

Mississippi Early Childhood Education Conference



Natchez Convention Center
Natchez, Mississippi
June 17-20, 2024



“Made in Mississippi: Growing Young Minds”

Day 1 - Monday, June 17, 2024

8:30 am - 3:30 pm	<p>Mississippi Department of Education Early Childhood Collaborative Lead Meeting Location: Natchez Civic Center Meeting Room <i>(Invitation Only)</i></p>	
9:00 am - 3:30 pm		<p><u>Pre-Conference Session</u> <i>Start Early in Early: Quality Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers to Support School Readiness</i> Speakers: Maria Russell and Melissa Hardy Location: Natchez Grand Rose Room</p>
		<p><u>Pre-Conference Session</u> <i>Title: Challenging Behaviors</i> Speakers: Brittany Herrington Location: Natchez Grand Carolyn Room</p>
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<p><u>Conference Registration</u> Location: Natchez Convention Center Pre-Function Area</p> <hr/> <p><u>Vendor Setup and Showcase from 4:00-6:00 pm</u> Location: Natchez Room and Tupelo Room</p>	
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	<p><u>Pre-Conference Assembly/Session</u> Location: Natchez Convention Center Nashville Room</p>	

Day 2 - Tuesday, June 18, 2024

7:30 am -
8:30 am

Conference Registration

Location: Natchez Convention Center Pre-Function Area

8:30 am -
9:15 am

Opening Session

Speakers: Dr. Lance Evans, (Rising) State Superintendent of Education

Location: Natchez Convention Center Nashville Room

8:30 am -
4:00 pm

Educare - Foundations of High-Quality Teaching Practices

(Location: St. Francisville at Natchez Convention Center)

Loretta Dyer, Amye Hoskins, Tamara Smith & Holly Spivey

Participants will receive an additional five (5) contact hours for this session.

Infant Toddler Track

Leadership Track

Diverse Learners Track

CLASS Track

Early Learning Track

Child Health Development Track

Natchez Grand Hotel

Natchez
Community
Center

Natchez Convention Center

Carolyn
(50)

Rose
(60)

Conference
Room A (50)

Conference
Room B (40)

Conference
Room C (32)

Meeting
Room (250)

Nashville
(500)

New Orleans
(50)

Baton Rouge
(50)

Vicksburg
(40)

Concordia
(40)

Greenville
(40)

Memphis (40)

St. Louis (40)

9:30 am -
10:30 am

Emerging
Literacy for
Infants &
Toddlers
Gina Carr

It's Never Too
Early! –
4 Steps to
School
Readiness for
Infants and
Toddlers
Melissa Hardy
Maria Russell

Engage and
Empower:
Enhancing
Family
Connections in
System
Programs
Mary Grace
Romo

Using Brigrance
to Foster
Growth in Your
School
Valencia Harris
& Sallie
Lawrence

Inclusive
Foundations:
Building a
Bright Future in
Early
Childhood
Education
Adrienne
Williams

CLASS:
Classroom
Organization
Robin Haney

Breastfeeding
Basics for the
Early Childhood
Education
Setting
Kimberly Dixon

Building
Blocks Pre-K
Byron Hannah &
Ivory Clark

Moving
Knowledge, Not
People: A
Virtual Network
for MS Families
and Early
Childhood
Professionals
Michelle Gaither

The BIG 5 in
Early
Childhood
Countess
Thompson &
Oki Ragins

Supporting
Diversity
Through Art
and Culture
Limeul Eubanks
& Sandra Elliott

Empowering
Parental
Involvement:
The Role of
Support
Groups in
Enhancing
Children's
Academic
Achievement
Journeys
Keidra Hooks

Go NAPSACC
Cynthia Baker &
Teaira Blackburn

Regulation
Through
Recreation:
Building Social
Emotional
Skills Through
Play
Audrey Reid

10:45 -
11:45 am

The Conductive
Learning
Environment
for Infant and
Toddlers
Daphne Stevens

Strategies for
Supporting
Toddlers &
Twos:
Addressing All
Developmental
Levels in the
Inclusive
Classroom
Sage Lohnes &
Amanda Adams

Leading
Change
Jana Perry

The Mississippi
Family
Engagement
Feud
Angela Towers,
Gaby Johnson
and Sharita
Giles

Engagement
Equals
Learning:
Inclusive
Practice for
Supporting
Engagement
for All in the
Preschool
Classroom
Madison Bourne
& Amanda
Lesley

