

Workshop Schedule

All workshops are held in meeting rooms down the hall from the vendor area

Check signage for any changes to rooms/sessions on conference day

Meeting Room 1

8:30 am RightStart Math: Teaching Fractions (Clayton)

RightStart™ Fractions

Exhibitor Workshop with Kathleen Cotter Clayton

Do you remember the groans in math class when the word 'fraction' was brought up? Well, there is a better and less painful way of teaching fractions! Fractions are, dare I say, fun when they are taught the right way. What's the right way to teach them? Come and find out! Find the beauty and simplicity of fractions using RightStart™ Math.

9:30 am Florida Student Financial Aid / Bright Futures (OSFA)

Florida Financial Aid / Bright Futures Scholarship Program for Florida Homeschoolers

Pedro Hernandez, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Florida Department of Education

Overview of Financial Aid- Presentation geared for high school/home schooled seniors explaining the entire financial aid process: Federal, State, Institutional and Private scholarships with an emphasis on the home schooled student. Teens may wish to attend this session, too.

10:30 am Homeschooling & Divorce, Non-Nuclear Families (Kolenc)

Preserving the Right to Homeschool in Non-Nuclear Families

Attorney Antony Barone Kolenc

Attorney and law professor, Antony Barone Kolenc, discusses ways to preserve the legal right to homeschool in non-nuclear families, either after divorce or when unmarried parents disagree about their child's education. He discusses the best-interests-of-the-child standard in Florida, and analyzes six key factors to maximize the chance to continue homeschooling.

11:30 am Learning to Read: When sounding it out doesn't work (Merritt)

Learning to Read: When the "sound that out" method doesn't work

Exhibitor Workshop with Dana M. Merritt

Reading is dependent on the student's ability to decode & comprehend text at the same time. Reading is composed of 3 main skills: accuracy of decoding, automatically recognizing words, & using proper expression. In beginning readers & struggling readers, the task of "sounding that word out" uses most of the child's attentional resources. We want the parents to see an overview of four of the first ten steps of phonics to improve reading. Come & learn how *A Time for Phonics* improves reading, writing, spelling & vocabulary through this systematic comprehensive phonics program without ever having a student "Sound this word out."

12:30 pm Dual Enrollment, Daytona State College (Goldys)

Dual Enrollment for Florida Homeschoolers

Dr. Michelle Goldys, Daytona State College

Hear from the Director Academic Advising, Career Services and Dual Enrollment at Daytona State College about the dual enrollment option for Florida home education students. Topics will include eligibility requirements, dates and deadlines, eligible programs, steps to enroll, and continuing eligibility requirements. Teens may wish to attend this session, too.

1:30 pm Legislative Report / Updates FLHEF (Brenda Dickinson)

Legislative Updates From the Capitol

Brenda Dickinson, Florida Home Education Foundation

Important for all new and existing Florida homeschoolers, guests will receive timely news and legislative updates as they impact home education. Session will feature Brenda Dickinson of the Florida Home Education Foundation (HEF), Florida's voice in the Capitol for 37 years. Don't miss this valuable information and opportunity to learn what is on the horizon for Florida's homeschoolers. This is the most recent legislative update in the state, and we highly encourage attendance.

2:30 pm What Parents Should Know About Video Games (Ferguson)

A Fox in the Henhouse? What Homeschooling Parents Should Know About Video Games

Dr. Christopher Ferguson, Stetson University

For decades, parents were told to be on the alert for violence in video games. Yet preventing teens, particularly boys, from accessing such games is often a daunting task, creating guilt in many parents. Ultimately, research has found that even the most violent games has little impact on kids' development. Why were parents frightened needlessly about video games for so many years, and how can we apply this lesson to other things parents are warned about?

3:30 pm RightStart Math: Teaching Middle School Math (Clayton)

RightStart™ Middle School Math

Exhibitor Workshop with Kathleen Cotter Clayton

Prepare your middle school student for higher level math by encouraging them to think critically and creatively with the RightStart™ Math Level G. This is an entry level, student-led course emphasizing the practical use of knowledge learned up to this point. This is not a typical boring worksheet curriculum, rather is a hands-on approach with real-life application and a focus on understanding. Come and learn more about this innovative program.

4:30 pm Struggling Students, Math Delays, Innovative Technique (Merritt)

Math is a Word, Symbol, and Memory Problem: Let's solve the problem together

Exhibitor Workshop with Dana M. Merritt

Struggling students are often delayed in math. Come learn the neural pathways and how to drive positive experiences for math. The *Math Made Fun Playing Cards* are uniquely designed to help the eyes see the quantity, the mind know that it is an even or an odd number, the hands learn how to hold cards correctly, and the brain learn arithmetic. Learn innovative techniques & games using these math cards.

