

What's Next?



2024 Spring Conference

March 1-3, 2024 Chelan, WA

Schedule-at-a-Glance

Friday, March 1, 2024

Time	Room	Session
6:30 - 8:00 pm	Ballroom	Dinner & Opening Keynote - Dr. Larry Cebula - Professor in History at Eastern Washington University Keynote Address: "Righting a Historic Wrong: Racially Restrictive Property Covenants in Washington State"
8:30 - 10:00 pm	East/West	Team Trivia led by Dr. Andrew Miller of OSPI

Saturday, March 2, 2024

Time	Room	Session
8:00 - 8:30 am	Ballroom	Breakfast & Annoucements
8:30 - 9:00 am	Foyer	Transition Break - Visit our Exhibitors
9:00 am - 12:30 pm	2nd Floor	Workshops
12:30 - 1:40 pm	Ballroom	Lunch & Keynote - Sue Metzler - 2023 Gilder Lehrman Teacher of the Year Keynote Address: "My Hope For Your Future"
1:40 - 2:00 pm	Foyer	Transition Break - Visit our Exhibitors
2:00 - 4:15 pm	2nd Floor	Workshops
5:30 - 6:30 pm	Foyer	Happy Hour
6:30 - 8:00 pm	Ballroom	Dinner & Evening Keynote - Dr. Sarah B. Shear - Associate Professor of Social Studies & Multicultural Education at the University of Washington - Bothell Session Title: "Can social studies rise to meet the moment?: A call for bravery and solidarity to build new worlds and new futures"

Sunday, March 3, 2024

Time	Room	Session
8:00 - 9:00 am	Ballroom	Breakfast & Morning Keynote - Washington State Council for the Social Studies President Nancy Lenihan Keynote Address: The State of Social Studies in Washington State
9:00 - 10:15 am	Ballroom	Group Session - What's next in Social Studies?
10:15 - 11:00 am	Ballroom	Conference Closing - Clock Hours and Conference Evaluations
11:00 am		Conference Conclusion

Using Issues to Engage Students in Civics

Speaker: Corey Paulson, TVW

Room: Stehekin A (2nd Floor)

Fostering civic engagement must go beyond traditional methods of understanding how a bill becomes law. By strategically integrating pertinent issues into the curriculum, students actively participate in state government. This session introduces TVW and its free resources, fostering student engagement and empowering them to engage in nuanced discussions. Through Teach with TVW, classrooms collaborate with volunteer lobbyists, tracking and advocating for/against legislation. Participants will grasp how to implement this program, unlocking its benefits for students. Addressing potentially contentious topics, this educational strategy teaches important concepts while simultaneously cultivating empowered individuals adept at navigating Washington State's government's intricacies, thus, positively influencing the future of civic discourse.

China Matters: Getting to Know Xi Jinping

Speaker: Tese Wintz Neighbor, *University of Washington East Asia Resource Center*

Room: Stehekin B (2nd Floor)

China matters now more than ever! According to many scholars and diplomats the US and China are on a collision course. Today's session will focus on Xi Jinping. Called "the Chairman of Everything" and the "architect of China as a super-power" what do we know about China's "President for Life?" Come explore Xi's roots, thoughts, and actions in China and the world. WSCSS challenges us: How can social studies foster inclusivity and celebrate diverse perspectives in a globalized world? Join Tese, from UW's East Asia Resource Center as she helps you bring the world Xi Jinping's China into your classroom.

Picture Books for High School Students

Speaker: Jennifer Pontius, *Mukilteo School District*

Room: East Room (2nd Floor)

Picture books are an easy way to unlock students' minds to new concepts, but are rarely used in secondary classrooms. Find the key to help! Session attendees will be given a framework for helping students analyze picture books that includes understanding author motivations and background, learning new concepts, analyzing illustrations, and comparing the book to primary and secondary sources on the topic. There will be time to browse potential books and start creating lesson plans in the session.

Empowering Minds: Using Depth & Complexity and AI Tools with Social Studies

Speaker: Wendy Clark, *West Valley School District #208*

Room: West Room (2nd Floor)

Join us for a one-hour session where we'll delve into the art of infusing social studies into the elementary curriculum while elevating the level of thinking for highly capable students. Walk away from this session with practical strategies, actionable insights, and a renewed enthusiasm for transforming your social studies classroom. Elevate your teaching to new heights by embracing the synergy of Depth & Complexity icons and AI tools, ensuring that your gifted students not only master content but also become adept at navigating the complexities of our interconnected world.

U.S. History Reimagined: The Next Generation of Questions and Actions

Speaker: Amanda Christensen, *Federal Way Public Schools* & Naomi Tsai, *Educurious*

Room: Stehekin A (2nd Floor)

Explore how FWPS has co-designed 11th grade U.S. History with Educurious to amplify multiple perspectives, honor historical marginalized communities, center student voice. Engage in discussions about the shifts in practice to support inquiry-based instruction and critical thinking to center student learning. Participate in turn-key activities that can be used in the classroom. Attendees will leave the session with materials to use in their classrooms.