CLASS:
Instructional
Support
Elizabeth Stone
Grimes

Cavity Free
Kids
Carla Bassett

Artificial
Intelligence:
In Early
Childhood
Education
Ericka Davis

Apples,
Alligators, and
All That!
Stephanie
Carrol

MS Beginnings
Resources at
Your Fingertips
Ashley Siegfried
& Marisa Prewitt

Growing the
Academics and
Linguistic
Skills of Dual
Language
Learners
Sandra Elliott

Treasuring
your Trash
Emerald Bolls &
Sharon Drane

Growing
Healthy Minds
Bodies and
Communities
Curriculum
Overview
Amber Sims,
Alicia Stapp &
Stephanie Miller

Shining Bright
Sincerety
Smiley

11:45 am -
1:00 pm

Lunch (On Your Own)

Day 2 - Tuesday, June 18, 2024 - Continued

<p>1:00 pm - 2:00 pm</p>	<p>Relationships Matter: Using Data on Interactions to Increase Equitable Outcomes for Birth-Pre-K Katherine Correll</p>	<p>Music in the Air Kim Peters</p>	<p>Can You Help Me With My Students? Avenge Pittman, Jr.</p>	<p>Transforming In-Kind Processes: Utilizing Digital Collection Tools for Continuous Quality Improvement Mary Grace Romo</p>	<p>Engaging Your Young Athletes through Special Olympics Mississippi Sophia Garcia & Robyn Breland</p>	<p>CLASS: Classroom Management Robin Haney</p>	<p>Mandatory Reporting (Child Abuse, Vulnerable Population & Elder Abuse) Danielle Seal & Audrey Gill</p>	<p>Level Up! Make and Take Center Activities Letha Jones & Alesia Shambry</p>	<p>5E Centered Science Instruction Kevin Gaylor</p>	<p>The Art of Creative Art Krisiti Bell & Jessica Redd</p>	<p>Supporting Diversity Through Art and Culture Limeul Eubanks & Sandra Elliott</p>	<p>It is Tight but is it Right: Confronting our Biases Daaiyah Heard</p>	<p>Nurturing Literacy through Engaging Play Meghann Hickey</p>	<p>Engaging Children, Educating Families: Introducing Happy, Healthy, Lead-Free Me! Gail Getten</p>
<p>2:15 pm - 3:15 pm</p>	<p>ELS: Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers Gina Carr</p>	<p>Mentorship with Youth in Urban Communities Charcy Robinson-Rogers</p>	<p>Administrators Take the Lead: Creating Inclusive Environments Jessica Hulburt & Angela Greer</p>	<p>Family Partnerships: Cornerstone Of High-Quality Inclusion BethAnne Mitchell & Meaghan Baxendale</p>	<p>Cultivating and Expanding Diversity: Equity and Inclusivity in an Early Childhood Classroom Pearl Bailey</p>	<p>CLASS: Instructional Support Elizabeth Stone Grimes</p>	<p>Human Trafficking Awareness 101 Crystal Palmer</p>	<p>Let's Get Moving Connie Clay</p>	<p>Apples, Alligators, and All That! Stephanie Carrol</p>	<p>Power Within an Hour: Effective Intervention Strategies Patricia Stokes</p>	<p>Making Changes in Dramatic Play and Meeting Standards Gena Puckett & Maaike McClure</p>	<p>Camouflage - Mixed Up Media Sandra Smith, Judy Prine & Martha Jordan</p>	<p>MS Beginnings Resources at Your Fingertips Ashley Siegfried & Marisa Prewitt</p>	<p>Trauma in the Early Childhood Classroom Denise Davis</p>
<p>3:30 pm - 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Better Together: The Team Approach to Professional Learning Ryan Woods</p>	<p>10 Commandments for Blended Families Joel W. Hawbaker</p>	<p>Empowering Early Childhood Educators: Strategies for Administrative Support Joann Mestayer</p>	<p>Participation for All: Strategies to Support Children with Disabilities in Your Classroom Sarah Myers</p>	<p>Adaptive Resources: Ensuring Access and Participation Through Mississippi Beginnings Julianna Lieb</p>	<p>CLASS: Emotional Support DeShundra Tucker</p>	<p>Mississippi Go NAPSACC Implementation Advisor Presentation Taylor Henderson</p>	<p>Exploring the Impact of Using Pyramid Model Behavior Incident Reports in Early Childhood Classrooms Stephanie Farris & Audra Classen</p>	<p>Rocking in my School Strategy Shoes!: Effective Classroom Strategies that Work Diana Salvell & Lisa Seale</p>	<p>Reading and Singing Along: Promoting Active Engagement During Story Time Karen Morrison</p>	<p>Building Blocks Pre-K Byron Hannah & Ivory Clark</p>	<p>Cultivating the Reading Readiness Garden Through Oral Language Kristi Kirkwood</p>	<p>My Plate is Full: Cultivating a Flexible and Workable Schedule Teresa Laney & Kristi Bell</p>	<p>Building Trauma Sensitive Classrooms Lindsay Bergman & Stephanie Knudsen</p>
<p>5:30 pm - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>MECEC BLOCK PARTY</p>													

