

<b>Monday, February 18, 2019</b>
3:00 pm: Registration Open
4:00 pm: Opening Keynotes
<p><b>“Inclusion as a Mandate of our Catholic Faith”</b> - Description coming – <i>Presenter: Dr. Raul Escarpio with CatholicEd4All</i></p> <p><b>“A Product of Inclusive Catholic School Success”</b> - Description coming – Lynn <i>Presenter: Mary Warm, Individual with Down syndrome successfully graduated from a Catholic High School</i></p>
5:00 pm: Welcome Reception
<b>Tuesday, February 19, 2019</b>
7:00 am: Registration
7:45 am: Prayer
8:00 am – 12:30 pm
<b>Inclusive School Tours</b>
12:30 pm: Lunch & Keynote
<p><b>“The Key to Full Inclusion”</b> Inclusion is more than just sitting at a desk in the general education classroom. What makes an education truly inclusive? During this keynote, Nicole Eredics will talk about inclusive teaching practices as well as the critical role that curriculum modifications have in the full inclusion of students with disabilities. <i>Presenter: Nicole Eredics, Inclusion Advocate, Author</i></p>
1:45 pm – 3:00 pm: Breakout Sessions
<p><b>“Roadmap to Including Children of All Abilities”</b> Inclusion requires creativity, passion, compassion and a belief that all children can learn and will learn when supported properly. Attendees will learn best practices for inclusion and practical tools for embracing inclusion and setting your staff and students up to succeed.  <i>Presenter: Amy Allison, Chief Operating Officer, Down Syndrome Guild of Greater Kansas City</i></p>
<b>“Fostering Language, Social Skills, and Peer Relationships in Schools”</b>

Participants will learn ways to support the language and social needs of children across all school environments. Emphasis will be placed on how schools can teach and promote social skills development and the application of those skills to build and maintain peer relationships. Participants will also learn about some of the ways this is already happening.

*Presenter: Matt Braun, PhD, L/CCC-SLP, Owner/Therapist, Speech & Language Solutions, LLC*

**“Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and the Diverse Classroom”**

- Description coming -

*Presenter: Dr. Raul Escarpio*

**“An IDEA for Catholic Schools”**

Endeavors to provide to the USCCB and the Catholic school community at-large a national overview of IDEA’s implementation vis a vis students with disabilities who attend Catholic schools. Based on both current data and the input of Catholic school special education stakeholders from across the nation, the researchers will be able offer to the USCCB and the Catholic school community targeted recommendations about (1) how IDEA’s enforcement and extant IDEA-specific regulations should be improved/strengthened and also, in anticipation of IDEA’s reauthorization, (2) suggested statutory changes that ought to be part of any future reauthorized version of IDEA. At the conference, we will present on the goals, some of the findings, and progress so far of “An IDEA for Catholic Schools” project.

*Presenters:*

*Rev. Tom Olson, Co-Researcher, “An IDEA for Catholic Schools” Parochial Vicar, Gate of Heaven/St. Brigid’s Parishes, Archdiocese of Boston (MA) Mr. Steve Perla, Co-Researcher, “An IDEA for Catholic Schools” Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Fall River (MA)*

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm: Breakout Sessions

**“Motivating & Engaging Learners with Disabilities”**

Learn practical strategies and real time solutions, which will help you build a great rapport with your students while increasing on task behavior and motivating your student to self-regulate and work as independently as possible.

*Presenter: Amy Allison, Chief Operating Officer, Down Syndrome Guild of Greater Kansas City*

**“Differentiated Instruction for All Learners”**

- Description coming –

*Presenter Dr. Raul Escarpio with CatholicEd4All*

**Classroom Behavior Management for Children with Autism and Developmental Disorders**

Children with special needs (Autism Spectrum Disorders, Intellectual or Learning Disabilities, ADHD, etc.) often engage in problem behaviors (tantrums, noncompliance, aggression, etc.) that interfere with their educational progress and success in the school setting. This session will review a framework for understanding why problem behaviors occur and discuss effective school-based strategies for reducing problems and building new skills.  
(Combination of K-5 & 6-12 in one session)

*Presenter: Cy Nadler, PhD Clinical Psychologist and Co-Director of Autism Services, Children’s Mercy Kansas City Associate Professor of Pediatrics, UMKC School of Medicine*

**“Characteristics of an Inclusive Classroom”**

What is the difference between a classroom and an inclusive classroom? Nicole Eredics, a seasoned inclusion teacher, will outline the characteristics of classrooms that welcome and teach ALL students. Attendees will learn how teachers can use learning materials, staff, teaching strategies, and even a morning meeting to create inclusive learning environments.

*Presenter Nicole Eredics Inclusion Advocate, Author*

**“Framing Inclusionary Efforts”**

This interactive session will connect the various empirically-validated frameworks (MTSS, RTI, PBIS, UDL), illustrating how they guide and further facilitate our efforts to include ALL learners. Demonstration of various components with practice opportunities will provide participants to redesign curriculum and materials, plan purposefully, revise assessments, and apply effective strategies to meet the needs of ALL learners.

*Presenters: Christine (Christie) M. Bonfiglio, Ph.D, Director of Professional Standards & Graduate Studies, Director of the Program for Inclusive Education & Sean J. Smith, Ph.D., Professor of Special Education & Associate Researcher with the Center for Research on Learning, University of Kansas & faculty for Notre Dame’s Program for Inclusive Education*

5:30 pm: Happy Hour Reception at Trezo Mare Lounge

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019**

8:00 am: Keynote

**“Moving from Welcoming to Belonging: Inclusionary Approaches in Catholic Schools”**

Increasingly, Catholic schools are responding to the call to open their doors to students with disabilities, yet they are in need of supports and guidance in order to effectively build more inclusive environments. To yield to the call for inclusion, Catholic schools need to move from merely offering a welcome to those with disabilities. Catholic schools need to move to environments where all truly belong.

