

Conference 2015 - Educator Day

Friday, February 20, 2015 - Toronto, ON

Educator Day Workshops

On Educator Day at the ABC 2015 Conference, you will have the opportunity to attend two workshops. During registration, you will be asked to indicate your workshop preferences.

Before registering, please review the workshop selections below.

Space in each workshop is limited. We will do our best to accommodate your choices. The schedule and workshop offering are subject to change without notice.

The Gifted Learner: Best Educational Practices

This workshop will appeal to educators who are interested in developing best practices in the delivery of their gifted programs. Whether teaching gifted children in the contained or mainstreamed classroom, this workshop will offer a glimpse into effective approaches for delivering a program that meets the academic, social and emotional needs of gifted learners.

Nature and Needs of the Gifted Learner

This session will appeal to educators of students who are deemed exceptional-gifted. Academic programming is often the focus in a gifted classroom. However, the delivery of gifted programming must include understanding the nature and needs of gifted learners and identifying program features and strategies that complement the academic programming for the gifted student.

Mentoring by Academic Researchers: The Virtual Researcher On Call Program and the Sanofi Biogenius Canada competition

In this workshop we will present two programs managed by Partners In Research that utilize mentoring by academic researchers to support Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) literacy and excellence – the Virtual Researcher On Call (VROC) program and the Sanofi Biogenius Canada (SBC) competition. In the session we will discuss the SBC and demonstrate the infrastructure used to support the VROC program, the resources available to teachers and we will make a live connection with a Canadian academic researcher through the video conference solution that is provided at no charge to all partnered schools and classrooms that participate.

When They Have Concerns

Gifted children and teens are not immune to or exempt from significant negative life events. A look at various mental health concerns, acknowledging that some might represent misdiagnoses of “giftedness” characteristics, and some might be “missed diagnoses”. Discussion will include; the social and emotional development of gifted kids, several studies of gifted underachievers and high achievers. Some attention to listening and responding skills for teachers will conclude the session.

Building and Sustaining Effective Gifted Programs

Educators can feel overwhelmed with the multiple challenges of building strong gifted programs. Join an experienced gifted coordinator from a large diverse school district as she provides practical tips for achieving success and sharing strategies and ideas for building capacity within your district’s gifted program. Key components of the role will be discussed: developing district-wide programming, identification practices, providing relevant professional development, supporting parents, and advocating for gifted education within the district and community.

Teaching 21st Century Students in the Gifted Cluster Model

Gifted cluster teachers need strategies for building rigorous differentiated curriculum and infusing instruction with the critical thinking skills essential to students’ success in the 21st Century. The presenter will share instructional strategies that incorporate Depth of Knowledge levels. Participants will learn methods for creating differentiated lesson plans that increase challenge levels in a gifted cluster class, motivate high ability students, promote authentic learning, and provide vital assessment data.