

ESL, Special Needs and Technology Conference March 6-8, 2020



Make plans now to attend the upcoming Combined ESL, Special Needs and Technology Conference held March 6-8, 2020 hosted by the Rabat American School in Morocco. Participants will have the opportunity to listen to speakers address today's major issues in the fields of special education and technology, as well as to attend smaller interactive break-out sessions.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS (click name for full biography):

- [Lisa Clark](#), Content Specialist Coordinator of English Language Arts and English Learner Instructional Services at the Office of the Superintendent of Fresno County Schools in Fresno, California
- [Tangee Pinheiro](#), Ed.D., Executive Director, Student Services, Office of Fresno County Superintendent of Schools
- [Jeff Sisk](#), Program Manager of Assistive Technology Services (ATS) in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.
- [Genie Yurgaites](#), an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.

HOTEL INFORMATION

IBIS Rabat Agdal***

Avenue Haj Ahmed CHERKAOUI Agdal – 10 000 Rabat – Morocco

Tel.: +212 (0) 5 37 13 17 00 - Fax: +212 (0) 5 37 13 17 01

Room rate:

Single Room: 780 MAD (\$87 or 73€/night).

Includes breakfast

Double Room: 845 MAD (\$87 or 79€/night)

Includes breakfast

Taxes: 13.20 MAD (\$1.35 or 1.23€)

per room per night

Participants are responsible for making their own hotel reservations.

E-mail: HA0G2-SL@accor.com

CC: shannon@mais-web.org

Subject: MAIS conference group at the Rabat American School.

Make your reservation by sending your name(s), dates, room type (single/double)

AIRPORT DISTANCE

Rabat–Salé Airport (RBA) is 25 minutes from the hotel.

OR

Casablanca Airport (CMN) is 1 hour from Rabat

- Taxi
- Rabat Agdal train station (3 minutes to hotel).

SCHEDULE

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE](#)

March 6, 2020: Friday evening: 19:30 Welcome Reception at the Hotel Ibis Agdal

March 7, 2020: Saturday: Day 1 Conference

March 8, 2020: Sunday: Day 2 Conference (ends at 16:00).

ONLINE REGISTRATION

CONFERENCE FEES, REGISTRATION & GRADUATE CREDIT

MAIS MEMBER SCHOOL

No registration fee includes opening reception, bus hotel/school, coffee & lunches.

Attendance stipend: one \$300 reimbursement per MAIS Full Member School sending a delegate to the conference. Please email the itemized travel or hotel receipt to email to shannon@mais-web.org

NON-MEMBERS

\$200 fee includes opening reception, bus hotel/school, coffee, & lunches.

GRADUATE CREDIT: (1 unit) from SUNY Buffalo State will be available.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS - SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020

KEYNOTE SESSION: Emerging Technology Trends that Support Differentiation

[Jeff Sisk](#), Program Manager of Assistive Technology Services (ATS) in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.

[Genie Yurgaites](#), an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.

Differentiated instructional strategies benefit diverse learners and have been employed throughout the history of education. Emerging technology tools readily support universal design practices and allow students individualized access to instructional content. We will discuss current technology trends and how they benefit students in school settings. Feel free to bring a networked computing device of your choice, such as a laptop, tablet or smart phone, to participate in this presentation.

Student Online Collaboration Technology Tools

[Jeff Sisk](#), Program Manager of Assistive Technology Services (ATS) in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.

[Genie Yurgaites](#), an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.

Technology tools allow for diverse media, such as text, pictures, audio & video to readily be shared in diverse locations in convenient time frames. Explore PearDeck for Google Slides, Padlet and Flipgrid as online collaborative arenas for your instruction, making your classroom fun and engaging.

Reaching and Teaching All Students

Practical strategies for creating a classroom that is responsive to the needs of all students.

[Tangee Pinheiro](#), Ed.D., Executive Director, Student Services, Office of Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.

Creating a learning environment that is flexible enough to meet the needs of every student and yet structured enough to ensure a quality program can be difficult. This session will give you some evidence-based strategies to consider when designing your learning environment and instructional practices. Understanding and implementing a multi-tiered system of support and understanding data collection and monitoring of improvement will make for easy individualized educational planning.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS - SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020 cont.

Implementing a Continuous Improvement model that aligns with Response to Intervention Within the Classroom

[Tangee Pinheiro](#), Ed.D., Executive Director, Student Services, Office of Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Establishing classroom procedures that align with the components of Response to Intervention is only one part of seeing improvement in your students' academic and social emotional levels. The next step of utilizing the data collected and following a continuous improvement model can focus our efforts and measure the effectiveness of your interventions.

