



SGIS Conference March 1-2, 2019

'Can We Walk the Talk'

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

## SUBJECT SPECIALISTS...

The 2019 SGIS Conference, at ISB promises to offer something for everyone.

In this 4-part mini-series, taking a closer look at 'who' is saying 'what', our second flyer shares the headlines for those teaching and supporting in classrooms, in our international schools in Switzerland and beyond.



Jennifer Wathall



Alison Schofield



Danny Brassell

**JENNIFER WATHALL** is an independent educational consultant, author and part time instructor for the University of Hong Kong. With over 25 years' experience in the education field, Jennifer has worked in several international schools including South Island School, Hong Kong and The United Nations International School, New York and Island School, Hong Kong. Jennifer holds a degree in Pure and Applied Mathematics from the University of Sydney and completed post graduate studies at the University of Hong Kong. Based on her Master of Arts in Educational Technology she also facilitates concept-based mathematics online courses, gives talks about innovative uses of digital instructional media and how to effectively integrate a 1:1 program into the classroom. In the international arena she has presented numerous keynote addresses and workshops about concept-based mathematics and concept-based curriculum and instruction to K-12 educators.

### Friday Sessions:

- *Engaging Instructional Strategies for the Mathematics Classroom (repeated on Saturday)*

This interactive workshop will cover eight instructional strategies to engage students and promote and enhance learning. Participants will be immersed in a social constructivist environment and partake in highly engaging learning experiences

- ***Concept-Based Mathematics: Teaching for Deep Understanding***

This interactive workshop will look at an overview of the Structures of Knowledge and Process and how to craft generalizations (statements of conceptual understanding) for the discipline of Mathematics. Participants will be immersed in a social constructivist environment and partake in highly engaging learning experiences. Whilst examples will refer to mathematics, other subject area teachers can see how this can be transferred to their subject as well as understand how their students are learning mathematics and make relevant connections.

- ***Concept-Based Mathematics: What's all the talk about? (repeated Saturday)***

What is Concept-Based Mathematics and how do we promote discourse in the mathematics classroom? Jennifer will also introduce the three-dimensional concept-based model for curriculum and instruction and how we can transition towards this model. Traditional curriculum focuses on rules and procedures with little understanding of the conceptual relationships of mathematics—and mathematics is a language of conceptual relationships. Traditional mathematics learning also assumes the deep understanding of concepts, and sometimes fails to teach for transferability, or to consider context. How do we focus curriculum and instruction to focus on conceptual understanding while fostering 21st-century skills in the mathematics classroom? Jennifer will discuss the three-dimensional concept-based mathematics curriculum model and highlight the power of visualization and the value of the inductive teaching approach when learning mathematics.

#### **Saturday Sessions:**

- ***Engaging Instructional Strategies for the Mathematics Classroom (repeated)***
- ***Concept-Based Mathematics: What's all the talk about? (repeated)***
- ***Inquiry-based Learning Experiences focusing on Conceptual Understanding***

This session will be an interactive session which will focus on an inquiry-based mathematics learning engagements. The levels of inquiry will be discussed and teachers will walk away with hands-on practical learning engagements to use with their students. Whilst examples will refer to mathematics, other subject area teachers can see how this can be transferred to their subject as well as understand how their students are learning mathematics and make relevant connections.

**ALISON SCHOFIELD** began her career as a disability specialist and behavioural therapist before becoming a special education teacher. She has worked with indigenous children and multicultural communities. Alison worked as a teacher and Learning Support Coordinator within international schools in Abu Dhabi and Dubai where she began extensive work and research with bilingual and multilingual learners. After running an educational consultancy, *IngeniousEd*, for 9 years in Dubai, she then co-founded the *Centre for Educators of BMLs* (a social enterprise) in the UK.

