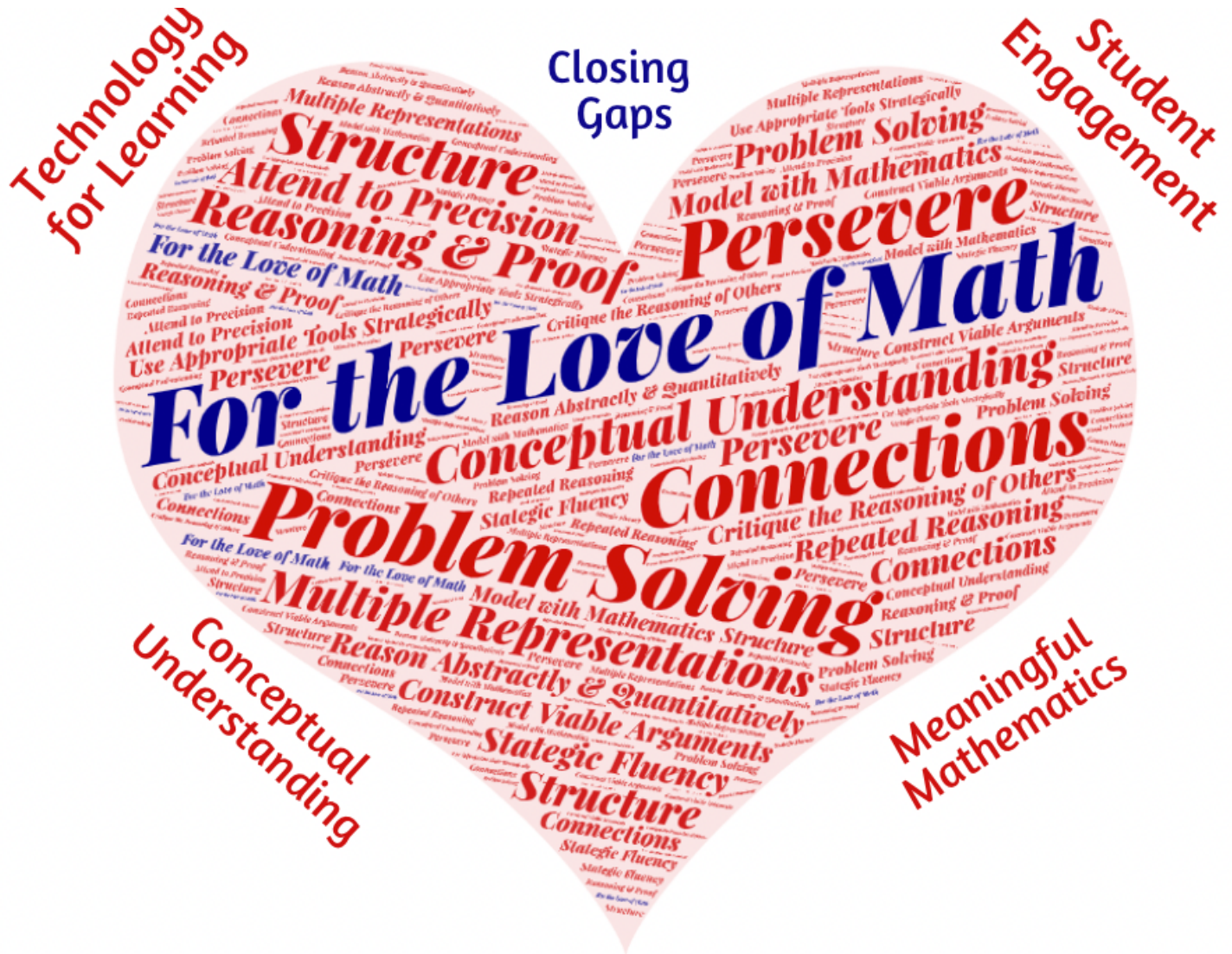


**The North Mississippi Education  
Consortium  
*Presents:***



# June 23, 2022

# Oxford Conference Center

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LEARNING COMPANY

**June 22, 2022**

## Schedule of Events

OCC Foyer	Exhibitor Setup	OCC Foyer
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**June 23, 2022**

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Exhibitor Setup	OCC Foyer
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Participant Sign in	OCC Foyer
8:30 AM - 8:50 AM	Welcome, Open Remarks, Vendor Presentation	Cedar
8:50 AM - 9:30 AM	Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Rock	Cedar
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Vendor Presentation	Cedar
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM	Pannel Discussion	Cedar
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Break	
10:15 AM - 11:45 AM	Breakout Session 1	Various
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	Lunch	Cedar
12:45 PM - 2:15 PM	Breakout Session 2	Various
2:15 PM - 2:30 PM	Break	
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Breakout Session 3	Various
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Closing Session	Cedar

