

## STRAND B

### Engaging 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners

Forum 1	Forum 2	Forum 3	<b>Promising Practices Breakout Session</b>
	225		<p><b>Engaging Learners: Secrets of Award-Winning Teachers</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Rosanna Thomas, <i>Coordinator, Science and Engineering, Montgomery County Public Schools</i></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Kimberly Oliver Burmim, <i>2006 National Teacher of the Year</i> William Thomas, <i>2009 Maryland Teacher of the Year</i> Bryan Goehring, <i>2009 Montgomery County Teacher of the Year</i></p> <p>How can teachers engage 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners? How can educators employ rigor, relevancy, and relationships to inspire students? This panel of elementary and secondary award-winning teachers will share their strategies for creating a classroom culture that invites learning and nurtures success.</p>
<b>Audi- torium</b>			<p><b>Brain Smarts: Nurturing Critically-Thoughtful Learners</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Ursula Hermann, <i>Community Superintendent, Montgomery County Public Schools</i> Betty Strubel, <i>Director of School Performance, Montgomery County Public Schools</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Garfield Gini-Newman, <i>Senior Trainer, The Critical Thinking Consortium and Professor, University of Toronto, Canada</i></p> <p>In an increasingly global and digital world, educators face the daunting task of preparing learners for an uncertain future. The digital age is not only transforming how we interact, it is also changing the way we learn. Critical thinking is not new to the plethora of educational objectives, but it is becoming increasingly central to a rigorous and relevant curriculum. This session will introduce a framework for critical thinking that can help educators from kindergarten to college to engage learners, deepen their understanding of important concepts, and extend their capacity for problem solving. Adopting a critical inquiry-based pedagogical framework can help to create transformative learning experiences for children that promote healthy brain development while preparing them for life in a complex world.</p>
		208	<p><b>Critical Thinking: Making Learning in <u>High School</u> and <u>College</u> a Transformative Experience</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Garfield Gini-Newman, <i>Senior Trainer, The Critical Thinking Consortium and Professor, University of Toronto, Canada</i></p> <p>See description under Strand E: Transforming Teaching and Learning Using Technology.</p>
	208		<p><b>Critical Thinking: Making Learning in <u>Elementary</u> and <u>Middle School</u> a Transformative Experience</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Garfield Gini-Newman, <i>Senior Trainer, The Critical Thinking Consortium and Professor, University of Toronto, Canada</i></p> <p>See description under Strand E: Transforming Teaching and Learning Using Technology.</p>

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	212		<p><b>STEM 2.0: The Plan for Action</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Erick Lang, <i>Associate Superintendent, Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs, Montgomery County Public Schools</i></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Anita O’Neill, <i>Supervisor, PreK-12 Science and Engineering Programs, Montgomery County Public Schools</i> Ed Ball, <i>Coordinator, Science and Engineering, Montgomery County Public Schools</i> Karen Roberts, <i>Acting Supervisor, PreK-12 Mathematics</i></p> <p>In 2009, <i>Education Weekly</i> ranked Maryland first in this country in public school education. Maryland also is positioning itself to be first in the United States in the latest Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives to include the governors’ economic and workforce investment standings. STEM 1.0 was a vision for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to have all students STEM literate upon graduation. The 1.0 plan for MCPS included a model of engaging all students in meaningful STEM experiences throughout their entire Pre-k to 12 experiences. Today, STEM 2.0 staff will share with session participants’ actual projects and implementation strategies that are being used to expand STEM literacy at the elementary, middle, and high school levels in MCPS. This aggressive STEM literacy goal, addressing each student at every level, is no easy feat. Come see what school leaders, teachers, and students are doing to address this global challenge.</p>
223			<p><b>Engaging Athletes : In the Classroom, On the Field...and In Life</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Michael Durso, <i>Principal, Springbrook High School, Montgomery County Public Schools</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Joyce Amatucci, <i>Athlete Mentoring Program, Springbrook High School, Montgomery County Public Schools</i> Folarin Campbell, <i>Professional Basketball Player, Italy</i> <i>2004 Springbrook High School Graduate, 2008 George Mason University Graduate</i> Sherryta Stokes, <i>2004 Springbrook High School Graduate, St. John’s University Senior</i></p> <p>How can schools use athletics as a motivator for academic excellence and a springboard for success in life? This session will demonstrate the power of a unique mentoring program created for athletes at Springbrook High School. The presentation will detail the structured program and how coaches, teachers, and administrators work collaboratively to inspire and engage student athletes.</p>