#### **Friday Sessions:**

- ***Best Literacy Practices for Bilingual and Multilingual Learners (repeated Saturday)***

We all know the importance of reading and writing in the primary classrooms, but did you know that many BMLs are already two or more years behind their grade-levels in literacy by Grade 6? This gap can continue to grow so that independent reading, writing and researching by secondary school is severely impacted. This session explores the reasons why we need a comprehensive, whole school approach for accelerating BMLs literacy and gives several practical solutions to get started

- **Vocabulary: Make it or Break it (repeated Friday)**

Vocabulary is the missing link for our students' school success. But for our bilingual and multilingual learners (BMLs, EAL, ELLs), vocabulary is even more important. This hands-on workshop will give you a new framework for understanding BMLs' vocabulary size and the direct link this has on their reading comprehension and achievement. For example, did you know that students learn around 1,000 new words each year or that young learners' vocabulary can be accelerated? You'll learn practical strategies that you can apply in your classroom right away but you'll also receive several helpful resources.

#### **Saturday Sessions:**

- **Best Literacy Practices for Bilingual and Multilingual Learners (repeated)**
- **Keynote: Making a Bigger Impact with our Bilingual & Multilingual Learners**

In many schools around the world, bilingual and multilingual learners (BMLs, EAL, ELLs) are educated in English-medium schools and classrooms. In fact, these learners are the fastest-growing student group in the world today. Despite this, most teachers and school heads receive very little training in the research and best practices for BMLs. While BMLs are largely held to the same expectations as native-English students, their educational experiences and learning trajectories can be quite different from their native-speaking peers. This often leads to struggle and anxiety. This session will provide key insights, little-known research and practical implications for practice.

- **Culturally-Responsive Schools and Classrooms: What's Possible when we get rid of the 'English Only' Mindset**

Classrooms today are microcosms of our diverse, globalized world. We'll explore why teaching in the English medium does not mean that our students must abandon their most valuable assets-*their home languages*-for supporting their learning. Learn why languages are efficient vehicles for maintaining cultural knowledge but also for building cultural capital in global workplaces. Beginning right in the classroom, find out how you can nurture your students' cultures, languages and identities in 10 easy ways.

**DANNY BRASSELL** is an internationally-acclaimed speaker and best-selling author of 15 books, including *Read, Lead & Succeed* and *The Reading Makeover*, based on his popular TEDx talk. He is the co-founder of the world's top reading engagement system for struggling and reluctant readers, [www.ReadBetterin67Steps.com](http://www.ReadBetterin67Steps.com).

#### **Friday Sessions:**

- **Keynote: Bringing Joy Back into the Classroom**

Teachers are kid-people. They do not teach for the pay or daily accolades from society; they teach because they care about kids. The standardized testing craze has terrified students and led many great teachers to quit. Come join Danny as he reminds teachers of their importance in the everyday development of children. He'll remind you how to laugh, sing, dance and play in order to bring the joy back into your classroom.

## **Saturday Sessions:**

- ***Dare to Differentiate: 50 Terrific Teacher Tricks***

Reinvigorate your passion for teaching! Join Danny in this eye-opening session to learn 50 terrific tricks successful teachers have used to stimulate students interest in learning. You'll learn how to incorporate standards without sacrificing fun. And, leave with new songs, games and activities you can immediately put to use in your classroom.

- ***75 Reading Strategies in 75 Minutes***

Discover 75 ways to get your students to read! Danny demonstrates fun activities you can use throughout the day to motivate and inspire your students to become more proficient readers. You'll learn how to transform your classroom into a literacy center. And, discover the secrets to helping all students develop a lifelong passion for reading.

- ***Comprehension That Works!***

Comprehension is what reading is all about! Learn how to foster students' comprehension by showing them how to: focus on relevant information, interpret it and integrate it with what they already know. You'll learn how to create an instructional environment that promotes risk taking and involves students in a variety of real reading situations and meets standards. Your students will learn to focus on meaning as thoughtful readers.

FOR FULL DETAILS OF THESE SESSIONS AND MORE, SEE THE FULL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME AT  
[HTTP://WWW.SGISCHOOLS.COM/CMS/](http://www.sgischools.com/cms/)