

Friday, October 12, 2018

7:45 am – 8:20 am	<b>Registration/Breakfast Provided</b>
8:20 am – 8:30 am	<b>Introductions</b>
8:30 am – 10:00 am	<p><b>Dr. Paula Kluth</b> <b><u>Dwelling in Possibility: The Values, Beliefs, &amp; Habits of Inclusive Schools</u></b></p> <p>This session is inspired by the words of celebrated poet, Emily Dickinson, who wrote, “I dwell in possibility.” In this session, Dickinson’s reflection will be applied to our work in inclusive schools. In this keynote session, the current state of inclusive schooling will be explored. Paula will also discuss a vision for the future of this social justice movement and specifically what beliefs, values, and practices associated with inclusion will help educators succeed in educating, challenging, motivating and supporting all learners. Support will be a special focus of this presentation and ideas for working with paraprofessionals (e.g., setting a target), planning lessons (e.g., considering stair steps), and teaching students with unique learning profiles (e.g., emphasizing strengths) will be shared.</p>
10:00 am – 10:15 am	<b>Break</b>
10:15 am – 11:30 am	<b>Dr. Paula Kluth, continued</b>
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	<b>Lunch Provided for All Attendees</b>
11:40 am – 12:20 pm	<p><b>Ms. Bridget Brown, Self-Advocate</b></p> <p>In this session, Bridget will reflect on her own life and how champions opened their hearts, minds and doors to include her. She will talk about being the first person with Down syndrome included in the general education setting in her district and some of the success strategies that helped her along like person centered planning and finding her voice by presenting at her IEP meetings. She will talk about the skills that help her be successful today and how to help others to live full and productive lives.</p>
12:20 pm – 2:00 pm	<p><b>Mr. Michael Remus</b> <b><u>Count Me In!!!</u></b></p> <p>Students with disabilities often miss out on opportunities that are offered to their peers simply because they are segregated from the general education population. The culture surrounding inclusion and how inclusive practices are implemented must change for success to occur. Inclusive practices can become a reality - if obstacles are removed, tools are made available, and buy-in occurs. This session offers the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* How to initiate a systems change approach to insure students are included in the general education setting</li> <li>* How to implement strategies encourage systems changes</li> </ul> <p>This session will also cover all the “yes-buts” educators may have and will offer tools to overcome that “yes-but” phenomenon.</p>
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	<b>Break</b>
2:15 pm – 3:30 pm	<p><b>Breakout Sessions</b></p> <p><b>Session for Parents – Dr. Meghan Burke</b> <b><u>How to Be an Advocate for Your Child: Tips for Non-Adversarial Advocacy</u></b></p> <p>In this presentation, Dr. Burke will discuss non-adversarial advocacy strategies to access services for children with Down syndrome. Participants will be given tangible strategies to secure services. Further, participants will be given examples of how they can voice their concerns to professionals. The presentation will include real-life examples of situations wherein advocacy was needed.</p> <p><b>Session for Educators – Mr. Michael Remus</b> <b><u>The Road to Inclusive Practices</u></b></p> <p>Students with disabilities have the same right to have high academic and behavioral expectations as their typical peers. Research has shown that inclusive practices can and do work. The presenter has worked with 9 systems to make sure students with disabilities can succeed. He will share his successes about inclusion from the districts in which he has worked and will explain why students with disabilities must be educated with their typical peers in order to reach their full potential. Parents and educators must work collaboratively to achieve this goal. As a parent of two sons with disabilities, as well as an educator, he knows both groups must work together for inclusion to be successful. His motto: Together, we can make inclusive practices work!!</p>