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Missouri District Educators' Conference "Remember What Hasn't Changed"

November 22-23, 2021
Lodge of Four Seasons – Lake Ozark

Sectional Guide

Keynote I & 2: Marching Off the Map

Andrew McPeak

Monday, November 22nd 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. & 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Leading today's students often feels like being in a new country. The population in this new land has different attitudes (many entitled and narcissistic) and speaks a different language (emojis and social media). Attention spans are six to eight seconds. They multi-task on five screens. They often possess multiple personas on social media platforms. Understanding and connecting with this generation is often times frustrating and draining.

The old maps that helped adults navigate students through adolescence are now producing graduates who move back home, are afraid to take healthy risks, and are unwilling to start at the bottom of a career path. We're in new territory.

We need new strategies on how to navigate new land...to march off our old maps and create new ones.

That is what this book is all about. From decades of research and hands-on experience, Dr. Tim Elmore and Andrew McPeak collate their conclusions into one resource.

In *Marching Off the Map*, they share practical, research-based solutions that help adults:

Inspire students to own their education and their future

Lead students from an attitude of apathy to one of passion through metacognition

Enable students to push back from the constant digital distractions and practice mindfulness

Raise kids who make healthy progress, both emotionally and intellectually, through their teenage years

Give students the tools to handle the complexities of an ever-changing world

Understand and practically apply the latest research on Generation Z

Leverage what is cultural to instill in teens the wisdom and advice you know they need to succeed in any stage of life.

Andrew McPeak



Andrew McPeak is a millennial researcher, author, and communicator. Developed through more than a decade of work with the next generation, Andrew's insights have helped leaders of all kinds understand how to craft their message in a way that reaches today's student. In his role as Vice President of Content, Andrew works closely with schools, universities and sports teams to implement *Habitudes*® as a tool to teach life and leadership skills. He is also the co-host of the *Leading the Next Generation with Tim Elmore* podcast.

Most notably Andrew is a co-author alongside Dr. Tim Elmore of two books: *Marching off the Map* (2017) and their latest book *Generation Z Unfiltered*. Utilizing insights gained from the latest research and personal stories of successful leaders across the country, *Generation Z Unfiltered* helps adults understand how to best connect with today's youngest population and how to lead them through the nine greatest challenges they will face in the 21st century.

Sectional A: Tuesday, November 23rd 9:15 a.m.–10:15 a.m.

Sectional	Title	Facilitator (EC – Early Childhood, ES – Elementary School, MS – Middle School, HS – High School, AD – Administrators)
A-01	2020 Is Behind Us...Now Where Do We Go from Here?	Matthew Bergholt (EC, ES, HS, AD)
A-02	Managing the Unmanageable Effect of Childhood Trauma	Leslie Brunner (ES, MS, AD)
A-03	Cultivating Connections	Elissa Beaver/Megan Deines (EC)
A-04	Leadership Requirements for Lutheran Schools of Today and the Future	Dr. William Cochran (AD)
A-05	New to the Missouri District: What to know, orientation and discussion!	(ES, MS, HS, AD)
A-06	CAD in the Class - The Third Dimension	Page Jackson (ES, MS, AD)
A-07	Emotional Intelligence: Why it Matters!	Dr. Beth Pester (ES, MS, HS, AD)
A-08	Collaboration Among Our Lutheran Schools for One Common Purpose	Mark Ruark/Missy Adams (ES, MS, HS, AD)
A-09	Revamping Classroom Management with the Use of Restorative Practices in the K-12 Environment	Dr. Melissa Sandfort/Brandi Hallemeier (ES, MS, HS, AD)
A-10	MinistrySafe Training	(EC, ES, MS, HS, AD)

A-01: 2020 Is Behind Us...Now Where Do We Go from Here?

Matthew Bergholt

Throughout 2020, schools across America were forced to make changes and rapidly innovate unlike any year in recent history. Seemingly overnight, classrooms sprouted additional student devices, livestreaming hardware and online learning management structures. While teachers, students and families may have mastered the changes, it is not a time to “rest”. Instead, now more so than ever it will be important to look ahead at the educational technology and innovation trends that are approaching for the coming years. Join us as we take a look forward at technology and innovation and discuss where we go from here.