# Featured Presenters



Dr. Liza  
Bondurant

**Liza Bondurant**, Ph.D. began her career in education as a 7–8 math teacher and is currently an Associate Professor of Mathematics. Liza was selected as the Mississippi Council of Teachers of Mathematics College Teacher of the Year in 2020. John Wiley & Sons awarded her the Best Overall Higher Education Course award in 2018 and selected her as a member of the STEM Hall of Femme in 2021. Liza served as the president of the Mississippi Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators professional organization 2017–2020. She has written and edited curricular materials for Illustrative Mathematics, CK–12, and LearnZillion. She also has experience facilitating professional learning with the Math Science Partnership, LearnZillion, Illustrative Mathematics, and Math Teachers' Circles. Outside of her professional work, Liza enjoys crafting, exercising, and spending quality time with her family.

**Session Title:** *Mathematical Mindsets to Promote Equity*



Elise Brown

**Elise Brown** is the State Digital Learning Coordinator for the Mississippi Department of Education. Brown has served as an educator in Mississippi for 15 years as a secondary math teacher, professional development coordinator, and program manager. Her research interests include adult learning theory and building engaging online learning communities. She received her Master of Education in K–12 Educational Leadership in 2015 from The University of Mississippi and is currently working towards her Doctorate in the same area.

**Session Title:** *Using Virtual Manipulatives to Build Conceptual Understanding*



Dr. Brian  
Buckhalter

**Brian Buckhalter**, better known as "Dr. Buck" is the founder and lead consultant for Buck Wild About Math, LLC (BWAM). Dr. Buck brings almost 20 years of experience in education having served as a classroom teacher, district mathematics coach, and professional development facilitator. Along with supporting teachers through BWAM, he is also an associate with Solution Tree, providing mathematics support on a national level. He currently serves the Awards Chair for NCSM (formerly the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics) and President of the MS Mathematics Specialist Network (MSMSN). Dr. Buck earned his Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Dillard University, and his Master's and Doctoral degrees from The University of Mississippi.

**Session Titles:** *Letting the Data Drive the Decisions, and Not Drive You Crazy!*  
*Making Math Fun Again: Games and Routines for Learning and Fun*



**Susan Carriker**, is a curriculum specialist, former dual credit instructor for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, and a former mathematics teacher at Gautier High School on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. She is a member of the South Mississippi Blended Learning Cohort 2020–2021, Graspable Math Teacher Advisory group, and presents regularly at regional, state, and online conferences. She has worked as a writer, editor and reviewer for Questar (MAAP Algebra 1), Educational Testing Services (Austin, Texas), Laying the Foundation (now a part of the National Math and Science Institute) and Center for Educational ReVision in Dallas, Texas.

**Session Titles:** *EdTech to Promote Conceptual Thinking*





Nakeitha Thomas

Nakeitha Thomas is a native of Grenada, MS and currently lives in Baton Rouge, LA. Nakeitha has been in the field of education for over 20 years working in multiple states to include MS, LA, PA, NV, and CA. Nakeitha has a history of success as classroom teacher, principal, district administrator, curriculum specialist, and professional development coordinator. Nakeitha joined the Discovery Education family as the Nevada Project Manager of Strategic Accounts in 2020 and currently serves as the MS Manager, Statewide and Strategic Partnerships. Nakeitha's focus has always been keeping classrooms innovative, engaging and student centered. Nakeitha has over 13 years of experience presenting workshops on the local, state, and national level. In her role at Discovery Education, Nakeitha will serve as the main point of contact for Mississippi school districts implementing the Discovery Education. Nakeitha will support districts' implementation as well as schedule and deliver platform training and platform professional learning. Nakeitha holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Tougaloo College and Master of Science degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from Jackson State University. Nakeitha is very excited to be a part of and work with the Mississippi Schools and Department of Education throughout this partnership.

**Session Title:** *Using Discovery Education to Solve Your Math Problems*



Sam Gilbert

**Sam Gilbert** received my undergraduate degree at The University of Mississippi in Elementary Education. Following graduation, I completed my Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Reading and Language Arts. I then taught second grade for four years in the South Panola School District before returning to Ole Miss full time. While working in the School of Education as a graduate instructor, I completed my Ph.D. in Elementary Education in July of 2021. My research focuses on using a deliberate practice to teach grit and growth mindset in elementary students. I am currently an adjunct professor in Teacher Education at The University of Mississippi.

