

Spring Conference 2019

APRIL 11th and 12th, 2019

Sheraton on the Falls Hotel

5875 Falls Ave
Niagara Falls, ON
L2G 3K7



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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WELCOME

The 2019 ASET Conference Committee welcomes you to our Spring Conference. This year we are pleased to be hosting at the Sheraton on the Falls Hotel in Niagara Falls. Our Keynote speaker, Rick Green, will provide attendees with a personal look at being “one of those kids”.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank Microsoft Canada Inc. for their continued generous support. Microsoft is empowering every student to achieve more. Learning is changing and students today need to be able to access, collaborate, communicate and demonstrate flexibility in how they solve problems in order to achieve their goals.

Additionally, we would like to express our gratitude to all new and returning vendors that continue to make our conference a success. All vendors are acknowledged on our conference app.

Our conference committee has endeavoured to offer the widest possible variety of sessions related to Assistive Technology. We hope you will experience opportunities relevant to your current needs and interests, while also exploring exciting new ideas. We thank our presenters for generously sharing their talents, materials and ideas with you; our professional learning network. We look forward to this valuable professional development experience, and hope that the conversations you begin today will extend far beyond this event.

The 2019 ASET Conference Committee:

Greg Boyko, Director
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB
Resource Teacher – AT

Anita Bator, Executive
Halton Catholic DSB
Special Education Consultant

Krystine Donato, Executive
Niagara College
Assistive Technologist

Stuart Garner, Executive
Toronto DSB
Principal

Frank Napoli, Executive
Niagara Catholic DSB
Special Needs Facilitator - AT Support

Jen Thompson, Executive
Halton Catholic DSB
Itinerant SERT/SEA Lead

Terry Leverton, Director
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB
Resource Teacher - AT

Kara Hiott-Bowles, Executive
District School Board of Niagara
IT4Learning

Deris Fabris, Executive
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB
Specialist Teacher of the Deaf

Jeffery Maxwell, Executive
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TELT Consultant

Jeryl Phillips, Executive
EQAO Production Coordinator for AT

Mary Jo Valerio, Executive
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Terry Poirier, Director
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Terri Corneil, Executive
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Dan Finn, Executive
Algonquin and Lakeshore DSB
Principal

Arlette McGrath, Executive
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB
Educational Assistant - AT

Judy Sackville, Executive
Halton DSB
Assistive Technology Lead

Rose Wong, Executive
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB
Technology Learning Centre

KEYNOTE: RICK GREEN



After graduating with a BSC. in Physics, Rick Green created public programs for the Ontario Science Centre. In 1979 he became a full-time comedian, writing and performing in seven hundred episodes of television and radio.

Rick is the founder of the groundbreaking website *TotallyADD.com*, as well as the producer of two outstanding documentaries on adult Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD/ADD): *ADD & Loving It?!and ADD & Mastering It!*

[ADD & Loving It?!](#) quickly earned critical acclaim, a New York Festivals award for Best Medical Documentary, and kudos from experts, doctors, and adults with ADHD. The Centre For Addiction & Mental Health Foundation gave Rick their Celebrity Transforming Lives Award, “In one hour this program will transform how we view this disorder.”

Since then, Rick has interviewed over 75 of the world’s leading ADHD experts, and produced videos on every aspect of ADHD.

With a gift for blending information and humor, Rick is also well known for his television series *History Bites*; the alternative fiction literacy series *Prisoners of Gravity*; the long-running comedy series *The Red Green Show*; and as part of *The Frantics* comedy troupe.

A frequent public speaker and advocate for adults with ADHD, Rick has been honored as one of The University of Waterloo’s Top 50 Science Graduates, has received the CAMH Foundation’s Celebrity Transforming Lives Award, and the prestigious Order of Ontario. Recently he was proud to be appointed to The Order of Canada.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTORS

SESSION A (10:35 – 11:45)

A1. 3...2...1...SPHERO

Victoria Hansford

This session is geared to beginners and moderate users. SpheroEdu provides students an opportunity to develop a greater sense of inquiry, innovation and curiosity. Learn and create various tasks and activities to support learners with varying physical, developmental and emotional needs. Emphasis on specific tools to enhance technological based learning. Educators will engage in hands-on learning that will spark student's interests and abilities to embrace an inclusive environment built on collaboration and creativity.

Self-contained life skills teacher (HDSB) committed to collaborative and inclusive learning environments that enhance innovative practices as well as student well-being. Passionate for technology and coding. Committed to sharing and learning together.

A2. DIFFERENTIATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT ALL MATH LEARNERS

Kathryn MacFarlane & Jane Brooks

Come explore how differentiation with technology empowers a variety of learners to access mathematics! Strategies range from Google apps & extensions, websites, and hands-on project-based learning help students gain independence in demonstrating their understanding in math.

Kate MacFarlane and Jane Brooks co-teach a double self-contained learning disability classroom at McKenzie-Smith Bennett in Acton, Ontario. Their students range from grades 5 to grade 8. Technology is a way for them and their students to access information, stay in touch with the world community, and express themselves.

A3. INCREASING STUDENT SOCIAL INTERACTIONS USING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Lisa Mast & Sarah Glyn-Williams

Discover how to use a variety of assistive technology to support student communication and provide opportunities for students to socialize with others (including peers, staff and community members).

This session will focus how using assistive technology can help classroom staff increase communication in social situations for students with diverse physical, cognitive and learning needs. Examples of communicating in variety of social situations and how to support single switch and AAC (augmentative and alternative communication) users will be shared.