Mr. Matthew Bergholt is the Manager of Online Support and Services in the LCMS Office of National Mission, School Ministry Office in Saint Louis, MO. In this role he directs the online presence of the School Ministry Office, manages the online and print publications such as Chapel Talks, NLSW, and LuthEd materials, and also travels around the country assisting Lutheran schools and Districts with technology-focused training and development sessions. A graduate of Concordia University Chicago, he was previously the Classroom Technology Instructor at St. Luke’s Lutheran School in Oviedo, FL and the 6th grade homeroom teacher and Director of Technology at Trinity Lutheran School in Orlando, FL. He resides with his wife Melissa and two sons in Saint Louis, MO.

A-02: Managing the Unmanageable Effect of Childhood Trauma

Leslie Brunner

Children that have developmental trauma struggle with general classroom management strategies and push against school policies and procedures. This presentation will explore the struggle of behaviors for the teacher and family and guide effective and ineffective ways to interact with these children in the classroom.

Leslie Brunner has taught in both Lutheran and public schools. Her experiences as a special education teacher and as a mother of a child with reactive attachment disorder give first-hand experience of working with children that have survived trauma experiences. This presentation is in cooperation with RAD Advocates, an organization that educates and advocates to support children with attachment disorders.

A-03: Cultivating Connections

Elissa Beaver and Megan Deines

Fostering meaningful relationships and cultivating connections in the classroom has been difficult through this pandemic. Join our discussions on new ways to facilitate and promote relationships through technology and interactions with students and families.

Elissa Beaver is the Early Childhood Director at Immanuel Lutheran St. Charles. She has 20 years of classroom experience and is an active member of NAEYC.

Megan Deines

Megan completed her first year teaching Kindergarten at Immanuel Lutheran St. Charles, moving up after 15 years of experience teaching preschool. Megan is an active member of NAEYC.

Elissa and Megan have a passion for continuing education and research and collaborating together on bridging the gap between Preschool and Kindergarten.

A-04: Leadership Requirements for Lutheran Schools of Today and the Future

Dr. William Cochran

The presentation will explore Standards and Strategies for Leading Lutheran Schools.

Dr. William Cochran is currently retired. He has an earned MSED and Administrative Certificate from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, IL. He recently served as Interim Executive Director for the Lutheran High School Association of St. Louis, MO. He served as Director of Schools, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. He served as Education Executive for the Eastern District, LCMS. He has served as a Principal at Christ Community Lutheran School in St. Louis, MO and was the founding Principal of Good Shepherd Lutheran School in Collinsville, IL. He has served the Lutheran Church in various educational capacities for 53 years. He is one of the developers of the SLED Program (training for future administrators). He has served on seven Advance Ed and COGNIA teams as a team member or team leader.

A-05: New to the Missouri District: What to Know, Orientation and Discussion!

Dear Administrator, Welcome to the Missouri District - LCMS! A discussion of Lutheran Education in Missouri, an introduction to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, MoCAPE, MNSAA, NLSA, and a multitude of other acronyms!

A-06: CAD in the Class- The Third Dimension

Page Jackson

An exploration and overview of 3D design using the Computer Aided Design(CAD) program Tinkercad. The program is free and can be used WITHOUT a 3D printer. Come explore Tinkercad and get lessons and ideas to take back with you to the classroom including a lesson using Tinkercad Codeblocks. The basics of 3D printing as well as potential resources will also be discussed.

Page Jackson is currently the Instructional Technology Coach at Immanuel St. Charles. She has been teaching Tinkercad and 3D printing for four years.

A-07: Emotional Intelligence: Why it Matters!

Dr. Beth Pester

“You just don’t understand me!” Whether it’s a first grade classroom, a high school history class, or the teacher’s workroom, it seems there are always opportunities for us to work at understanding, empathy and compassion. Come get a refresher on the four competencies of Emotional Intelligence in this fun and interactive session as we all continue to work on sharing the love of Jesus with everyone in our school environment!