**Session Title:** *Kick Starting the Brain with a Deliberate Practice*



Erica Paige Gillentine

**Erica Paige Gillentine** is an Instructional Assistant Professor in the mathematics department at the University of Mississippi. She teaches Mathematics for Elementary Teachers and Techniques in Teaching Secondary Mathematics. Within these courses, her education students use Desmos and Geogebra to explore mathematics concepts.

**Session Titles:** *Exploring Desmos*



**Kayla Golden** is an Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry teacher at Grenada High School. She received her Bachelor's and Master's from Ole Miss and just finished up her 10th year of teaching.

**Session Titles:** *I <3 Desmos*

**Candice Harris** is an Algebra 1 and Dual-Credit Math teacher at Grenada High School. She received her Bachelor's and Master's from Ole Miss and just finished up her 15th year of teaching.

**Session Titles:** *I <3 Desmos*



Nikita Jones-Smith

**Nikita Jones-Smith** is the Curriculum Director and Data Specialist for the Winona-Montgomery Consolidated School year. Nikita has 17 years of experience in public school education. She has 12 years of experience as a classroom teacher of grades 2-7 with 5 years of administrative experience as an administrator. She has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Mississippi State University and a Master's degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from Delta State University. Nikita is a proponent of using data to inform the decisions that we make about instruction and student learning in order to improve student achievement.

**Session Title:** *Letting the Data Drive the Decisions, and Not Drive You Crazy!*



Sara Flowers

**Sara Flowers** is the Mississippi Director of Math Nation. She collaborates with district specialists across the state of to provide innovative, research-based professional development for effective pedagogy and practice for 6th grade math through Algebra 2. Sara's experience to date includes assisting district math coaches and teachers with integration and implementation of Math Nation resources, developing lessons, and improving and developing app usability resources for 6th grade math through Algebra 2 for use on the Math Nation web app.

**Session Title:** *Building on Prior Knowledge with Math Nation*



Rebecca McCaskey

**Rebecca McCaskey** is an Instructor in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education at Mississippi State University. She obtained both her master's and bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education from MSU. Previously, Rebecca worked as an upper elementary and middle school math teacher in MS. In addition, she served as a Curriculum Technology Specialist for the Starkville School District where she mentored teachers on how to integrate technology into the classroom.

**Session Titles:** *Keep? Flip? Time to Change: Conceptual Methods for Dividing Fractions*



Sarah Parker

**Sarah Parker** is an Instructor in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education at Mississippi State University. She is pursuing her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction and obtained both her master's and bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education from MSU as well. Sarah was a 5th grade math and science teacher before getting her position at Mississippi State. She is also the Auxiliary Instructor for the Famous Maroon Band.

**Session Titles:** *Keep? Flip? Time to Change: Conceptual Methods for Dividing Fractions*



**Amy Pinkerton** is the Professional Development Coordinator Lead for the University of Mississippi and the Mississippi Department of Education. Pinkerton has been an educator for 12 years, specializing in elementary math and science and creating project- and problem-based learning experiences. In 2018, Pinkerton earned her Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Mississippi College; currently, she is pursuing her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Mississippi.

**Session Titles:** *Using Google Slides to Create Interactive Math Activities*



Dr. David Rock

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Rock** is currently Dean of the School of Education at the University of Mississippi. He received his B.S. in Mathematics from Vanderbilt University, M.A. in Mathematics Education from the University of Central Florida, and Ed. D. in Curriculum and Instruction (Mathematics Education) from the University of Central Florida. David has taught mathematics in Florida and Mississippi at the middle and high school level. He was a professor and coordinator of Secondary Education at The University of Mississippi (1998-2004) and the chair of the Department of Education at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Prior to his return to Ole Miss, he was Dean of the College of Education and Health Professions at Columbus State University in Columbus, GA. He has conducted a multitude of educational workshops and seminars at local, state, and national conferences in which his goal is to increase interest and enthusiasm of the teaching and learning of mathematics.

**Session Title:** *Keynote*



Dr. Alice Steimle

**Dr. Alice Steimle** is the Director of the Center for Mathematics and Science Education at the University of Mississippi. Dr. Steimle has her Ph.D. in Mathematics and has been involved with the work of the center since it was first established in December 2006. The center works to improve mathematics and science education in Mississippi by fostering interaction between the k-12 communities and the university, promoting research-based teaching methods in the classroom, and inspiring students to engage in the STEM fields.