Meeting Room 2

8:30 am Should I have my child tested? Struggling Students (Alford)

Should I Have My Child Tested? The benefits and limitations of diagnosis

Kathleen Alford

Parents of a struggling student may want to have their child evaluated by an educational psychologist, but they may also worry that testing their child for a learning disability may result in a "label" that damages self-esteem or restricts the child's educational choices. In this informative talk, Kathleen Alford 1) discusses the pros and cons of having a student tested for learning disabilities and learning differences, 2) gives up-to-date information about how to request evaluations from public school psychologists or from educational psychologists in private practice, and 3) explains the limitations of any diagnosis that is received. In addition, she describes how receiving a diagnosis that is listed under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) may help secure funding and resources for a homeschool student. Finally, Kathleen shares the method she uses to evaluate students for what is commonly known as "dyslexia", but which she recognizes as "[Full-Field Vision Learning™](#)." If you've been debating on whether or not to have your child evaluated for dyslexia or for any other learning difference, this talk is for you!

9:30 am Scheduling for the homeschool family (Little)

Scheduling for Homeschool Families

Parent to Parent Workshop with Dianna Little

Are schedules overwhelming? Are you just not sure where to start? Florida homeschool parent and music teacher, Dianna Little, talks about yearly, monthly, and daily schedules in this practical workshop designed for parents just like you. She'll look at practical ways that scheduling can be easily accomplished for peace and productivity throughout the day.

10:30 am What is BookShark Literature-Based Curriculum? (Woodley)

What is BookShark Literature-based Curriculum?

Exhibitor Workshop with Lynn Woodley

Join Lynn Woodley to learn about BookShark, a complete, literature-based curriculum developed for students from age 4-16, including everything for an entire school year of 36 weeks. This workshop will deliver specific information including:

- combining History, Science, and Language Arts
- how parents may enjoy time alongside their children, reading and discussing great books
- using a curriculum based on levels and ages, instead of a rigid grade system
- a curriculum that is easy for parents to teach
- fostering close family bonds

11:30 am Florida Homeschool 101: Legal Requirements (Moreau)

Getting Started as a Florida Homeschooler – The Legal Requirements

Dr. Marie-Claire Moreau, Florida Homeschool Association

Learn what it takes to be a Florida homeschooler. In this practical workshop, Dr. Marie-Claire Moreau will review the legal requirements all independent homeschoolers need to follow. Participants will leave with a complete understanding of: (1) the notice of intent; (2) the homeschool portfolio; (3) the annual evaluation; and, (4) the notice of termination. This basic information is what every new or prospective Florida homeschool family needs to know to legally homeschool in the State of Florida.

12:30 pm Teaching Music When You're Not a Musician (Little)

Teaching Music When You're Not a Musician

Parent to Parent Workshop with Dianna Little

Is music a subject about which you know very little, or it's just been too long to remember much that you did know? In this practical workshop, we'll discuss ways to incorporate music into your "school" day, and make fun musical memories with your kids.

1:30 pm Homeschool Portfolio Workshop (Trzasko)

Homeschool Portfolio Workshop

Parent to Parent Workshop with Cheryl Trzasko

A practical workshop all about the homeschool portfolio requirement. Participants will gain a thorough understanding of this important legal requirement, including: how to maintain a portfolio throughout the year; the 2 required components of the homeschool portfolio; ideas for collecting, assembling and organizing the documents; and tips for portfolio storage. Guests will leave with a full and complete understanding of the process, equipped to be able to do it for themselves. This workshop will conclude with a Q&A period, so bring your questions!

2:30 pm Homeschooling The High School Years (Wright)

Homeschooling High School

Dr. Chrysalis Wright, Sunshine State Homeschool Academy

This session will cover Florida laws regarding homeschooling high school. Course and curriculum recommendations will be included for those whose students may be on track to attend college or university. Additional topics will include end of course examinations; record keeping and portfolio maintenance; end of year evaluations (unless enrolled in umbrella schools); transcript preparation; and other documentation requested by colleges/universities. Guests will receive templates for an "official" high school transcript and high school course descriptions, plus a sample affidavit of homeschool completion. For those interested in pursuing dual enrollment, requirements, articulation agreements, and resources and study guides for preparing for college entrance exams will be provided. Information about Bright Futures Scholarship requirements will also be available.

3:30 pm Beyond Calculators! (Chandler)

On Beyond Calculators

Exhibitor Workshop with David Chandler

On Beyond Calculators is an allusion to the Dr. Seuss book, On Beyond Zebra. People ask me if I endorse the use of calculators. My answer is, "Heck yeah...!" I endorse calculators and a whole lot more, ... a whole wide range of computational technology that opens up the world to quantitative and graphical exploration. This workshop will introduce a great, freely downloadable scientific calculator, Free42, and GeoGebra, for graphing, geometric constructions, and a whole lot more. The goal at this workshop is to open your eyes to a world of exploration through fluent, intelligently assisted computation.

4:30 pm Homeschooling For Working Parents (Wright)**Homeschooling for Working Parents**

Dr. Chrysalis Wright, Sunshine State Homeschool Academy

Dr. Wright is a psychologist and lecturer, but moreover a full-time homeschool parent of 6 students. In this session, she discusses how families can homeschool successfully while still working part- or full-time. The flexibility offered by Florida homeschooling will be discussed along with specific time management strategies anyone can use. Emphasis will be placed on variations between families instead of one-size-fits-all approaches. This workshop will include ideas like homeschooling year round; homeschooling multiple students together; creative scheduling throughout the week; utilizing outside classes like co-ops; fostering independence; student-led learning; and much more.