Academic Language across the Content Areas

[Lisa Clark](#), Content Specialist Coordinator of English Language Arts and English Learner Instructional Services at the Office of the Superintendent of Fresno County Schools in Fresno, California

Creating effective lessons and units in which English learners can fully participate and succeed begins with knowing what language demands students will encounter in their learning, and planning structures that support their needs as they interact with content and language. This session will explore ways to identify language demands in your classroom and plan for academic language support in all content areas so students can thrive and not merely survive!

WORKSHOP SESSIONS- SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020

KEYNOTE SESSION: Celebrating Language

[Lisa Clark](#), Content Specialist Coordinator of English Language Arts and English Learner Instructional Services at the Office of the Superintendent of Fresno County Schools in Fresno, CA.

Students bring a wealth of language experiences into our classrooms. Classroom cultures that value and build upon the cultural and linguistic assets of students promote an environment in which students can become proficient in English and other languages. English learners need to engage in intellectually rich, developmentally appropriate learning experiences that foster high levels of language proficiency, and that begins with creating a culture that celebrates multilingualism.

Supporting Language-Rich Instruction

[Lisa Clark](#), Content Specialist Coordinator of English Language Arts and English Learner Instructional Services at the Office of the Superintendent of Fresno County Schools in Fresno, CA.

English learners need key knowledge, skills, and abilities in language in order to access, engage, and achieve in grade-level academic content. With appropriate instructional support, English learners can develop language proficiency *while* engaging in intellectually challenging work. Join us in this workshop as we explore practical scaffolds and strategies that support language-rich instruction in the ESL classroom.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS- SUNDAY, MARCH 8, cont.

Technology Tools to Support Reading

[Jeff Sisk](#), Program Manager of Assistive Technology Services (ATS) in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia. [Genie Yurgaites](#), an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.

Reading opens doors to other worlds. Explore strategies and resources to facilitate reading in the digital classroom and beyond. Technology applications such as Google Suite for Education, MS Word, electronic screen readers and other web based tools can be easily implemented to support the continuum of struggling readers.

Technology Tools to Support Writing

[Jeff Sisk](#), Program Manager of Assistive Technology Services (ATS) in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia. [Genie Yurgaites](#), an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia.

Are you looking for some quick and easy electronic tools and strategies to use with your students who are struggling with writing? This session provides an exploration of some basic tools and strategies for struggling writers that all students can access. Explore word processing, graphic organizers and drawing tools that make student writing fun!

Reaching and Teaching All Students

Practical strategies for creating a classroom that is responsive to the needs of all students.

[Tangee Pinheiro](#), Ed.D., Executive Director, Student Services, Office of Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.

Creating a learning environment that is flexible enough to meet the needs of every student and yet structured enough to ensure a quality program can be difficult. This session will give you some evidence-based strategies to consider when designing your learning environment and instructional practices. Understanding and implementing a multi-tiered system of support and understanding data collection and monitoring of improvement will make for easy individualized educational planning.

Designing and Revising Student Goals.

[Tangee Pinheiro](#), Ed.D., Executive Director, Student Services, Office of Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Designing individualized goals that are based on a person-centered planning process. Understanding the interests and objectives of a student with special needs and their families will lead to goals that are meaningful and powerful. This session will guide you through the process of determining what areas of need to target, what components of the goal should be measured and when to come back to the team to consider revision to the goals.

BIOGRAPHIES



Lisa Clark is the Content Specialist Coordinator of English Language Arts and English Learner Instructional Services at the Office of the Superintendent of Fresno County Schools in Fresno, California. An educator with over 30 years of experience, Lisa has been a classroom teacher, reading intervention specialist, curriculum coordinator, and administrator. She currently works closely with the state of California, developing and training educators in high-quality assessments for English learners. Lisa is passionate about sharing best practices in literacy for all learners and systematic approaches that support the needs of English learners.

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Tangee Pinheiro, Ed.D. is the Executive Director of Student Services for the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools. She is also a Lecturer for California State University, Fresno's Kremen School of Education in the field of Special Education and the Chair-Elect for a statewide organization in California for Special Education Administrators for County Offices (SEACO). With over 25 years of experience in education, including general education, special education and higher education, she understands the needs of learners at many levels and the needs of educators to deliver quality education that all students can access. Dr. Pinheiro serves as a technical advisor to districts throughout Fresno County and California in providing quality education for students with mild to severe learning differences and in developing quality-learning plans for individual students. She currently oversees 3 Special Education Schools and an additional 84 classrooms across Fresno County. She was a 2019 finalist for Administrator of the Year in Fresno County. She continues to develop support teams, administrators and administrative teams so that they too can maximize the abilities of the special needs learner in their schools and classrooms.

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Jeff Sisk is the Program Manager of Assistive Technology Services (ATS) in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia. He has been working in the assistive technology field for 20 years and has also held positions as an Assistive Technology Integration Specialist and an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher. Prior to his career in the assistive technology field, Jeff was a teacher for students with emotional disabilities. He holds an Education Specialist Degree in Instructional Technology, a master's degree in Special Education and a Bachelor of Arts in History. He also serves as an Adjunct Instructor for George Mason University.