Dr. Beth Pester, Associate Professor of Education, at Concordia University since 2005, after spending 10 years in Lutheran and public schools as a high school and middle school science teacher. Originally from Tennessee, she's a graduate of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO, and Concordia University Nebraska with a BS Ed in Math and Biology, and an MEd in Administration. She earned her PhD in Education from Trident University, studying the relationship of high school block scheduling and academic performance of first-year college students. She currently serves as the Director of Middle Level Education and the Director of Student Teaching.

A-08: Collaboration Among Our Lutheran Schools for One Common Purpose

Mark Ruark & Missy Adams

Our Lutheran schools all share a common goal: to prepare students for a life of Christian discipleship by providing quality education and building students up in God's Word. This presentation will display how numerous Lutheran elementary schools and one Lutheran high school have taken this common goal to build each other up as educators and allowed for educators to have Lutheran professional resources outside of their school buildings.

Mark Ruark - Current principal of Saxony Lutheran High School - Jackson, MO (8 years)
Former public school administrator, athletic director, and high school history teacher (31 years) Certified Crisis Prevention Institute instructor

Missy Adams - Current assistant principal of Saxony Lutheran High School - Jackson, MO
Former principal of Trinity Lutheran School (Pre K-8) - Cape Girardeau, MO (6 years)
Former public school elementary teacher (13 years)

A-09: Revamping Classroom Management with the Use of Restorative Practices in the K-12 Environment

Dr. Melissa Sandfort & Brandi Hallemeier

From earning stickers and prizes to walking at recess writing sentences, classroom management strategies can be a rabbit hole for teachers trying to find a quick fix to bring order to an unruly class. Can an overwhelmed teacher turn an unruly incident with students into an opportunity for learning, growth, and community building without using rewards or punitive discipline? This session will provide alternatives to discipline that are not reward based, non-punitive and center on building relationships and meeting student needs.

Brandi Hallemeier has served as the resource teacher at Child of God Lutheran School through LASE Specialized Education since 2013. Brandi earned her Masters degree in Educational Administration through the University of Missouri, St. Louis and is currently the Assistant Principal at Child of God.

Dr. Melissa Sandfort has served as the administrator at Child of God Lutheran School since April 2011. She earned a Ph.D. from Loyola University Chicago in Higher Education Administration, a Masters in Education from the University of Kansas and Bachelors from Truman State University.

A-10: MinistrySafe Training

Training for the MinistrySafe program.

Sectional B: Tuesday, November 23rd 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Sectional	Title	Facilitator (EC – Early Childhood, ES – Elementary School, MS – Middle School, HS – High School, AD – Administrators)
B-01	Calling Church Workers - From the CUS System, the Field, and...?	(AD)
B-02	NLSA Captain and Consultant Training	Dr. William Cochran (ES, MS, HS, AD)
B-03	Healthcare in Retirement: What Will I Need, What Will I Have?	Paul Snyder (ALL)
B-04	The Autistic Adolescent: Learner Differences and Equity for ASD Inclusion	Dr. Ben Stellwagen (ALL)
B-05	God's Fingerprints Throughout "HIS"-tory	Dan Sterling/Katie Eyster (ES, MS, HS, AD)
B-06	Compassionate Supports for the Classroom: Top Tips for Successful Behavior Management for Young Children	Ali Thomas/Candous McGuire (EC, ES, MS, AD)
B-07	The Art of Effective Communication	Angela Shirley (EC, ES, AD)
B-08	Collaboration Among Our Lutheran Schools for One Common Purpose	Mark Ruark/Missy Adams (ES, MS, HS, AD)
B-09	2020 Is Behind US....Now Where Do We Go From Here?	Matt Bergholt (ALL)

B-01: Calling Church Workers - from Concordia & the Field

How To" on calling church workers from the Concordia University system or already in the field will be discussed as well as updating CMIF's and what to do once a Call has been issued.

