



Engage & Enrich: Nurturing “Life-Ready” Gifted Students!

“Virginia Association for the Gifted” Seminar: 11/4 & 11/5 - 2018

Agenda (tentative)

Sunday, November 4, 2018	
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration Open
6:00 p.m.	Welcome & Presentation of awards
6:30 p.m.	Introduction of Dr. Jonathan Plucker
6:40 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Keynote speech by Dr. Jonathan Plucker

Monday, November 5, 2018	
7:00 a.m.	Registration Open
7:45 a.m.	Breakfast begins
8:15 a.m.	Welcome by Superintendent of Roanoke Schools
8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	1 st Session
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Lunch
12:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	2 nd Session

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Sunday, November 4, 2018 – Keynote Speaker	
Dr. Jonathan Plucker	<p><u>Keynote: Excellence Gaps in Virginia</u></p> <p>In recent years, researchers have focused considerable energy on finding new data sources that can aid in our constant efforts to advocate for the needs of gifted children. One of these efforts involves defining and addressing excellence gaps, those achievement gaps at the higher ends of student achievement. During this session, we will define excellence gaps, examine national and Virginia data, and discuss strategies for shrinking these gaps and helping <i>all</i> advanced students reach their potential.</p>

Session Information

Monday, November 5, 2018 – 1 st Session	
Dr. Jonathan Plucker	<p><u>Creativity Through the Magic of Constraints</u></p> <p>Constraints are often viewed as the enemy of creativity, but research suggests that constraints may be helpful to the creative process. Using a hands-on activity, we will explore the relationship between constraints and creativity and discuss specific ways to use these principles when working with students.</p>
Dr. Catherine Little	<p><u>Teaching with Concepts for Meaning, Depth, and Rigor</u></p> <p>Organizing curriculum and instruction around a strong conceptual focus promotes depth in thinking, rich questioning, and opportunities for authentic connections across disciplines. In this session, we explore specific strategies for engaging students in constructing meaning around big ideas, with applications across grade levels and subject areas.</p>
Mr. Jeff Lonnett	<p><u>Introduction to Project-Based Learning</u></p> <p><i>How can you use Project-Based Learning to increase engagement and help all students develop real-world, adaptable skills that will give them the skills for future success?</i></p> <p>In this three hour hands-on session, participants will explore the what, why and how of PBL and why it is getting so much attention in education. They will dissect the basics of PBL and learn how to design authentic experiences that put students in charge of their own thinking and learning. Teachers will also analyze how their pedagogical practices can be synthesized into the PBL model, so they can walk away with the skills to start implementation immediately.</p>

Monday, November 5, 2018 – 2nd Session

<p>Dr. Jonathan Plucker</p>	<p><u>Helping Students Become More Creative: Surprising Research and Major Unknowns</u></p> <p>The economy and culture of the 21st century has a tremendous need for creative talent. Whether one works in manufacturing, government, education, or the service industry, there is always a shortage of creatively talented people. Research on creativity, especially on how to foster and assess it, has grown tremendously over the past 30 years, and during this talk we will review these recent developments and identify areas in need of additional research.</p>
<p>Dr. Catherine Little</p>	<p><u>Jacob's Ladder: Supporting Reading Comprehension and Advanced Thinking</u></p> <p>Jacob's Ladder materials originated at William and Mary's Center for Gifted Education. The approach engages students in progressively higher level questions around text selections. Students begin by applying comprehension strategies and then move to higher levels of thinking through text analysis and discussion. This session provides an overview of how Jacob's Ladder works and available options for resources across grade levels and with focus on fiction, nonfiction, and texts for affective growth and development.</p>
<p>Mr. Jeff Lonnett</p>	<p><u>Going Deeper into Project-Based Learning</u></p> <p>So you've tried PBL or other hands-on projects, now what?</p> <p><i>How can you go from "good to great" with your PBL practices, so that you can help students (and teachers) engage in deeper, more rigorous PBL opportunities?</i></p> <p>In this three hour collaborative workshop, participants will refine their practices by increasing rigor within the individual pieces of Project-Based Learning. Teachers will learn how to revise projects to include more student-centered opportunities. Participants will also reflect on a variety of successful PBL samples in a fun and engaging workshop where they will develop the skills to support other teachers in their buildings.</p>

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