Professional Development Day September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## Break-Out Sessions – Section 1

<b>Andrew Salzmann</b> Director of Sheridan Center for Classical Studies Benedictine College Memorization in Catholic Education: Why & How	<b>SPX 107</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>K – 5</b>
---	----------------	------------------	--------------

<b>Kevin Vance</b> Director, Center for Constitutional Liberty Benedictine College Catholic Social Thought: Foundational Principles for Teaching Students about Politics In this presentation, teachers will be given a framework that transcends the partisan frame of politics in America and that they can use with their students. These principles will be applicable in every civic and political situation in which they need to make a political judgment as faithful citizens. The common good, human dignity, solidarity, and subsidiarity will be discussed.	<b>SPX 110</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>High School</b>
---	----------------	------------------	--------------------

<b>Lee Gruss</b> STREAM and Project Based Learning Consultant Brown Family Foundation KC What is Gold Standard Project Based Learning? I will present to the educators what elements are needed for Gold Standard PBL. An overview of what PBL really is as defined by Buck Institute.	<b>SPX 111</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>K – 12</b>
---	----------------	------------------	---------------

<b>Kathy Growney</b> Consultant KC RPDC Managing Student Behavior in the Classroom This session will focus on interventions that will help teachers and staff reduce challenging behaviors in the classroom. We will explore a wide range of positive, proactive approaches and emphasize the importance of building relationships with students.	<b>SPX 112</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>ECC, K-2, 3-5</b>
---	----------------	------------------	----------------------

<b>Stefanie Horgan</b> Director of Professional Development Archangel Education and Technology The Tech Playbook In every classroom, a solid game plan is essential! Join us in this session to uncover the fundamental principles of harnessing technology's potential through effective integration into your daily teaching practices. Together, we'll dive deep into the top strategies for maximizing your tech tools, equipping you to craft captivating and interactive lessons, projects, and a range of engaging educational experiences.	<b>SPX Lecture Hall</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>ECC – 5</b>
--	-------------------------	------------------	----------------

# **Professional Development Day**

## **September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### **Break-Out Sessions – Section 1 (continued)**

**Sherrie McElwee and Emily Brown**

**SPX Library**

**Session 1**

**ECC – 2**

Literacy Coach

KC RPDC

Science of Reading and Early Education: Supporting Literacy Development for ECC & Kindergarten

In this session, we will explore and deepen our knowledge around evidence-based literacy instruction in the early education classroom. You will expand your toolbox of strategies with various activities that can easily fit into daily instruction and will help support the literacy development in young learners.

**Marisa Manan & Nicholas Manan**

**St. Patrick's - Jubilee Room**

**Session 1**

**ECC**

Executive VP and Wellness and Resilience & Wellness Director

Resilience Builders

Trauma in the Early Learning Classroom

Identify trauma's broad impact and healthy & unhealthy attachment in early childhood.

**STREAM Teachers**

**SPX 153**

**Session 1**

Stream Teacher Discussion – If you are a STREAM/STEAM/STEM teacher in your building or want to learn more about STREAM/STEAM/STEM for your own classroom, come and have an informal discussion with other STREAM/STEAM/STEM teachers in our diocese.

**Deborah Kerley and Cynthia Clawson**

**SPX 353**

**Session 1**

**3-5**

K-12 Math Consultant

KC RPDC

Math Fluency Strategies for Grades 305

In this session, participants will develop an understanding of what it means to be fluent in mathematics and learn how to help their students become fluent mathematicians.

# **Professional Development Day**

## **September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### **Break-Out Sessions – Section 1 & 2**

**Tracy Kerth & Diane Quinn**

**SPX 351**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**K – 8**

Math Specialists

Holy Cross (KS), Nativity (KS)

Dyscalculia: What is it and what strategies to work with it in your classroom.

Do you have students who struggle in math class? Are you interested in learning more about common characteristics of students with dyscalculia? Would you like to know some classroom strategies you can use in your math class? If yes, come on in and spend some time with us! It will be fun!

**Christi Rice**

**SPX 103**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**ECC – High School**

Missouri School-wide Positive Behavior Supports Consultant

KC RPDC

Classroom Management Strategies to Increase Student Engagement

New and experienced teachers will gain an understanding of 8 Effective Classroom Strategies that make a difference in overall classroom management and student participation in academic tasks. With these strategies in place, students are less likely to take part in problem behavior and spend more time engaged in learning activities. Gain ideas you can use in your classroom immediately following the training!

**Krystyn Schmerbeck**

**SPX 108**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**3 – 12 grades**

Director, Masters Programs in Classical Education

Benedictine College

Integrating Reading Instruction (and Reinforcement) Across the Curriculum

Discover and discuss instructional tools to integrate explicit reading instruction across various grade levels and subjects to stabilize and strengthen students' reading abilities in order to improve student confidence and achievement. The workshop will include an explanation of techniques as well

**Jeremy Lillig**

**SPX 151**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**K-12**

Executive Director of Stewardship and Development

Kansas City - St. Joseph Diocese

The Power of the Story

How to better position your school in the community through the power of storytelling.