Day 3 - Wednesday, June 19, 2024

**8:30 am -
4:00 pm**

Educare - Foundations of Intensive Family Engagement

(Location: St. Francisville at Natchez Convention Center)
Loretta Dyer, Amye Hoskins, Tamara Smith & Holly Spivey
Participants will receive an additional five (5) contact hours for this session.

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Infant Toddler Track	Leadership Track	Diverse Learners Track	Mississippi Beginnings Track				Early Learning Track	Child Health Development Track					
Natchez Grand Hotel						Natchez Community Center	Natchez Convention Center						
	Carolyn (50)	Rose (60)	Conference Room A (50)	Conference Room B (40)	Conference Room C (32)	Meeting Room (250)	Nashville (500)	Baton Rouge (50)	Vicksburg (40)	Concordia (40)	Greenville (40)	Memphis (40)	St. Louis (40)
8:30 am - 9:15 am	ELS: Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers Gina Carr	Music in the Air Kim Peters	Better Together: The Team Approach to Professional Learning Ryan Woods	10 Commandments for Blended Families Joel W. Hawbaker	Administrators Take the Lead: Creating Inclusive Environments Jessica Hulburt & Angela Greer	Mississippi Beginnings Pre-K Marisa Prewitt & Lydia Boutwell	Maternal Health Monitoring of Blood Pressure Chelsea Watts	Moving Knowledge, Not People: A Virtual Network for MS Families and Early Childhood Professionals Michelle Gaither	Motormouth Mechanics: Revving Up Mechanics to Bridge the Gap Rebecca McKeehan, Carolyn Harris & Cicely Barksdale	Cultivating a Collaborative Environment in Early Childhood Latessa Long & Teresa Laney	The Drama in Dramatic Play Erin Cox & Shana Gowan	Healthy Learning and Playing Safe Lashaunda Davis	Exploring the Impact of Using Pyramid Model Behavior Incident Reports in Early Childhood Classrooms Stephanie Farris & Audra Classen
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Emerging Literacy for Infants & Toddlers Gina Carr	Baby Talk: Building Stronger Relationships with Infants and Toddlers Cierra Lemon & Gina Gates	Engage and Empower: Enhancing Family Connections in System Programs Mary Grace Romo	Using Brigance to Foster Growth in Your School Valencia Harris & Sallie Lawrence	7 Points to Child Outcome Summary (COS) Rebecca Palculict	Let's Focus on Read Alouds Chavon Riddley-Johnson	Breastfeeding Basics for the Early Childhood Setting Kimberly Dixon	Emerge into Success: Best Practices for Enhancing Emergent Reader Skills Micca Knox & LaTina Gray	Promoting Proficient Writers: Nurturing Emerging Writing Skills... Delilah Gonzales & Ingrid Haynes	Calgon Take Me Away: Pushing Forward When Feeling Pushed Down Deeda Paul	Sprouting Minds: Cultivating Outdoor Learning Experiences and Gardening Kristen Armstrong, Kimberly Blakeney, Julie Parker & Lori Staton	Children and Lead: What We Don't Know Can Hurt Them Tunga Otis	Regulation Through Recreation: Building Social Emotional Skills Through Play Audrey Reid
10:45 - 11:45 am	The Conducive Learning Environment for Infant and Toddlers Daphne Stevens	Strategies for Supporting Toddlers & Twos: Addressing All Developmental Levels in the Inclusive Classroom Sage Lohnes & Amanda Adams	Leading Change Jana Perry	The Mississippi Family Engagement Feud Angela Towers, Gaby Johnson and Sharita Giles	Engagement Equals Learning: Inclusive Practice for Supporting Engagement for All in the Preschool Classroom Madison Bourne & Amanda Lesley	An Open-Ended Approach to Math Robin Brand, Merry Pennell & Kathy Wall	Cavity Free Kids Carla Bassett	Rocking in my School Strategy Shoes!: Effective Classroom Strategies that Work Diana Salvell & Lisa Seale	How Do Classroom Environments Promote Writing in Pre-K Melissa Weaver & Danielle Hall	Thriving Together: Cultivating Social and Emotional Learning Environments in Mississippi Education Alyssa Talyor & Felisha Hampton	Fostering Creativity Across the Curriculum: Going Beyond A is for Alligator Desiree Hickman & Wykeshia Glass	Culturally Responsive Teaching in Early Childhood Lakeshia Opara Nadi & Kanasha Bennett	Shining Bright Sincerety Smiley