Why Teaching about Genocides in the Secondary History Classroom is Essential for Students

Speaker: Branda Anderson, *Holocaust Center for Humanity*

Room: Stehekin B (2nd Floor)

This session will examine the historical antecedents to modern genocides and make a case for why student engagement in critically analyzing these events is vital to their understanding of the modern world. When done thoroughly, it will encourage students to be more engaged civically. Using the Holocaust as a case study for what this would look like in a classroom, the session will also discuss the historical processes that underpinned the Nazi rise to power in pre-World War II Germany, including a focus on the role of individual and collective choices by Germans during this period. Participants will be introduced to and participate in several classroom-ready Holocaust and Genocide lesson plans to help their students critically analyze how and why genocide occurs in the modern world and consider how they can interrupt the systems and processes that give rise to genocide.

How do we Handle What's Next?: Resource & Community Building

Speakers: Callie Birkliid, *North Thurston Public Schools* & Leslie Heffernan, *Central Valley School District*

Room: West Room (2nd Floor)

In the fast-paced world of social studies teaching, where do you go to get resources? Do you ask your teacher bestie, Google it, use ChatGPT? In this session we will work collaboratively to develop a list of highly engaging resources that are ready for you to use in your classroom on Monday. In this session participants will have the space to share ideas for their classroom as well as learn where to access resources for Washington State History/ Civics classes. There will be a lot of built-in time for teachers to plan and share.

The goal for this session is not only for teachers to leave with ready-to-go lesson ideas but also a community to fall back on when big questions come up throughout the year.

Exploring Innovation: New Social Studies Resources on the Washington OER Hub

Speakers: Barbara Soots & Andrew Miller, *Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*

Room: East Room (2nd Floor)

Discover a wealth of resources on the Washington OER Hub! Whether a seasoned user or new to the platform, this is an opportunity to explore recent materials developed by OSPI contractors, grantees, and collaborators. See multimedia strategies supporting civic education and social-emotional learning; review innovative PBL lessons fostering inclusivity and supporting development of skills for civic life in today's world; find resources addressing climate science, media literacy, and artificial intelligence through a social science lens. We'll highlight resources appropriate for elementary, middle, and high school students, all aligned with Washington State Learning Standards, and all free to use, adapt, and share.

11:30 AM -12:30 PM

Workshop Session #3

Teachers, Students, and Critical Thinking

Speaker: Gabriella Bedoyan, *Global Online Academy*

Room: Stehekin A (2nd Floor)

600 college students from WSU, taking 100 level courses, were asked a series of questions. The purpose of these questions was to get a better understanding of the critical thinking comfort and ability of college students. In particular, topics and conversations about race, privilege, gender, cultural values, and ethics, were examined. In the session, I will review the results of this survey and shine some light on what areas the students seem to have the most anxiety. I will offer some guidance on where to start, and lead a discussion with the audience on what we can do as teachers in K-12 to better prepare students for critical thinking in higher education. If possible, I would like to split the audience according to student grade level.

Equity Focused Social Studies Assessment Practices

Speakers: Andrew Miller, *Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*

Room: Stehekin B (2nd Floor)

In this session, OSPI will share a draft of an assessment framework that will drive future revisions of the OSPI developed assessments. The framework will articulate what equitable access to high quality social studies learning assessments looks with clear criteria including civic engagement and taken action, content-based learning, evidence-based argument from primary sources and inquiry practices. Participants will be able to learn about high quality assessments practices and provide feedback on the draft framework.

My Impact Challenge: You Can Make A Difference!

Speaker: Rachel Davison Humphries, *Bill of Rights Institute*

Room: East Room (2nd Floor)

What civic virtues must Americans understand and practice, for our own individual flourishing, and for our democratic republic to thrive? What do citizens in a free society need to know and do? My Impact Challenge, a citizenship project, teaches middle and high school students that limited government is essential to human flourishing, and that it depends for its success on entrepreneurship, charity, and active citizenship. The curriculum invites students to exercise these civic virtues on behalf of contemporary local problems, in hands-on projects that students create. Participating students can enter their projects in a nationwide contest or use as a local school project. This unique structure makes My Impact Challenge the only civic education program in which students both learn and practice the foundations of American citizenship, while bypassing the polarizing national issues that preoccupy social justice programs.

