

Manlius Pebble Hill School

Personal and Professional Development Opportunities for MPH Employees

August 10-21, 2020

The following workshops, arranged alphabetically, focus on five central themes:

- Teaching and Learning
- Collaboration
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Technology Integration
- Health, Safety, and Wellness

Active Learning Tools to Enhance Purposeful Instruction

During this workshop, you will learn how to use the Pear Deck application, through Google Slides, to enhance student engagement during teacher instruction, or create interactive presentations that are self-paced for the student. Learn how to import pre-existing PowerPoints and add Pear Deck features to them, to encourage student participation, build critical thinking, conduct quick assessments, and pick up on the emotional environment in the classroom. This application can be used in class or in a distance learning format. Please bring a pre-existing presentation (Slides or PowerPoints) to work with.

Actualizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the Classroom and in Everyday Life

Continuing the various conversations occurring throughout the summer regarding anti-racism and DEI, this workshop will encourage a conversation that focuses on taking the step beyond reading, talking, and learning about DEI into regular, demonstrative action in both personal and professional realms. How can we actualize DEI both as individuals and as educators, and how can we encourage students to take that step, too?

Collective Collaboration

Love sticky notes? Do you want learning to be visual? In this workshop, we will explore two tools that let you engage with your students in real-time dynamic ways. Jamboard and Padlet are two tools that will have your students chatting with each other, sharing ideas, and engaging in collaborative visual conversations.

Creating Community Online

When you are distanced from others, whether by 6 feet or sixty miles, it's sometimes hard to consider yourself a part of a community outside of the people you interact with on a daily

basis. Through a variety of communication tools and out-of-the-box approaches to the physically-distanced classroom, communities can be created, maintained, and enhanced as members are regularly reminded that they are part of a larger whole. This presentation will offer ideas about building community with our student population through games, shared experiences, common interests, and a collective passion for curiosity.

Creative Assessments with FlipGrid

Increase the quality of diagnostic, formative and summative assessments by adopting digital tools like FlipGrid. FlipGrid is a tool that allows teachers to create "grids" to facilitate video discussions. Each grid is like a message board where teachers can pose questions, called "topics," and their students can post video responses that appear in a tiled grid display. It allows teachers to provide quick and personalized feedback to students. For students, it is an interactive, fun, creative and personal way of receiving feedback.

Cross-Disciplinary Connections: Formal and Informal Collaboration and Partnerships in the MS/US

This is a roundtable that identifies strategies for long lasting and meaningful formal and informal collaboration between faculty. Presenters will provide testimony and insight on how collegial connections helped provide valuable support during the challenges of last spring, and identify strategies to begin and nurture collaborative relationships.

Developing Civic Agency: Enhancing Service, Community, and Civic Engagement at MPH while embracing the Social Compact and Core Values

As indicated in *The MPH Social Compact and Plan for the 2020-2021 School Year*, and reinforced by the Core Values, empathetic community focus and engagement is going to be critical to the upcoming school year and beyond. This workshop will create space for a conversation about how best to actualize core values and civic engagement collaboratively and holistically at MPH.

Flip your Instruction

One lesson, one unit, or the whole menu - you decide! Join us to learn more about the teaching strategy called "Flipped Classrooms" or "Flipped Learning" and how it can help you create a dynamic, interactive, learning environment. In this workshop, we will discuss the elements of a flipped classroom and how you can incorporate these aspects into your curriculum. These strategies work in class and in a distance learning format. A flipped classroom really lets you dig deep to differentiate for students who need it the most. We will discuss methods for observing students working, engaging them in their learning, and promoting deeper connections within the content.

Focus on the Essentials: Reconceptualizing Curriculum Design for the New School Year

Opening conversations and working space for Fred Montas, Amy Abdo, and Matt Spear to address the challenges associated with curricular changes in the new pandemic-affected educational reality.

How to Smile with your Mouth Covered: Practical Tips for Communicating Effectively while Maintaining Safety Protocols

Did you know that hearing your name affects your brain in a way that is similar to seeing someone smile at you? Using names can engender feelings of belonging and openness even if your smile is covered by a mask. This workshop will focus on practical communication tips to help you overcome the barriers posed by physical distance, masks, and screens. You'll take from the workshop a toolkit of strategies to use in both physical and virtual settings that will help you mitigate your students' anxiety, build meaningful connections, and enhance teaching and learning.