**11:45 am -
1:00 pm**

Lunch (On Your Own)

Day 3 - Wednesday, June 19, 2024 - Continued

1:00 pm- 2:00 pm	Relationships Matter: Using Data on Interactions to Increase Equitable Outcomes for Birth-Pre-K Katherine Correll	Music in the Air Kim Peters	Can You Help Me With My Students? Avence Pittman, Jr.	Transforming In-Kind Processes: Utilizing Digital Collection Tools for Continuous Quality Improvement Mary Grace Romo	Adaptive Resources: Ensuring Access and Participation Through Mississippi Beginnings Julianna Lieb	Thinking & Feedback: Moving Beyond Show & Tell Robin Brand & Merry Pennell	Mandatory Reporting (Child Abuse, Vulnerable Population & Elder Abuse) Danielle Seal & Audrey Gill	Are You Interested in Learning to Draw with Children? Limeul Eubanks	Supporting Coaching in the Classroom Jana Perry	Nature-Based Play, The Pre-K Way! Jayme Jones & Sandra Watkins	Sowing Seeds: Growing Young Minds by Cultivating Literacy Rich Environments Tempestt Gilmore & Erica Henderson	Empowering Early Childhood Professionals and Families through Case-Based Learning in the ECHO Telementoring Model Ruby Brenner	Engaging Children, Educating Families: Introducing Happy, Healthy, Lead-Free Me! Gail Getten
2:15 pm - 3:15 pm	The Conducive Learning Environment for Infant and Toddlers Daphne Stevens	Baby Talk: Building Stronger Relationships with Infants and Toddlers Cierra Lemon & Gina Gates	Mentorship with Youth in Urban Communities Charcy Robinson-Rogers	Cultivating and Expanding Diversity: Equity and Inclusivity in an Early Childhood Classroom Pearl Bailey	Tailoring Teaching: UDL Techniques for Diverse Early Classrooms Meaghan Bailey	SWPL (Songs, Word Plays & Letters) Connections to the Science of Reading in CLASS Robin Brand & Kathy Wall	Healthy Learning and Playing Safe Lashaunda Davis	Engaging Young Learners in Language and Early Literacy Strategies and Practical Solutions Stephanie Dowlearn	Using Brigrance to Cultivate Your Classroom: Valencia Harris & Sallie Lawrence	Challenging Behaviors in Pre-K: What Else Should We Expect? Vonda Pittman	5E Centered Science Instruction Kevin Gaylor	Nurturing Literacy through Engaging Play Meghann Hickey	Trauma in the Early Childhood Classroom Denise Davis
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Emerging Literacy for Infants & Toddlers Gina Carr	Strategies for Supporting Toddlers & Twos: Addressing All Developmental Levels in the Inclusive Classroom Sage Lohnes & Amanda Adams	Building Bright Futures Together: Family and Community Engagement in Early Childhood Education April May & Mindy Phillips	Participation for All: Strategies to Support Children with Disabilities in Your Classroom Sarah Meyers	Getting SEL Back on Track in the Early Childhood Classroom Casey Willberding & Katy Boyd*	Provocations/ Invitations to Learn: Setting Up Engaging Center Activities to Provoke Wonder, Exploration, and Discovery Cynthia Booker, Nettie Turner & Mary Smith	Traumatic Brain Injury: Preschool Teacher Training Priscilla Brown	Cultivating the Reading Readiness Garden Through Oral Language Kristi Kirkwood	One, Two, Three Mathematize Marvena Haynes	Block Play: Stacked with Learning Potential Jennifer Fernandez	5E Centered Science Instruction Kevin Gaylor	Building Trauma Sensitive Classrooms Lindsay Bergman & Stephanie Knudsen	Trauma in the Early Childhood Classroom Denise Davis

Day 4 - Thursday, June 20, 2024

9:00 am - 11:00 am	<u>Closing Session</u> Location: Nashville Room
11:00 am	<u>Conference Closing and Announcements</u> Nita Thompson, Executive Director Mississippi Head Start Association