**Maeve Tung and Angela Kopp**

**SPX 155**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**K – 8**

STREAM Coordinators

Nativity (KS) / Holy Cross (KS)

Incorporating High Quality STREAM in the K-8 Classroom

During this hands-on session, teachers will learn about effective planning and facilitation of high-quality projects that incorporate Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Math (STREAM), explore ample resources and example projects, and discover the WHY behind STREAM!

# **Professional Development Day**

## **September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### **Break-Out Sessions – Section 1 & 2 (continued)**

**J Michael Pragman**                      **SPX 157**                      **Sessions 1 & 2**                      **ECC – High School**

Senior Program Director of Professional Development  
KC RPDC

**Working Memory and the Brain - Why Memory Loops Impact Learning Skills**

Working Memory is the system embedded in multiple regions of the brain that is responsible for temporarily holding and manipulating information needed for complex cognitive tasks, such as problem-solving, reasoning, language comprehension and decision-making. Participants will learn in this session the 'why' working memory process for a short period of time as the brain uses information to perform mental operations. Ever wonder why students don't remember a direction you just said? This session will give insight of how students at various ages maintain and manipulate information while keeping it available for use in ongoing cognitive process. Participants will gain an understanding of how working memory can help educators develop strategies to enhance their classroom instructional practices.

**Cheryl Reding**                      **SPX 250**                      **Sessions 1 & 2**                      **K – 5**

**Building a Community of Writers (and what about generative AI)**

Through regular writing opportunities, children can learn to effectively communicate in writing. Writing Workshop is uniquely structured to help children develop positive attitudes about writing and progress as writers. Additional discussion on whether workshops should integrate or ban generative AI (Chat GPT, etc).

**Deb Sheppard and Chelsea Voboril**    **SPX 254**                      **Sessions 1 & 2**                      **3rd – High School**

Office of Life and Justice

Kansas City - St. Joseph Diocese

**Church Teaching on Contemporary Social Issues**

Please come and partner with the new staff of the Office of Life and Justice at the chancery. Learn about consultative services on tough issues, such as catholic teaching on vaccinations. Hear about dozens of classroom activities and instruction available from the staff and speakers in the diocese. What past, present, and future events and resources would be most beneficial in your school? Come hear from and chat with us. We want your input.

**Katie McGlinn**                      **SPX 256**                      **Sessions 1 & 2**                      **ECC – High School**

Department of Education

University of Mary, Leavenworth, KS

**It's All About Ed Tech and AI**

A review of educational technology in the classroom what's hot, what's not! What does the latest research state about students and screen time, the best ways they learn? What can AI do for you and your students? This presentation will include resources for students, educators, and staff presenters of all ranges of experiences with technology. It will also include some resources and more ways to try generative AI (artificial intelligence) both inside and outside the classroom.

# **Professional Development Day**

## **September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### **Break-Out Sessions – Section 1 & 2 (continued)**

**Susie Henton and Mary Callahan**

**SPX 350**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**K – 8**

Kindergarten/Math Coach and MS Math/Math Coach

St Charles Borromeo Academy (MO) / St. Agnes (KS)

Using Math Manipulatives Across Grade Levels

Learn the importance of using manipulatives in all grade levels Kindergarten to 8th Grade. Hands-on experiences will show you how. Opportunity to share with peers how you use manipulatives.

**Sammi Tyler and Ryan Zech**

**SPX 352**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**K – High School**

Logic/Middle School Math Teachers

Good Shepherd (KS) / St Regis (MO)

Integrating Math Across Subject Areas

We will explore how mathematics connects all aspects of our learning from Music Class to History. Through interactive lessons, we will find how to better incorporate math into our daily lessons .

**Sean Smith**

**SPX Aux Gym Sessions 1 & 2**

**ECC – High School**

KU

Diving Deeper into Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

This session will focus on specific strategies, tools and resources to utilize in operationalizing the UDL framework. Not only planning for student variability; but implementing effective practices to further support for all learners. Participants will explore ways to bring to life each of the three principles, the nine guidelines, and the various checkpoints developed to offer a road map for inclusion in today's PreK-12 classrooms.

**Michael Faggella-Luby**

**SPX Cafeteria Sessions 1 & 2**

**ECC – High School**

Cognitive Strategy Instruction: Improving Content Area Learning

This session targets the powerful role of cognitive strategy instruction as a way to support student learning. For more than four decades, learning strategies have served as building blocks for higher order thinking by supporting the acquisition, storage and expression of critical content. Educators will learn about the Literacy Building Blocks as a framework for selecting appropriate strategies via hands on experiences illustrating metacognitive problem solving. Appropriate examples for classrooms and school-wide planning provide a background for educator selection of individualized learning options.