**Session Title:** *Progressing through the Math Standards*



Michelle Talley

**Michelle Talley** has been teaching at the elementary and middle school level for 24 years. Her passion for integrating technology in the classroom led her to become an Instructional Technology Specialist with the Mississippi Department of Education. She is currently in the dissertation phase of the educational leadership doctoral program at Belhaven University.

**Session Titles:** *Using Virtual Manipulatives to Build Conceptual Understanding*



**Joan Wicker** is a math teacher at Grenada High school. She teaches Algebra I, Compensatory Math and ACT Math. She uses Desmos, Geogebra and other online activities to help students develop and refine their math skills. .

**Session Titles:** *Exploring Desmos*



Kandra Wilkins

**Kandra Wilkins** is the Professional Development Coordinator for 6 -12 mathematics for the Mississippi Department of Education and the University of Mississippi. Kandra has been an educator for 14 years. She earned her bachelor's degree from Mississippi State, a master's from Mississippi University for Women, and recently obtained her specialist from Mississippi College.

**Session Titles:** *Rigor in the Mathematics Classroom*





Jennifer Wilson

**Jennifer Wilson**, Black Mountain NC, enjoys learning alongside the Illustrative Mathematics community as the 6–12 professional learning lead designer. She is a National Board Certified Teacher, and she taught and learned mathematics with students and teachers in Mississippi for 25 years. She is a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (2011) and has blogged at Easing the Hurry Syndrome and The Slow Math Movement. Jennifer thinks a lot about how we might slow down and savor learning math through questions, connections, and collaboration.

**Session Title:** *Valuing Student Thinking*



**Raven Hawes:** Raven is the Director of Mathematics for the Achievement School District in Tennessee. She has about twenty years of educational experience with over ten years in school turn-around. She is a former middle and high school mathematics educator and Mathematics Coach for Shelby County Schools and iZone Memphis.

**Aaron Youngblood:** Aaron Youngblood is has extensive experience as a high school mathematics and elementary school teacher, regional and program manager, and coach.

**Session Titles:** *Strategies to Engage ALL 5-8 Students In Mathematics*

**Marika Allen-Lyles:** Marika Allen-Lyles is a Math Coach for Baltimore City Public Schools and has been in education for 12 years. Mrs. Allen-Lyles is passionate about the professional development of teachers and thrives on assisting in their professional growth through building their capacity. During her 12 years as an educator in Baltimore City Public Schools, she has taught 3rd and 4th grade mathematics, secondary social studies, and created and facilitated Systemic Professional Development.

**Larry Minor:** Larry joined Teaching Lab from the position of Director of Talent and Development for GEO Academies in Louisiana. This is his 14th year in education and he's served in many different capacities and diverse environments ranging from Math teacher (6th and 7th grade), Mentor teacher (K–5 all content), Master Teacher( Pre-K–6 all content), Curriculum Specialist, Dean of Students, Assistant Director, and Middle School Associate Principal. Larry also volunteered as a mentor for David Paul Learning Center in Baton Rouge, La. He is a current board member for New Venture Theater and alumni of New Schools for Baton Rouge Changemakers and InspireNola's ADE program. Larry holds a bachelor's degree in Biology from Southern University, Masters of Educational Psychology from the University of Alabama, and over 60 hours of additional graduate coursework from Louisiana State University.

**Session Titles:** *Engaging ALL K-5 Students in Mathematics*



# *Breakout Sessions*

## **Building on Prior Knowledge with Math Nation**

*8th-12th Grade*

Join Math Nation as we unpack our past to inform our future, exploring Math Nation resources and effective teacher practices that highlight a differentiated classroom. Math Nation resources inherently position students and classrooms for rich, differentiated learning environments. This session showcases our unique and innovative approach to implementing a differentiated classroom in a variety of settings.

## **EdTech to Promote Conceptual Thinking**

*8th-12th Grade*

Did you know that technology opens up a world of rich problem solving for all types of learners? We will explore practical ways to incorporate free tech tools that improve student engagement and performance in mathematics. You will experience ready-to-implement lessons and discover how technology can foster collaboration, critical thinking and student creativity.

## **Engaging ALL K-5 Students in Mathematics**

*K-5th Grade*

Teachers will explore standard coherence, identifying what students must know, understand, and do. In addition, teachers will explore strategies to ensure all students can engage in grade-level mathematics and collaborate with teachers from across the state of Mississippi to prepare for the 2022-2023 school year.

