Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph
Catholic Schools Office
2023 Fall Professional Development Day
Early Childhood Educators

September 29th, 2023
St. Pius X High School
St. Patrick's Parish and School

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 Chirstian 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 Early Childhood
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
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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

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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 from The Brown Family Foundation and a special Administrator's Session with FRIENDZY- Joy Roberts, Julie Widman, Julie Emory-Johnson.

2023 Fall Early Childhood
Professional Development Day Schedule

Session #1:

Trauma in the Early Learning Classroom
Marisa Manan – St. Patrick's Jubilee Room

Science of Reading and Early Education: Supporting Literacy Development
Sherrie McElwee, Emily Brown – SPX Library

Managing Student Behavior in the Classroom
Kathy Growney – SPX 112

Diving Deeper into Universal Design for Learning
Sean Smith – SPX Aux Gym

Working Memory and the Brain: Why Memory Loops Impact Learning Skills
J Michael Pragman – SPX 157

Cognitive Strategy Instruction: Improving Content Area Learning
Michael Faggella-Luby – SPX Cafeteria

The Tech Playbook
Stefanie Horgan – SPX Lecture Hall

It's All About Ed Tech and AI
Katie McGlinn – SPX 256

Classroom Management Strategies to Increase Student Engagement
Christi Rice – SPX 103

I Manage Me
Megan Majchrowicz and Laura Wei – St. Patrick's Church

The Invisible Backpack: Brain Basics
Whitney Stoval and Holly Winchell – St. Patrick's Gym

2023 Fall Early Childhood
Professional Development Day Schedule

Session #2:

Social Emotional Learning For Young Children
Marisa Manan - St. Patrick's – Jubilee Room

Teaching Science Process Skills with Toys
Lee Gruss – SPX 111

Classroom Management Strategies to Increase Student Engagement
Christi Rice – SPX 103

Diving Deeper into Universal Design for Learning
Sean Smith – SPX Aux Gym

Working Memory and the Brain: Why Memory Loops Impact Learning Skills
J Michael Pragman – SPX 157

Cognitive Strategy Instruction: Improving Content Area Learning
Michael Faggella-Luby – SPX Cafeteria

It's All About Ed Tech and AI
Katie McGlinn – SPX 256

Math Fluency Strategies for PreK-2
Deborah Kerley – SPX 353

I Manage Me
Megan Majchrowicz and Laura Wei – St. Patrick's Church

The Invisible Backpack: Brain Basics
Whitney Stoval and Holly Winchell – St. Patrick's Gym

2023 Fall Early Childhood
Professional Development Day Sessions

Title: **Trauma in the Early Learning Classroom**
Presenter: **Marisa Manan**
Room: **St. Pat's - Jubilee Room**   **Session: 1**

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

Title: **Science of Reading and Early Education: Supporting Literacy Development**
Presenter: **Sherrie McElwee, Emily Brown**
Room: **SPX Library**   **Session: 1**

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.

Title: **Managing Student Behavior in the Classroom**
Presenter: **Kathy Growney**
Room: **SPX 112**   **Session: 1**

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.

Title: **Diving Deeper into Universal Design for Learning**
Presenter: **Sean Smith**
Room: **SPX Aux Gym**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

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.

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Title: Working Memory and the Brain Why Memory Loops Impact Learning Skills
Presenter: **J Michael Pragman**
Room: **SPX 157**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

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 into how students at various ages maintain and manipulate information while keeping it available for use in ongoing cognitive processes. Participants will gain an understanding of how working memory can help educators develop strategies to enhance their classroom instructional practices.

Title: **Cognitive Strategy Instruction: Improving Content Area Learning**
Presenter: **Michael Faggella-Luby**
Room: **SPX Cafeteria**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

Educators will participate in a session focusing on the benefits of sensory play, including cognitive development, emotional regulation, language development, and gross & fine motor skills. This presentation will include participants creating a toolbox of activities and materials for their ECC Classroom.

Title: **Classroom Management Strategies to Increase Student Engagement**
Presenter: **Christi Rice**
Room: **SPX 103**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

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!

Title: **The Tech Playbook**
Presenter: **Stefanie Horgan**
Room: **SPX Lecture Hall**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

Caring classrooms and safe relationships infused with hope is one of the most important things you can do for a child who has experienced trauma. One in four children attending school have been exposed to childhood trauma that affects their learning and behavior. This session will equip educators with a working definition of stress, trauma and grief and will provide a neurological understanding of the brain as it relates to these experiences. Educators will utilize this new knowledge of students' neurological hardwiring to regulate, respond, and relate to students with all the intention to nurture the relationship between them.

Title: **It's All About Ed Tech and AI**
Presenter: **Katie McGlinn**
Room: **SPX 256**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

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.

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Title: **The Invisible Backpack: Brain Basics**
Presenter: **Whitney Stoval and Holly Winchell**
Room: **St. Patrick's Gym**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

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.

Title: **I Manage Me**
Presenter: **Megan Majchrowicz and Laura Wei**
Room: **St. Patrick's Church**   **Sessions: 1 & 2**

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.

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 be challenged to look inward at their own self-management strengths and opportunities for growth and leave with practical tools that can be implemented immediately- both personally and in the classroom.

Title: **Social Emotional Learning for Young Children**
Presenter: **Marisa Manan**
Room: **St. Patrick's - Jubilee**   **Session: 2**

Learn ways to foster resilience in early childhood learners.

Title: **Teaching Science Process Skills with Toys Lee Gruss**
Presenter: **Lee Gruss**
Room: **SPX 111**   **Session: 2**

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.

Title: **Math Fluency Strategies for PreK-2**
Presenter: **Deborah Kerley**
Room: **SPX 353**   **Session: 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.