*Presenter: Michael J. Boyle, Ph.D. Director, Andrew M. Greeley Center for Catholic Education School of Education*

9:30 am – 10:45 am: Breakout Sessions

**ADHD, Autism and Neurological Disorders**

This session will explore new techniques and avenues of support for raising children with neurological disorders. Participants will get expert advice and practical strategies to minimize meltdowns and better understand what’s behind the behaviors associated with various diagnoses.

*Presenter: J. Michael Sumler, LMFT, Sumler Counseling Services LLC, Joshua Center for Neurological Disorders*

**Tackle Tier 1 and Bypass Behavior**

This interactive session will engage participants with proactive planning to prevent problematic behaviors in the classroom. Methods for establishing a culture of positivity will be modeled and practiced to ensure the inclusion of ALL learners.

*Presenter: Christine (Christie) M. Bonfiglio, Ph.D, Director of Professional Standards & Graduate Studies, Director of the Program for Inclusive Education*

**“Utilizing Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) as a Framework for Inclusion”**

In this session, we will explore how MTSS can be the framework which houses all that we can do to serve all students well in an inclusive setting. Participants will revisit the three tiers of MTSS considering what best practice can look like at their school at all three levels. Identifying a priority for improvement, participants will consider specific systems, structures, and routines they can employ to make these improvements lasting, becoming the “new way of doing business” at their school.

*Presenter: Sandria Morten, Ed.D., Assistant Director for Inclusive Practices, Andrew M. Greeley Center for Catholic Education*

**“Practical Strategies to Modify Curriculum”**

In this breakout session, Nicole Eredics will follow-up on her keynote presentation by providing practical and research-based strategies to modify curriculum for students with intellectual disabilities. She will present teacher-tested techniques that make high-quality curriculum accessible and achievable.

*Presenter: Nicole Eredics Inclusion Advocate, Author*

**Top Ten Tech Tips for Inclusion**

This interactive session will feature a top ten list of innovative (but easily available) technology tools useful for meaningfully including all students in our instructional efforts. While targeting struggling learners and their peers with disabilities, we will feature tech tips that would be applicable to ALL learners.

*Presenter: Sean J. Smith, Ph.D., Professor of Special Education & Associate Researcher with the Center for Research on Learning, University of Kansas & faculty for Notre Dame's Program for Inclusive Education*

11:00 am – 12:15 pm: Breakout Sessions

**“Practical Solutions for the Classroom”**

This session will cover ideas and strategies for developing accommodations and modifications in the classroom. Accommodations and modifications will cover academic as well as behavior.

*Presenters: Beth Bozarth & Chris Reffet*

**“Friends, we are in this Life Together”**

The Peer Mentor Program is a gift for students with special needs, their families and the mentors themselves. It is necessary for successful inclusion education in Catholic High Schools. Why does it work? How does it work?

*Presenters: Mr Scott Lero, Mrs. Nancy McCoy, Maggie Miller, Madelyn McKinney, Maggie Taylor, John Hyde, Jack Davis, Katie Barrera*

**“Dollars & Sense of Inclusion”**

One of the most common questions that surface when school / parish communities consider adopting an inclusive philosophy is: How we will pay for it? The implementation of successful inclusive education programs requires resources – and that usually translates to funding. In this session, you'll hear from school leaders and a funder about strategies and practices to cover the costs of staff and resources.

**“Leveraging Effective Practices for ALL Learners”**

This interactive session will engage participants with effective practices that when implemented, will leverage the inclusion of ALL learners. Discussion of high leverage practices, their implementation within instruction, and the benefits for ALL learners will be illustrated. Special attention will be given to practices that meet the needs of those with disabilities.

*Presenters: Sean J. Smith, Ph.D., Professor of Special Education & Associate Researcher with the Center for Research on Learning, University of Kansas & faculty for Notre Dame's Program for Inclusive Education & Christine (Christie) M. Bonfiglio, Ph.D, Director of Professional Standards & Graduate Studies, Director of the Program for Inclusive Education*

12:30 pm: Keynote

**Beth Foraker with the National Full Board of Inclusion**

- Title & Description Coming Soon -
1:45 pm – 3:00 pm: Breakout Sessions
<p><b>“Low or No Cost Applications and Extensions that Support Student Success”</b> In this session you will receive information about low or no cost extensions that will help support student success in an inclusive environment. This session will cover student support in the classroom, data tracking and parent communication tools that keep everyone in the loop on student progress and logical next steps. This session is great for classroom teachers, administrators, inclusive educators and parents.</p> <p><i>Presenters: Beth Jerome, Vice Principal, Holy Cross School &amp; Jamie Potter, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Holy Cross School</i></p>
- Breakout Title & Description Coming Soon -
- Breakout Title & Description Coming Soon -
<p><b>“Working with a Paraprofessional in an Inclusive Catholic Setting”</b> <i>This panel of education professionals has taught in an inclusive school for several years, working closely with paraprofessionals in many capacities. They will present their ideas on how to make this a successful team situation for students, teachers, parents and paraeducators.</i></p>
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm: Conference Wrap Up