## **Exploring Desmos**

*5th-8th Grade*

Participants will explore Desmos activities as learners and teachers. They will find activities to use in their classroom and learn how to edit activities so that it better fits the students that they teach. All participants should bring a technology device.

## **I <3 Desmos**

*8th-12th Grade*

We live in a world inundated with technology - from our homes to our classrooms. Is this technology a tool that provides opportunities for exploration, or is it a crutch that we give our students to help them "limp" through a test? In this session, we will discuss ways to use technology (with emphasis on Desmos) to deepen student understanding of mathematical concepts in Algebra and Geometry.

## **Keep? Flip? Time to Change: Conceptual Methods for Dividing Fractions**

*5th-8th Grade*

The session will consist of some discussion of research, but will mainly focus on the use of conceptual methods to divide fractions, including bar models and using a common denominator with a set model. We will begin with the 5th grade standard by using methods to divide fractions with non zero whole numbers and move into the 6th grade standard to divide fractions by other fractions. We plan to use physical manipulatives, drawings, and virtual manipulatives.

# *Breakout Sessions*

## **Kick Starting the Brain with a Deliberate Practice**

*K-5th Grade*

The purpose of this presentation is to use a deliberate practice to warm up the brain through problem solving and critical thinking skills. Participants will acquire knowledge on how to successfully prepare students for daily math lessons, view explicit examples of meaningful brain warm ups, and consider how to implement a deliberate practice in one's own classroom. To help kick start the brain, teachers can create a purposeful practice that challenges students to persist in a productive struggle by making connections with mathematical practice.

## **Letting the Data Drive the Decisions, and Not Drive You Crazy!**

*K-5th Grade*

Teachers, administrators, and instructional coaches are faced with many (tough) decisions regarding instructional practices that benefit all students. This session will highlight examples of data sources and reports that can be used to support effective instruction that supports students' achievement. Participants will also hear stories of how specific individual, class, and school data was used to identify areas for support, and the support for teachers that accompanied these findings.

## **Making Math Fun Again: Games and Routines for Learning and Fun**

*K-5th Grade*

Games and routines are one way to increase student engagement and deepen their reasoning and critical thinking skills in mathematics. Participants in this session will engage in multiple games and routines that can easily be incorporated into their classrooms. Get ready to get Buck Wild!

## **Mathematical Mindsets to Promote Equity**

*K-12th Grade*

I will share key takeaways from "Mathematical Mindsets: Unleashing Students' Potential through Creative Mathematics, Inspiring Messages and Innovative Teaching" (Boaler, 2022) as well as MIT's "Becoming a More Equitable Educator" course. We will discuss how we can apply the key takeaways in our Mississippi math classrooms.

## **Progressing through the Math Standards**

*K-5th Grade*

Teaching grade level content should be informed by standards taught in previous grades and future grades. Join us as we explore the mathematical progressions of the grades K-5.

## **Rigor in the Mathematics Classroom**

*8-12th Grade*

This training provides participants with a basic understanding of the 3 types of rigor, one of the major shifts called for in the MS CCRS for mathematics.

# *Breakout Sessions*

## **Strategies to Engage ALL 5-8 Students In Mathematics**

*5th-8th Grade*

Teachers will explore standard coherence, identifying what students must know, understand, and do. In addition, teachers will explore strategies to ensure all students can engage in grade-level mathematics and collaborate with teachers from across the state of Mississippi to prepare for the 2022-2023 school year.

## **Using Discovery Education to Solve Your Math Problems**

*K-5th Grade*

Discovery Education helps you engage learners with multimodal digital content to learn about the vocabulary, processes, and real-world connections to computational thinking and math concepts. Explore resources, strategies, and assessment opportunities for effectively using Discovery Education as part of your math instruction.

## **Using Google Slides to Create Interactive Math Activities**

*K-5th Grade*

In this highly interactive session, participants will learn how to utilize Google Slides to create interactive math activities for students in grades K-5. Participants will learn how to resize a slide, insert shapes and images, add text, set a static background, create a drag pile, and more!

## **Using Virtual Manipulatives to Build Conceptual Understanding**

*5th-8th Grade*

In this session, participants will explore free, virtual manipulative options to support students through the development of conceptual understanding in middle school math.

## **Valuing Student Thinking**

*8th-12th Grade*

How can we be curious about and trust student thinking to drive learning? In this session we will take a peek into classrooms where student thinking is at the center of teaching and learning. We'll use authentic student thinking and consider ways to affirm students' mathematical competence in a way that encourages all students to know, use, and enjoy mathematics.