**Ed Van Buskirk**

**SPX 102**

**Sessions 1 & 2**

**K – 8**

Speaker, Author, Teacher

If U Love Me

Creating a Culture of Cooperation, Friendship and Respect

In this presentation Ed will share insights on a new program endorsed by Bishop Johnston called God's Recipe for a Wonderful Life; Learning and Living the Ten Commandments. This program builds upon knowing the Ten Commandments applying the Commandments to the daily decisions the students make. The program involves the children, their family and the entire parish community to create a culture of cooperation, friendship, and respect and to pave the way for a joy-filled future for the students

# **Professional Development Day September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

## **Break-Out Sessions – Section 1 & 2 (continued)**

**Megan Majchrowicz and Laura Wei**

**St. Patrick's Church Session 1 & 2 ECC-HS**

**Friendzy**

**I Manage Me**

Think back to your last perfect school day. If this is an impossible memory to find, you aren't alone! From traffic in the morning to student conflict, our days are filled with stressors. When these stressors get the best of us, it can be difficult to lovingly manage a classroom filled with students. Join Friendzy leaders as we discuss the power of co-regulation in the classroom and in life! This session will introduce simple self-management tools for both you, your staff, and your students.

Every educator understands the importance of self-management in the classroom, but we often don't understand how our stress levels impact student's ability to manage their own emotions and activities in the classroom. Participants will leave with practical tools that can be implemented immediately- both personally and in the classroom.

**Megan Majchrowicz**

**St. Patrick's Gym**

**Sessions: 1 & 2 ECC –**

**Friendzy**

**Invisible Backpack**

Mindsets are the views students adopt for themselves profoundly affecting their learning and the way they lead their lives. Tapping into this psychology can help us form students' understanding of what it means to be a beloved child of God. It can also aid in reducing anxiety, perfectionism, and quitting. Building a Growth Mindset helps kids increase learning, develop fortitude, and stretch themselves to become the people God created them to be. Sessions will focus on understanding and applying Mindset to the classroom while connecting it to the school's culture and our Catholic faith.



# Professional Development Day

## September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Break-Out Sessions – Section 2

**Andrew Salzmann****SPX 107****Session 2****Middle & High School**

Director of Sheridan Center for Classical Studies  
Benedictine College  
Why Write Essays in an Age of Chat GPT?

**Kevin Vance****SPX 110****Session 2****Middle & High School**

Director, Center for Constitutional Liberty  
Benedictine College  
Principles of the American Founding in the Context of a Catholic Education  
In this presentation, the principles of the American Founding and our founding documents will be discussed. Particular attention will be given to how Catholic schools might pass on these principles in a way that emphasizes the connection of the best parts of our American political tradition to the natural law tradition of the Church.

**Lee Gruss****SPX 111****Session 2****ECC – 5**

STREAM and Project Based Learning Consultant  
Brown Family Foundation KC  
Teaching Science Process Skills with Toys  
Process Skills are the basics of all science concepts and ideas. Join me as I share 6 basic science process skills and how to teach/practice/reinforce them by using simple toys.

**Kathy Growney****SPX 112****Session 2****Middle & High School**

Consultant  
KC RPDC  
Managing Student Behavior in the Classroom  
This session will focus on interventions that will help teachers and staff reduce challenging behaviors in the classroom. We will explore a wide range of positive, proactive approaches and emphasize the importance of building relationships with students.

# **Professional Development Day**

## **September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### **Break-Out Sessions – Section 2 (continued)**

**Deborah Kerley and Cynthia Clawson**

**SPX 353**

**Session 2**

**ECC, K-2**

K-12 Math Consultant

KC RPDC

Math Fluency Strategies for PreK-2

In this session, participants will develop an understanding of what it means to be fluent in mathematics and learn how to help their students become fluent mathematicians.

**Stefanie Horgan**

**SPX Lecture Hall**

**Session 2**

**Middle & High School**

Director of Professional Development

Archangel Education and Technology

Update, Innovate, and Engage

Are you tired of the same old traditional educational activities that seem to repeat year after year? It's time to breathe new life into your teaching methods and captivate your students' imaginations! "Update, Innovate, Engage!", will empower you with the knowledge and tools to rejuvenate your classroom experience. In this dynamic and interactive session, we will explore how to infuse technology and modern resources into your teaching repertoire. Discover how to seamlessly integrate cutting-edge tools and timeless techniques to create hands-on, cross-curricular learning experiences that will leave both you and your students inspired.

**Emily Brown and Sherrie McElwee**

**SPX Library**

**Session 2**

**3-5**

K-12 Literacy Consultant

KC RPDC

Diving into the Science of Reading for Grades 2-5

In this session, we will explore and deepen our knowledge around evidence-based literacy instruction. Come prepared to play! We will be engaging in various activities you can take back to your classroom to use with your students and help develop automaticity in reading and spelling multi-syllabic words.

**Marisa Manan and Nicholas Manan**

**St. Patrick's - Jubilee Room**

**Session 2**

**ECC**

Executive VP and Wellness and Resilience & Wellness Director

Resilience Builders

Social Emotional Learning For Young Children

Learn ways to foster resilience in early childhood learners.