B-02: NLSA Captain and Consultant Training - Leading the NLSA Process and Site Visit

Dr. William Cochran

Participants will be trained to serve as NLSA Consultants and Captains.

B-03: Healthcare in Retirement: What Will I Need, What Will I Have?

Paul Snyder

This sectional is designed to help those thinking about retirement understand their healthcare needs and the options offered after retirement by Concordia Plans.

Paul Snyder has been with Concordia Plans for more than 38 years. In his role as a Financial Educator one of his main functions is to help those serving in the church understand their benefits and finances, and plan for their future, especially their retirement.

In addition to his role at Concordia Plans, Paul is the Director of Worship in Immanuel in Olivette, MO, and served 9 years as a member of the Missouri District Board of Directors.

B-04: The Autistic Adolescent: Learner Differences and Equity for ASD Inclusion

Dr. Ben Stellwagen

Nearly 1 in 60 children are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and schools have rightfully emphasized inclusion programs to integrate these students in the regular classroom. The spectrum is broad, however, and many of the focused governmental and educational services for children with ASD and their families taper off in the middle elementary years. What are some of the developmental challenges specific to the adolescent autistic

learner? Many of their behaviors are visible, but a host of brain functions are not and affect an educator's typical approach to managing attention, assessment, discipline, executive function, growth mindset, organization, socialization, and more. This presentation shares anecdotes, best practices, and research to discover unique ways to reach this unique learner.

Dr. Ben Stellwagen is the Director of Dual Credit & School Partnerships at Concordia University, Nebraska. He earned a B.A. in History and Humanities from Valparaiso University's Christ College and has a M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Indiana University. In addition to teaching history courses at IU and IUPUI, Dr. Stellwagen taught middle school Mathematics and K-8 Physical Education before working as Special Education Coordinator and Resource Teacher at Trinity Lutheran High School in Seymour, IN, where he would later serve as Principal and Executive Director. His presentation on the autistic learner comes from family background, professional experience, and academic research on the topic.

B-05: God's Fingerprints Throughout "His"-story

Dan Sterling & Katie Eyster

We see God's faithfulness to people living through very challenging historic situations. As we consider what HASN'T changed, we remember that God's Word is eternal. As we teach history and social studies, we need to share with our students that it is "His story". God's plan and design needs to be highlighted as we teach. Certainly, American and world history lessons have God's fingerprints all over them, and it's not difficult to see if we pay attention. This sectional will help us teach history and social studies with a Biblical worldview, even as our society takes many detours.

Dan Sterling is a Concordia, River Forest graduate (1986), and he has been teaching middle school history at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Des Peres, MO for over 30 years. He earned his Master's in Elementary Education from UMSL (2002). His favorite period in history is whatever he is teaching at the moment. Dan spent time volunteering as a WW II reenactor at Jefferson Barracks. He enjoys spending time with his family and coaching basketball.

Katie Eyster is also a Concordia, River Forest graduate (2005). She earned her Master's in Elementary Education from Webster University (2013). She is the 5th grade homeroom teacher at St. Paul's and enjoys coaching volleyball. Her passion for history grew immensely after experiencing the Teachers' Institute in Colonial Williamsburg. She especially enjoys teaching about The American Revolution. Katie and her husband spend their free time hiking, camping, and playing volleyball.

B-06: Compassionate Supports for the Classroom: Top Tips for Successful Behavior Management for Young Children

Ali Thomas & Candous McGuire

Do you have a student in class who requires a little extra grace? Are you concerned classroom behavior is disrupting learning? Whether you're a new educator or experienced, classroom behavior management is both an art and a science. Please join us to hear research-driven behavior strategies that will help your classroom, your students and your sanity. We will be employing strategies from Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Therapy that is designed to support children with special needs, including autism, but is applicable for all students. We will give you some tools you can use to feel empowered to support classroom behavior management with compassion.

In this session, we will focus on support and strategy for young learners from Preschool to Third Grade.

Ali Thomas, Ed.M.

Ali is the Chief Community Officer for Autism in Motion Clinics and oversees community outreach for the organization.