Teaching a Long History of the American War in Vietnam: Bringing Women, Minority, and Refugee Voices into the Classroom

Speaker: Mimi Stephens, *Brown University's Choices Program*

Room: West Room (2nd Floor)

The primary purpose of the session is to introduce the student readings, lessons, and videos found in Choices newest unit on the Vietnam War, and to provide teachers with a complimentary license to try the unit in their classroom. Equally as important, the session will demonstrate an innovative "long history" framework to the study of war and will illuminate ways to bring multiple voices and perspectives into the study of war. Appropriate for U.S. History, World History, Ethnic Studies, and several AP courses, the session will include participating in an abbreviated lesson.

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Workshop Session #4

The Future of Elections: Democracy Starts in the Classroom

Speaker: Dietrich Romero, *Washington Secretary of State, Elections Division*

Room: Stehekin A (2nd Floor)

There's a lot more to elections than counting votes! Come gain the confidence to dive into even the most confusing and contentious aspects of election administration. We'll discuss the work and structure Washington State Elections—with a focus on the interests of K-12 students and how to partner with your local elections office; we'll go through our classroom resources and how to use them; and we'll gaze into the future of election administration in Washington and beyond. If you're a K-12 educator who wants to bring elections to your students, this session is for you. Democracy starts in the classroom!

The Future of... Democracy! It's in Your Classroom

Speakers: Alexander Baker & Sarah Beth Miller, *Northshore School District & The League of Women Voters*

Room: Stehekin B (2nd Floor)

The fate of democracy is not "out there." It's right inside your classroom! A quarter century past the dawn of the new millennium, democracies are being tested at home and across the globe. For more than a decade, Alexandra Baker has partnered with the League of Women Voters (est. 1920) to bring practical, meaningful, and powerful lessons to all students, and you can too!

Bridging the Gap of Sustainability Across Cultures

Speakers: Taso Lagos & Paulette Thompson, *University of Washington Jackson School of International Studies*

Room: East Room (2nd Floor)

Sustainable study abroad programming faces significant challenges: not only are they a contradiction in terms, but the definition of sustainability is not the same across the globe. Using Greece (our host country for 20 years) as a case study, this session has us compare the differences between the ways that sustainability is looked at here versus abroad. For example, we don't think about how study abroad programs, by flying to host destinations, are responsible for spewing tons of carbon into our atmosphere; here in the U.S. we see public transportation and recycling as important parts of our sustainable practices. In Greece, however, using public transportation is simply part of daily life, rather than good environmental stewardship. As for recycling in Greece, that practice is making only tiny, halting steps. This discussion will also focus on the work already being done at the University of Washington's Multi-Sustainable Academic Program and will share ways that study abroad can mitigate the impact of air travel on the planet while simultaneously serve as a "bridge of sustainability" across cultures and beliefs.

Not Too Hot To Handle - Hanford Nuclear Waste, Station Rotation Style Part I

Speakers: Thomas Baltzell, *Seattle Public Schools*

Room: West Room (2nd Floor)

Workshop participants will learn easy ways to bring Hanford's nuclear waste history and cleanup into your classroom through this engaging workshop. The complex issues presented by a multigenerational cleanup and radioactive waste that will require monitoring forever can be overwhelming. In Part One of this two-part workshop, we will review and discuss Hanford Nuclear Site history and introduce a station rotation model that uses oral histories, comics, photographs, design, and poetry to engage students with the Hanford Nuclear Site's impacts on Tribal Nations, worker health and safety, the environment, and future generations.

3:15 - 4:15 PM

Workshop Session #5

Relationship Matters: Implementation of Since Time Immemorial Curriculum

Speaker: Jerry Price, *Muckleshoot Tribal School*

Room: Stehekin A (2nd Floor)

Relationships matter when implementing the Since Time Immemorial curriculum. This session will cover the basics of STI, best practices when collaborating with your local tribe, along with lessons learned when starting to implement, and resources to get started.

Fostering Civic Engagement through a Project-Based Storypath on the Power of Music to Change Hearts and Minds

Speaker: Margit McGuire & Barbara Bromley, *Seattle University & Edmonds School District*

Room: Stehekin B (2nd Floor)

"Civic Engagement and the Power of Music," develops students' understanding of democratic principles and the importance of taking action on important issues of the day. This Storypath is designed for upper elementary/middle school students to engage in civic action through the examination of current events and music. The Storypath is framed around a music company committed to justice and civic action where students examine the music of the Civil Rights Movement as a backdrop for thinking about the impact they can have through music. Teachers with limited background in music can successfully implement the unit. Curriculum is provided to participants.

This all Began With a Spider: Ethics of Being Human

Speaker: Donnetta Elsasser, *Walla Walla Public Schools*

Room: East Room (2nd Floor)

This session will encourage participants to think about the rights and responsibilities of being human, historically and in the modern world. It's a deep, fundamental topic but will be delivered in a way appropriate to MS and HS grades in a classroom setting. It will help satisfy students' longing for "real" content that "is important" which social studies needs to embrace. Participants will engage in guided practices for paired discussion, reading, and a reflection protocol. Short articles and a reflection template will be provided. Strategies for differentiation and managing student discussions will be offered to participants.