Identifying Academic and Curricular Priorities in the Age of COVID-19

This workshop takes a more practical approach to the issues discussed by Fred Montas, Amy Abdo, and Matt Spear in the opening session **Focus on the Essentials: Reconceptualizing Curriculum Design for the New School Year**. Bring your questions and concerns as well as any preliminary work you've done in this area.

Interactive Activities with Google Slides

Sure you can use Google Slides to present your course content, but what if you could have your students interact with Google Slides to **learn** the content or demonstrate what they have learned? In this workshop, we will share a number of templates and teach you how to modify them to meet the needs of your students. Whether using hyperlinks to develop interactive games, designing manipulatives, creating an interactive digital notebook, or creating a bitmoji classroom, this presentation will give you extra tools to make interactivity using Google Slides a regular tool in your teaching tool kit.

Is Anti-Racism Enough? Developing an Agenda for the Upper School

This workshop will explore the meaning of racism and the practice of anti-racism in the context of the Upper School's curriculum, pedagogy, co-curricular offerings, and student life concerns. The goal of the workshop is to help participants identify priorities in the Upper School that will lead us to develop a community that not only understands racism and its corollaries but also actively combats them within its walls.

"Is this for a grade?" Revising Assessments to Shift the Focus to Intrinsic Learning

"Is this for a grade?" How can we encourage students to value an assignment for what they will learn from it? How can teachers reduce the number of "grades" we assign and instead provide more in-depth feedback that promotes the growth of students in their learning and encourages them to embrace the process of learning holistically? In this workshop, we will discuss how we can teach more by grading less and how we can help students transition their mindset from "What grade did I get?" to "What did I learn from this?"

Meaningful Teams: LS Advisor and LS Encore Collaboration and Partnerships in the LS
Lower School Advisors and Encore teachers connect to share overarching curriculum themes so that Encore lessons, activities, and projects can directly connect with learning in each grade level.

Relationships, Reassurance, and Self-Regulation: Keys to Effective Teaching and Learning

So much in the lives of students and teachers is -- and will continue to be -- beyond our control. What we can control is the positive atmosphere we co-create in the classroom and school community. In this workshop, we will explore ways to foster trusting relationships, provide consistent reassurance, and promote healthy self-regulation. Nurturing these aspects of our teaching practice will not only benefit the health and well-being of our students and ourselves, but also ensure effective learning.

Step One: Essential Self-Care for Colleagues

Now, more than ever, we must take care of ourselves. Step One is to start where we are, not where we might wish to be. In this workshop, we will acknowledge the reality of our situation and explore realistic ways to take steps forward to care for ourselves and each other.

Strategies for Adapting your Curriculum to Different Spaces and Times

As teachers, we often think about being nimble in our approach to presenting content so that it is accessible to learners with various needs. As we plan ahead for the 2020-2021 school year, it is going to be equally important for us to be nimble in what concepts and lessons we prioritize in our classes as we focus on the health and well-being of our students. This presentation provides an opportunity for educators to see examples of lessons that are adaptable and portable based on the needs of the class.

Support Session for MPH Faculty/ Employee-Parents: Managing Both Teaching and Learning at Home during Distance Learning

Teaching for the New Tomorrow: Mind-Brain-Education Science Research

This workshop builds on the concepts identified in our summer reading of *NeuroTeach*. In this session, we will cover elements of teaching that support your students' growth as learners. These strategies and ideas will help you focus your planning for this year and are also key to any teaching environment. Key concepts covered include: Prepare Effective Classes Online and Offline; Emotion and Cognition; Science of Learning; Metacognition in the Classroom; and Designing Great Teaching from Good Evidence. We look forward to a vibrant discussion as we progress through each topic.

Teaching the Taboo: Tough Conversations

Join us for a collective conversation about leading and facilitating tricky discussions and conversations in the classroom related to race, politics, identity, or social unrest. We will use the TED Talk *How To Teach Kids To Talk About Taboo Topics* as a platform for a round-table discussion of best practices.

Using Video Recordings to Our Advantage

Whether it is using pre-existing videos or creating your own, tools such as EdPuzzle, Screencastify, and FluentKey, can enhance instruction, assessment, and engagement in the physical or virtual classroom. In this workshop, you will learn how to use these applications and, more importantly, how to match the appropriate application for your learning

objectives. A working understanding of the flipped classroom would be beneficial before attending this workshop.