She completed her studies at Vanderbilt University and went on to earn her Masters in Education from Harvard University. She may look familiar to you! After completing her studies at Harvard, she served at the Lutheran High School Association in St. Louis, Missouri and directed international programs. A former teacher and school counselor, she has been blessed to offer international student consulting to a variety of Missouri Lutheran schools.

Candous McGuire, BCBA

Candous McGuire works as a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst for AIM Clinics in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She has experience with Applied Behavioral Analysis in clinic settings, public and private schools, homes and community environments. Her background is as an educator, and she has a mission to serve other educators to help them best reach their students with behavioral and special needs. She is an international and respite care provider with 99 Balloons as well as serving in children's ministry at her home church.

B-07: The Art of Effective Communication

Angela Shirley

In the past year, our typical methods of communication have been disrupted and challenged requiring constant adjustment. Effective communication is an art that fosters understanding, strengthens relationships, improves teamwork, and builds trust. Powerful communication is intentional. In this session, we will explore the intricacies of communication and its various forms, and most importantly, we will learn how to grow and strengthen our ministries through effective, assertive communication.

Angela Shirley currently serves as the Director of Early Childhood Education at Christ Community Lutheran School, a multi-site program that serves 300 students, infants through pre-kindergarten, across four campuses in the St. Louis area. Previously she served in a school ministry for 17 years in Tennessee as an elementary educator and eventually as the Director of an early childhood program. She received both her Bachelor's degree in elementary education and Master's degree in administration from Concordia University Chicago. She has been a presenter at multiple conferences and she enjoys consulting with schools around the country.

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Sectional C: Tuesday, November 23rd 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Sectional	Title	Facilitator (EC – Early Childhood, ES – Elementary School, MS – Middle School, HS – High School, AD – Administrators)
C-01	Compassionate Support for the Classroom: Top Tips for Successful Behavior Management for Older Learners	Ali Thomas/Candous McGuire (ES, MS, HS, AD)
C-02	Curriculum? We need Curriculum? Let's Map it Out!	(ES, MS, HS, AD)
C-03	NLSA Process and Training to Serve on an NLSA Validation Team	Dr. William Cochran (EC, ES, MS, HS, AD)
C-04	Thinking About Retirement?	Paul Snyder
C-05	Growing Confident Kids	Erin Winter (ES, MS, HS, AD)
C-06	Lessons from Soaring with Eagles	Dr. Alan Runge (AD)
C-07	Write Right, Right (Write) Now!	Dr. Cary Stelmachowicz
C-08	A New Approach to Classroom Management	Angela Shirley (EC, MS, AD)
C-09	MinistrySafe Training	(ES, MS, HS, AD)

C-01: Compassionate supports for the classroom: Top tips for successful behavior management for Older Learners **Ali Thomas & Candous McGuire**

Do you have a student in class who requires a little extra grace? Are you concerned classroom behavior is disrupting learning? Whether you're a new educator or experienced, classroom behavior management is both an art and a science. Please join us to hear research-driven behavior strategies that will help your classroom, your students and your sanity. We will be employing strategies from Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Therapy that is designed to support children with special needs, including autism, but is applicable for all students. We will give you some tools you can use to feel empowered to support classroom behavior management with compassion.

In this session, we will focus on support and strategy for older learners, including intermediate, middle and high school students.

Ali Thomas, Ed.M.

Ali is the Chief Community Officer for Autism in Motion Clinics and oversees community outreach for the organization.

She completed her studies at Vanderbilt University and went on to earn her masters in education from Harvard University. She may look familiar to you! After completing her studies at Harvard, she served at the Lutheran High School Association in St. Louis, Missouri and directed international programs. A former teacher and school counselor, she has been blessed to offer international student consulting to a variety of Missouri Lutheran schools.

Candous McGuire, BCBA

Candous McGuire works as a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst for AIM Clinics in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She has experience with Applied Behavioral Analysis in clinic settings, public and private schools, homes and community environments. Her background is as an educator, and she has a mission to serve other educators to help them best reach their students with behavioral and special needs. She is an international and respite care provider with 99 Balloons as well as serving in children's ministry at her home church.