Not Too Hot To Handle - Hanford Nuclear Waste, Station Rotation Style Part II

Speakers: Thomas Baltzell, *Seattle Public Schools*

Room: West Room (2nd Floor)

Workshop participants will learn easy ways to bring Hanford's nuclear waste history and cleanup into your classroom through this engaging workshop. In Part Two, workshop participants will have the opportunity to explore and test drive all of the stations. There are 8 stations total with fully developed materials for educators. The stations use oral histories, comics, photographs, design, and poetry to engage students with the Hanford Nuclear Site's impacts on Tribal Nations, worker health and safety, the environment, and future generations. We have directions, examples, and learning objectives for all of the stations.

4:30 - 5:30 PM

Workshop Session #6

Collaborating with Community Partners to Integrate Real-World Experiences and STEM into Building Future Cities

Speaker: Devina Khan, *West Valley School District #208*

Room: Stehekin A (2nd Floor) **STEM HOUR AVAILABLE FOR THIS SESSION**

In today's rapidly evolving world, preparing students for the future requires an educational approach that extends beyond the classroom walls. This abstract introduces a conference session focused on the collaborative integration of real-world experiences and STEM principles, specifically revolving around the exciting theme of building a Future City. The session aims to demonstrate the invaluable role of community partnerships in enriching educational experiences, fostering a passion for STEM fields, and encouraging creative problem-solving abilities among students.

This session will showcase successful collaborations with community partners that have significantly enhanced STEM education through real-world applications in building Future Cities. I will share inspiring success stories, innovative teaching methodologies, and proven strategies for infusing these experiences into the classroom. Additionally, the session will emphasize the vital role of community organizations in this process, presenting case studies illustrating effective partnerships and their impact on student engagement and understanding of STEM concepts. The conference attendees will also delve into the practicalities of integrating a Future City theme into the curriculum, exploring ways to elevate critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity among students.

Indigenous Sovereignties Within and Beyond North America: How Do We Think About Global Indigeneity? How Does That Impact Our Indigenous Students?

Speaker: Susan Hou, *University of Washington*

Room: Stehekin B (2nd Floor)

Indigenous sovereignties are not a monolith, instead, across the world there are diverse Indigenous foods, cultures, languages, spiritualities, and ways of self-governance that are situated in different colonial histories. In this session, we will learn more about Indigenous sovereignties within and beyond the North American context, specifically diving into the speaker's relations with an Indigenous community in Taiwan, known as the Paiwan Peoples. We will then touch upon how the U.S. defines American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) students, the ongoing issue of undercounting AI/AN and Indigenous students in K-12 systems, and how this impacts culturally sustaining education and funding for Indigenous students in WA State.

Black Washington: Stories, Landmarks, Icons

Speaker: Emily Gogerty-Northrip, *Washington State Historical Society*

Room: East Room (2nd Floor)

Black Washington is the Washington State Historical Society's ongoing initiative to commemorate the presence, contributions, and evolving impact of local Black communities. In this session, museum education staff will describe the collaborative process that created the Black Washington app, and the ongoing work that makes this a living resource. In particular, we will focus on ways to draw on Black Washington as an educational resource. Participants will leave with an understanding of what this resource is, how it was created, future plans regarding it, and how to use it in their classrooms.

Bring Inquiry into the Classroom: A Collaboration with Historylink.org on the history of the Seattle Waterfront

Speaker: Callie Birkliid, North Thurston Public Schools

Room: East Room (2nd Floor)

Historylink.org is celebrating the history of the Seattle Waterfront with the publication of a book, the launch of 20 new articles, and the development of k-12 lessons. These lessons are geared towards engaging students in inquiries about the rich history of Seattle's waterfront. In this session participants will be asked to engage in a lesson and provide feedback on how to make these lessons teacher and student friendly.

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Navigating What's Next in Social Studies: A Roadmap for Washington's Social Studies Standards

Speakers: Nancy Lenihan & The WSCSS Board

Room: Ballroom (1st Floor)

This session calls together educators from elementary, middle, and high schools to critically discuss and envision the future of social studies education. This timely gathering is set against the backdrop of the forthcoming standards revision process, offering a unique opportunity for teachers to voice their perspectives on how social studies can better serve our students in understanding their roles within a rapidly changing global society. Our focus will extend beyond traditional content to embrace critical issues such as financial literacy, civics, digital literacy, and global awareness. Participants will collaborate to identify key changes needed in the curriculum to cultivate informed, empathetic, and proactive citizens. Engage in this transformative dialogue to shape a social studies curriculum that reflects our diverse histories, addresses current challenges, and equips students with the knowledge and skills for the world that awaits them.