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<b>220</b>			<p><b>Laboratory for Experiential Education and Design (LEED): Adapting to Change</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Marty Creel, <i>Director, Department of Enriched and Innovative Programs</i> <i>Montgomery County Public Schools</i></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Michael Doran, <i>Principal, Thomas S. Wootton High School, Montgomery County Public Schools</i> Terri Nostrand, <i>Program Director, LEED, Thomas S. Wootton High School, Montgomery County Public Schools</i> Elijah Martin, <i>Founder and Alumnus of LEED Program</i> Sarah Bolmer, <i>Founder and Alumnus of LEED Program</i></p> <p>The Laboratory for Experiential Education and Design (LEED) is a student-designed program in which participants are given design challenges and charged to develop, test, and construct solutions...bringing theoretical ideas to actualization. LEED students pursue trans-disciplinary areas of interest and research that transcend the conventional classroom experience and approach to problem solving. LEED courses draw upon a network of community resources, mentors, businesses and universities in the local area to create a “school without walls.” The program is based upon the belief that students require a curriculum that keeps pace with the changing advances in the world and workforce. The fundamentals of LEED, such as problem solving, teamwork, leadership, and independent thinking, are implemented to arm students with the skills needed to adapt and learn in a rapidly-changing world.</p>
<b>227</b>			<p><b>Creating an Award-Winning Character Education Initiative</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Barbara Luther, <i>Senior Consultant for Professional Development,</i> <i>Character Education Partnership, Washington, DC</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Panagiota Tsonis, <i>Principal, Newport Mill Middle School, Montgomery County Public Schools</i></p> <p>Newport Mill Middle School was named a <i>National School of Character</i> in 2007 by the Character Education Partnership—one of 10 awardees in the nation. In this session, presenters will provide an overview of best practices for developing and maintaining school-wide character education. Participants will learn strategies that can effect change to build a positive school culture and increase academic success. The presentation team will discuss the important role of administrators with methodology to encourage staff ideas, support, and continued involvement in character development. Participants will hear an overview of Character Education Partnership’s many services to educators across the nation.</p>

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Forum 1	Forum 2	Forum 3	<b>Promising Practices Breakout Session</b>
		212	<p><b>How to Get Kids Excited About Summer Reading (and Faculty and Staff, Too!)</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Gail Bailey, <i>Director, School Library Media Programs, Montgomery County Public Schools</i></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Kearney Francis, <i>English Teacher and Literacy Coach, Springbrook High School, Montgomery County Public Schools</i> Zac Gordon, <i>Web Site Development, IT, and Social Studies Teacher, Springbrook High School and Web Designer, Montgomery College</i></p> <p>Listen to one high school’s story of how faculty and staff members awakened students’ passions for reading through a unique, whole-school summer reading endeavor.</p> <p>Presenters will share every step of the process, such as achieving administrative and faculty/staff member buy in, compiling a list of books that students will be itching to get their hands on, building a website to facilitate student sign-ups (that your schools can use, too!), and orchestrating the Summer Reading Seminar Day upon the students’ return to school in the fall.</p> <p>See the website in action, hear student and teacher testimonies, and receive access to every document created along the way. Even if you are not certain whether there is room in your school for such a program, you are encouraged to attend the seminar to hear how one school community enjoyed a shared experience of talking about great books with new friends.</p>