C-02: Curriculum? We Need Curriculum? Let's Map it Out!

C-03: The NLSA Process and Training to Serve on an NLSA Validation Team

Dr. William Cochran

Participants will be trained to serve on NLSA Validation Teams.

C-04: Thinking About Retirement?

Paul Snyder

This high-level sectional is geared towards those who are beginning to think about their retirement. It will help you ask yourself the important questions you need to ask, and help you understand how to start figuring out the answers.

Paul Snyder has been with Concordia Plans for more than 38 years. In his role as a Financial Educator one of his main functions is to help those serving in the church understand their benefits and finances, and plan for their future, especially their retirement.

In addition to his role at Concordia Plans, Paul is the Director of Worship in Immanuel in Olivette, MO, and served 9 years as a member of the Missouri District Board of Directors.

C-05: Growing Confident Kids

Erin Winter

As classroom teachers see more anxious kids arriving in classrooms, what can we do to help develop confidence in themselves and their Creator God? Come and learn some routines to create safe spaces for learning, build confident leaders and give kids' voices room to be heard.

Erin Winter has been in Lutheran education for 21 years, most of them at St. John, Ellisville. She has a passion for teaching kids to love learning and to love God and has spent the past 20 years in a first grade classroom.

C-06: Lessons from Soaring with Eagles

Dr. Alan Runge

The biblical record of Jesus' life on earth includes a record of the model that he used to develop and prepare his disciples to carry on the new ministry of taking the Gospel news to all the ends of the earth. Today we would call this leadership development. We don't have his detailed curriculum and so we continue that process in faith, seeking God's blessings. I have had the blessing to have worked around a group of men who had spent a career seeking to live out their vocation and calling as Christian leaders serving in our nation's military services. They had each reached the rank where the insignia include the nation's symbol of the bald eagle with wings outspread. These "Eagles" were wise and had a turn of phrase to help frame just about every situation or dilemma we faced. These are some of those nuggets.

Dr. Alan Runge has served as the President for the Lutheran High School Association of St Louis and its two schools, Lutheran North Middle and High School and Luther High School South, since 2017. Both schools have seen revitalized enrollment growth, fundraising success and campus improvements with a campaign under way to provide a significant building expansion for Lutheran South. Runge served as the Head of School for Hong Kong International school prior to coming to St Louis after serving as the Provost for Concordia University Texas for eight years. He is an alum of St Paul's College High in Concordia, MO and graduated from Concordia University Nebraska where he also earned the Lutheran Teaching Diploma.

C-07: Write Right, Right (Write) Now!**Dr. Cary Stelmachowicz**

The presentation focuses on different approaches to the teaching of writing. Examples of lessons, writing activities, samples of student writing, and practical applications of the writing process all will be explored in an effort to make writing a fun, useful, and a therapeutic experience for children, students, and adults of all ages.

Dr. Cary Stelmachowicz is Executive Director/Principal of The Lutheran High School of Kansas City. He has taught in the field of English for over 43 years at both the high school and university levels.

**C-08: A New Approach to Classroom Management
Based upon *Conscious Discipline* by Dr. Becky Bailey****Angela Shirley**

Conscious Discipline is a brain-based model of transforming classrooms, teaching life skills through a comprehensive understanding of social-emotional development. Conscious Discipline is about creating powerful connections with your students that will empower them to self-regulate and problem-solve. Participants will explore the brain-based model, as well as the seven essential skills of Conscious Discipline.

Angela Shirley currently serves as the Director of Early Childhood Education at Christ Community Lutheran School, a multi-site program that serves 300 students, infants through pre-kindergarten, across four campuses in the St. Louis area. Previously she served in a school ministry for 17 years in Tennessee as an elementary educator and eventually as the Director of an early childhood program. She received both her Bachelor's degree in elementary education and Master's degree in administration from Concordia University Chicago. She has been a presenter at multiple conferences and she enjoys consulting with schools around the country.

C-09: MinistrySafe Training

Training for the MinistrySafe program.
