

Texas Autism Conference

Livestream Agenda



Thursday, August 3, 2017

Welcome, Texas Education Agency and Keynote Address

8:30 am - 10:00 am

You're Going to Love This Kid!: Educating Students with Autism in Inclusive Schools

Dr. Paula Kluth

Participants will learn practical ways of supporting students with autism spectrum within a general education classroom. Topics addressed include defining (and redefining) autism, listening to the voices of those with autism, differentiating instruction, creating more active and responsive lessons, making the classroom comfortable, and providing opportunities for communication and social skill development.

10:00 am - 10:15 am

Break

Session 1

10:15 am - 11:45 am

A Land We Can Share: Access to the Literate Community for ALL

Dr. Paula Kluth

This session will explore how many learners have been excluded from literacy experiences that are inclusive, rich, and challenging. Participants will also learn strategies for including and supporting students with disabilities in reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities. Ideas for enhancing skills in comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary will be highlighted.

11:45 am - 1:15 pm

Lunch Break

Session 2

1:15 pm - 2:45 pm

The Brain and Autism: Behavior and Learning

Layne Pethick

This session will focus on the neurological factors that affect behavior and learning. Participants will gain information on how the brain reacts to multiple factors (stress, instructional practices, sensory, social-emotional, etc.). This session will also look beyond the label to find the true individual child so that better interventions and strategies can be developed and utilized.

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm

Break

Session 3

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

The Delivery of Effective Social Skills Programming to Individuals on the Autism Spectrum: Notes and Observations from the Classroom, Clinic, Laboratory...and Dinner Table

Scott Bellini, Ph.D.

The workshop will discuss ingredients to both effective and ineffective social skills programming and provide a brief overview of my "Building Social Relationships" model. Now more than ever, our field and, more importantly, our children are in desperate need of effective social skill programming. Not just EASY social skills programming, but EFFECTIVE social skills programming.

Texas Autism Conference Livestream Agenda



Friday, August 4, 2017

Welcome and Keynote Address

8:30 am - 9:45 am

Language and Cognition Challenges and Supports for People with ASD

Liane Holliday-Willey, Ed.D.

While people with ASD tend to have average to superior language skills, their comprehension and communication abilities can suffer from the tendency toward literal thinking, rigid thinking and poor theory of mind or perspective taking. This presentation illustrates how important solid language and cognition skills are, especially as the base for other life skills like social living, relationship building, and career success and happiness. It will also outline supports for developing those skills.

9:45 am - 10:30 am

Break

Session 4

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Helping Kids with ASD Succeed in the Classroom

Liane Holliday-Willey, Ed.D.

This presentation focuses on strategies that help keep kids with ASD or other learning challenges focused, productive, emotionally and socially secure.

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Lunch Break

Session 5

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Teaching Self-Regulation Skills

Rebecca Moyes

This session will discuss various ways for educators and parents to teach replacement skills for children who struggle with self-regulation, as well as interventions in the classroom that may assist the educator to provide a more effective environment for these students to achieve progress. Strategies to address stress and anger management, sensory regulation, impulsivity, and melt-down behaviors will be discussed, as well as ways to improve attention/focus, and social inappropriateness.