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Genie Yurgaites is an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia and has served in that position for the past six years. Prior to becoming an Assistive Technology Resource Teacher, she taught English to middle school students with learning disabilities. She holds a master's degree in Special Education and a Bachelor of Arts in English. Genie enjoys collaborating with teachers to implement a variety of technology classroom strategies to meet the needs of diverse learners. She has a passion for working as an educational coach to students who struggle in the areas of executive function.

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

March 6, 2020- Friday

19:30 Welcome Reception at the Hotel Ibis Agadal, meet in lobby.

March 7, 2019- Saturday

8:25 Bus Pick up at the Hotel to RAS
8:50 Coffee and snack available
9:00-9:15 Welcome Introductions
9:15-10:15 Keynote I
10:15-10:30 Coffee Break
10:30-12:30 Workshops
12:40-13:35 Lunch
13:40-15:40 Workshops
16:00 Transportation to Hotel (15 min wait)
17:00-19:30 Tour of Kasbah (45 min.), then 5 min. walk to the shopping street
(Rue de Consuls) in the medina (1hr)
20:00 Option to participate Traditional Moroccan restaurant for a diner
(price per person 20€) or Free for dinner

March 8, 2020- Sunday

8:25 Bus Pick up at the Hotel to RAS
8:50 Coffee and snack available
9:00-9:55 Keynote II
9:55-10:10 Coffee Break
10:10-12:10 Workshops
12:15-13:15 Lunch
13:20 -15:20 Workshops
15:25 -15:55 Technology and ESL/Special Needs Roundtables.
16:00 Conference ends, transportation to the Hotel

2020 Schedule MAIS ESL, Special Needs & Technology Conference - Rabat American School

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020

8:25 BUS DEPARTS THE HOTEL TO THE RABAT AMERICAN SCHOOL

Room:	AUDITORIUM		
9:00-9:15	Opening/Introductions		
9:15-10:15 Keynote	Emerging Technology Trends that Support Student Differentiation		
Presenter:	Jeff Sisk and Genie Yurgaites		
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break (MS110)		
Room:		LC202	HS201
10:30-12:30 (2 hrs) Breakout Session 1	Technology Tools to Support Executive Functioning	Reaching and Teaching All Students Practical strategies for creating a classroom that is responsive to the needs of all students.	Academic Language across the Content Areas
Presenter:	Jeff Sisk and Genie Yurgaites	Tangee Pinheiro, Ed.D.	Lisa Clark
12:35-13:35	LUNCH IN THE DINING HALL		
	AUDITORIUM	LC202	HS201
13:45-15:45 (2 hrs) Breakout Session 2	Student Online Collaboration Technology Tools	Implementing a Continuous Improvement model that aligns with Response to Intervention Within the Classroom	Academic Language across the Content Areas
Presenter:	Jeff Sisk and Genie Yurgaites	Tangee Pinheiro, Ed.D.	Lisa Clark
16:00 CONFERENCE ENDS - BUS STOPS AT HOTEL for 15 minutes then leaves for tour.			
17:00-19:00 Tour of Kasbah (45 min.), then 5 min. walk to the shopping street (Rue de Consuls) in the medina (1hr)			
20:00 Walk to Traditional Moroccan restaurant for a diner (optional) Price per person 20€			

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020

8:25am BUS DEPARTS THE HOTEL TO THE RABAT AMERICAN SCHOOL

Room:	AUDITORIUM		
9:00 – 9:55 Keynote II	Celebrating Language		
Presenter:	Lisa Clark		
9:55-10:10	Coffee Break		
Room:	AUDITORIUM	LC202	HS201
10:10- 12:10 Breakout Session 3	Supporting Language-Rich Instruction	Reaching and Teaching All Students Practical strategies for creating a classroom that is responsive to the needs of all students.	Technology Tools to Support Reading
Presenter:	Lisa Clark	Tangee Pinheiro, Ed.D.	Jeff Sisk and Genie Yurgaites
12:15-13:15	LUNCH IN THE DINING HALL		
	AUDITORIUM	LC202	HS201
13:20-15:20 Breakout Session 4	Supporting Language-Rich Instruction	Designing and Revising Student Goals.	Technology Tools to Support Writing
Presenter:	Lisa Clark	Tangee Pinheiro, Ed.D.	Jeff Sisk and Genie Yurgaites
ROUNDTABLES			
	HS201	LC202	
15:25-15:55 Roundtable Discussion	Technology Roundtable	ESL/ Special Needs Roundtable	
16:00 CONFERENCE ENDS- BUS BACK TO HOTEL			