



Leadership Institute 2024

Spark Courageous Thinking



The Grand Challenge Of Literacy

September 30, 2024 (Morning)

Leading for Change: Literacy Initiatives that Stick

Assessing Your Assets and Setting Objectives

7:45-8:30 Check-in + Breakfast

8:30-9:00 Keynote: **Literacy, Economic Access, and Freedom** with Brian Hill, Founder and CEO of Edovo and Senior Fellow at MIT's The Education Justice Initiative

9:00-9:45 **Fireside Chat: The Global Literacy Opportunity** with Ashley Archie, US Department of State

10:00-10:45 **Setting Objectives and Key Results:** Setting ambitious objectives that make a positive and permanent change in your literacy outcomes. (Using the OKR framework and the 5 Assets you already have to optimize team collaboration.)

11:00-12:00 **Academic Discourse:** A schoolwide evidence-based framework for student engagement and reading, writing, and language skill acquisition.

Breakout Options:

- Secondary Foundational Reading and Linguistics
- Multilingual English Learners
- Clearing the Path for AP Success
- Reading and Writing Across Disciplines in the AI Revolution
- Understanding and Implementing New Standards

The Grand Challenge Of Literacy

September 30, 2024 (Afternoon)

Leading for Change: Literacy Initiatives that Stick

Creativity, Innovation, and Measuring What Matters Most

12:00-1:00 Lunch w/Keynote

Constructing Texts: The Role of Creativity in the New Economy with Dr. Joseph Barrow, Deputy Director of the Georgia School Superintendents Association and Christy Todd, Education Program Specialist, Georgia, Department of Education

1:00-1:45 **Implementation Science:** Aligning Your Literacy Plans to the Results You Want with Dr. Jenny French

2:00-4:00 **AI for Leaders + Audit and Align:** Prioritizing, aligning, and tracking toward key results every week.

Breakout Options:

- Secondary Foundational Reading and Linguistics
- Multilingual English Learners
- Clearing the Path for AP Success
- Reading Writing Across Disciplines and the AI Revolution
- Understanding and Implementing New Standards

4:00-5:00 **Innovation at the Instructional Core:** Systems level opportunities to accelerate literacy growth for all with AI-enabled tools with Dr. Christina Kishimoto, Carolyne Quintana, and Bryan Craig Sandala

5:00-7:30 Dinner and Trilith Exploration

Featured Speakers



Brian Hill

Brian is the Founder/CEO of Edovo Foundation and a Senior Fellow at MIT as part of The Education Justice Institute. Edovo was designed to improve outcomes for those who are incarcerated by enabling free daily access to tech-enabled education and rehabilitation. Over a decade later, Edovo has scaled nationally and reached over a million incarcerated students.



Ashley Archie

Partnership Officer at the US Department of State's Office of Global Partnerships. Ashley works to advance foreign policy priorities through private-sector engagement and strategic public-private partnerships. She has played a key role in bridging government initiatives with private sector capabilities to address global challenges.



Dr. Joseph Barrow

Deputy Director of the Georgia School Superintendents Association. Dr. Barrow is a lifelong educator and education leader who has been instrumental in driving innovation in the state of Georgia through innovative approaches to CTE that include the creative economy. As the Superintendent of of Fayette County Schools, he established a nationally recognized program.



Dr. Jenny French

Dr. Jenny French held roles including elementary and middle school language arts teacher, literacy coach, associate professor, curriculum director, and assistant superintendent. Her research background has produced notable publications, and the development of ThinkCERCA's Foundational Reading and Linguistics program. Her current work focuses on literacy development for adolescents.

Featured Speakers



Dr. Christina Kishimoto

Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto is the founder and CEO of Voice4Equity LLC, and a Clinical Professor of Education at the USC Rossier School of Education doctoral program. She served as State Superintendent of Education for Hawaii and on boards, including the Education Commission of the States, the Council of Chief State School Officers, ALAS, and the Nellie Mae Education Foundation.



Carolyne V. Quintana

Senior Advisory, Literacy and Language. Carolyne Quintana is the former Deputy Chancellor of Teaching and Learning in New York City Public Schools, the largest school system in the US, serving over 1.1 million students. She has worked across the nation in service of creating the ecosystems and expectations needed for high quality schools and educational experiences for all young people.



Bryan Craig Sandala

Director, Digital Writing Tools at The College Board. Bryan has worked as a teacher and instructional specialist in schools and districts across the East Coast, including the School District of Palm Beach County. He currently leads innovative partnerships with diverse edtech developers to support access to AP success for all students.



Christy Todd

Education Program Specialist, Georgia Department of Education and 2024 Georgia Teacher of the Year. Named a 2024 National Teacher of the Year Finalist, Christy Todd believes that every child has a creative superpower.

ONE GOAL = ONE LITERACY TEAM

ThinkCERCA Facilitators

Literacy Leadership Sessions



AI Automated Feedback

Dr. Emily LeBlanc is the AI Product Lead at ThinkCERCA, where she specializes in developing AI-based techniques to automate support for students and teachers. Emily holds a PhD in Computer Science, with a research background in developing theoretical frameworks for reasoning about causation.



Implementing New Standards

Franchesca Warren is a Senior District Success Manager for Georgia. She has spent 23 years working throughout the Southeast as a teacher, literacy coach, district content leader, and Literacy Coordinator before coming to ThinkCERCA.



Support for AP Courseware in partnership with the College Board (AP Courseware is free to all AP teachers)

Jennifer McDonell, Director of Success, Secondary Partnership will support schools in implementing AP courseware developed in collaboration with the College Board.



Newcomer and Multilingual English Learner Support

Sylvia Ibarra Delgado, School Success Manager and MLL Specialist, will support schools in implementing MLL/ELL supports across Tier 1, 2, and 3. Our resources come in 166 languages!



Writing Across Curriculum and Secondary Foundational Reading and Linguistics Support

Dr. Jenny French will support schools in implementing ThinkCERCA's Writing Across Curriculum and designing and implementing Foundational Reading and Linguistics programming for secondary schools.



Benchmark Evaluation Services

Leslie Hill Hirschfeld, Senior Operations Manager of Professional Services, will support your Benchmark implementation.

Rockdale County Public Schools

Dr. Sha'Ronda McRae

ELA Coordinator

Rockdale County Schools,
Georgia

"Not only does [ThinkCERCA] give it the platform to teach your teachers how to go through the writing process; it also speaks to your admin team and your instructional coaches, so there's something to gain out of them being a support."