

NEW TEACHER CONFERENCE

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Lindsey Jensen is the Early Career Development and Student Director for the Illinois Education Association. She is a former 2018 Illinois Teacher of the Year, high school English Teacher, and Academic Dean. Lindsey is fiercely and unapologetically passionate about education, and she advocated for educational equity through writing and speaking at various educational conferences throughout the country.

Breakout Sessions

Tara Augspurger graduated with a MA in Spanish and a MA in TESOL from Illinois State University in 2013. She earned her National Board Certification in 2018. She teaches at University High School with 15 years of experience. She is a Doctoral student at ISU in Education Administration and Foundations.

Emily Brodtko is a Regional Specialist for Area 2. Before joining the IESE Network, Emily was a Special Education teacher for 8 years in a variety of settings at both the elementary & high school level. She also has experience in planning & implementing PD & new teacher programs.

Madelyn Conroy graduated from Illinois State University in Spring of 2020. She is currently a second-year middle-level educator at Plano Middle School. She teaches seventh-grade history and language arts. She has been a guest speaker for Dr. Douglas Hatch's senior block course the past two years.

Molly Dunne is a Related Services Coordinator for Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization (NS-SEO), a special education cooperative serving local school districts in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago.

Rebekah Hoffman has worked as a teacher for ten years and is currently employed as a teacher and coach at University High School. She received her Bachelor's Degree, a certificate in School Librarianship, and a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning from ISU.

Angelica Delatorre-Im earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Education with an Endorsement in English as a Second Language at Illinois State University in 2003. She has 18 years of teaching experience and currently teaches at University High School. She earned her National Board Certification in 2019. Angelica devotes to researching best educational practices.

Dr. Miranda Lin is a professor of early childhood education. Prior to becoming a teacher educator, she has worked with students from pre-K to 12 in various settings and countries. Her research interests include service-learning, anti-bias education, home-school partnerships, and global education.

Megan McMullen is a 2013 and 2019 graduate of ISU, earning a Bachelor's in Middle Level Education and Master's in Educational Administration, respectively. She worked as a middle school Language Arts teacher for 8 years before returning to ISU as Assistant Principal of Thomas Metcalf Laboratory School in fall of 2021.

Shannon Maney-Magnuson is currently a teacher educator for Illinois State University's English Education Program. Prior to teaching at ISU, Shannon taught English in the Laboratory Schools for eight years while coaching the high school speech and debate team.

Melinda Miethe is the Program Advisor for Area 4. She joined the IESE Network with experience as a building administrator and special education teacher and has also served in a variety of building capacities. Melinda has a passion for empowering the specialized population of students and parents.

Jason Nisavic is a 14-year high school social studies teacher who currently teaches Psychology and AP Psychology. He is a regional teachers union representative who sponsors his schools Gender and Sexuality Alliance and its Improv Comedy Club. He loves to make school fun both inside and outside of the classroom!

Amy Reiman is a National Board Certified Teacher who has been teaching high school for fourteen years. She has a Master's Degree in English Studies and is a recipient of the National Writing Project Fellowship.

Dr. Apryl Riley is the Program Manager at Chicago Teacher Education Pipeline, National Center for Urban Education, Illinois State University . Apryl is an alumna of Chicago Public Schools and taught high school English Language Arts for 11 years on the far south side of Chicago for Chicago Public Schools as well. Dr. Riley is dedicated to assisting educators in urban education through teacher mentoring of ISU graduates providing various culturally relevant professional development topics and mentor trainings.

Heather Sandy is a 27-year veteran Spanish teacher currently teaching at University High School. She graduated with a MA in ESL and a MA in TESOL from Concordia University – Chicago. She is currently a Doctoral student at Illinois State University in Teaching and Learning.

Patricia Valente is the Director of the Multilingual & Multicultural Program at Rantoul City Schools 137. Her interests focus on culturally relevant pedagogy while integrating student testimonials, multilingual learners and their families, developing multilingual continuum of services and providing instructional supports that allow students to maximize their opportunities.

Mandy White taught third and fourth grade for twenty years. During the last three years, she has focused on teaching future teachers at Illinois State University. All topics related to STEM and Special Education fuel her passion as she works with students in SED as well as Teaching and Learning. Helping future teachers to live full and happy lives has become a personal mission.



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