Participants will leave with an overview of a variety of hardware (e.g., switches, voice output devices, Tobii eye gaze, touch screen communication devices) and software (e.g., Boardmaker

Studio, Boardmaker Online, Tobii Communicator 5, Proloquo2go). Come prepared to participate in fun social activities and leave with valuable resources to help you differentiate communication with your students.

Lisa Mast and Sarah Glyn-Williams both have experience working in a variety of different special education roles and supporting student learning needs and communication through the use of assistive technology. Lisa and Sarah both teach Developmental Disability Intensive Support Classes at Seneca School in the Toronto District School Board. Lisa and Sarah both teach junior intermediate classes, supporting students with developmental and physical disabilities. A large focus in their classrooms is using assistive technology to support student communication, provide access to literacy activities and demonstrate student learning.

A4. PICTURE THIS! DESIGNING DIGITAL, INTERACTIVE AND INTEGRATED LITERACY EXPLORATIONS

Kate Tuff & Debbie Sutherland

Discover how to bring picture books to life by using an Interactive Whiteboard to engage ALL students with special needs in literacy.

This session will focus on using picture books that allow for open-ended, scaffolded activities that enable students to manipulate and interact with a digital book format. Student voice and choice making is encouraged as students take ownership over their learning.

Integrated connections to the curriculum will be made, as well as resources that will be shared that will enable participants to implement this innovative literacy strategy into their own classrooms.

Come prepared to explore interactive reading lessons that inspire the imagination, creativity and fosters the love of reading!

As a Teacher Librarian at Bloorview School, Kate Tuff has been a literacy lead and teacher librarian with a focus on sharing the love of reading in a variety of accessible ways. Kate is committed to the Library Learning Commons and providing a multi-sensory experience for all learners.

As an Educational Assistant, Debbie Sutherland is committed to learning new technology in order to engage and empower students with disabilities. Debbie has worked at Bloorview School for 13 years and uses her artistic talents to bring literature to life!

A5. AERO – WE'RE HERE! WHERE ARE YOU?

Bob Minnery

Alternate technology support and advocacy is like building a plane while you're flying. It's impossible to know everything about everything and it's difficult to know a little about a lot of things. This session is designed to identify your priorities, main frustrations and hopes with the goal of creating a useful working template and resource tool that will support your short and longer term goals. If you know you have certain skill sets, but also know these skills sets won't be enough, then this session is for you. For beginner or advanced.

Bob has been the manager of AERO for 18 years. Bob has also been a board member of the CBA (Canadian Braille Authority) the Chair of CAER (Canadian Association of Educational Resource Centres for Alternate Format Materials) and is a testing member of the EPub Test Group. Bob is also a self professed expert on New Orleans-just ask him!

A6. RESEARCH-BASED WRITING MADE EASY IN THE GOOGLE SUITE

Dennis Tuohy and Julianna Ozorio

Research-based writing is a daunting task for any student. For special education students, it may seem like an insurmountable task, and many may give up before they have put a single word on paper. The Google Suite is a powerful set of tools that can help any student navigate the writing process and any teacher with supporting their students in creating research-based reports, essays, and assignments.

This session will follow the natural arc of the research and writing processes and offer easy to use, digitally based ways of streamlining those processes, all within the Google Suite. It is aimed at teachers who are at least moderately familiar with the apps and extensions within the Google Suite (Google Docs, Read & Write for Google Chrome, Easybib) and will cover:

Researching a topic

Prewriting

Creating a Draft

Revising the Draft

Final Editing

Citations and Referencing

Digital Submission of Work

Dennis Tuohy is an Assistive Technology Teacher K-12 with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. He has 17 years of secondary school teaching experience and has always been interested in how technology can enhance student learning in the classroom.

Julianna Ozorio is an Assistive Technology Teacher K-12 with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. She has been a secondary teacher for 10 years in Special Education, and how to best help students with whatever tools are available, has always been her passion.

A7. MICROSOFT TBD

SESSION B (12:45 – 1:55)

B1. ACCESSIBLE MATH & SCIENCE CONTENT? YES! AND EASY FOR STUDENTS TO CREATE TOO!

John McGowan

In this session I will model how teachers can save their time, increase student engagement, gain a deeper understanding of their student's understanding by adapting to a more digital workflow. I will show how teachers can employ Desmos, Google GSuite and Classroom, EquatIO, and other web tools to create a digital workflow that empowers students, deepens their understanding, and creates more engagement with accessibility and the UDL framework. I will also convey how important it is for students to be part of the creation process and not just passive consumers of information.

No prior knowledge of math or digital math is necessary, and there will NOT be a math quiz at the end!

John is a certified Google Education Trainer and the creator of g(Math), which had over 13 million worldwide users before it retired in January 2018. A math teacher of over 15 years, he loved to adapt the fail-forward mentality and push the bounds of technology integration in the math classroom. In 2016 he embarked on a new career to leave the classroom to join up with Texthelp to make a greater impact on teaching and learning by making digital math easy and accessible to all. EquatIO was released last year and is the first step in that journey!

B2. A PLACE FOR MAKERS

Todd Sniezek

Resource rooms have become synonymous for being quiet, safe spaces.

For many our special needs students, however, there needs to be an alternative that gives them an outlet for creative, kinesthetic learning options.

Bringing in a maker movement to the resource room creates a safe outlet for learning and broadening what learning products can look, sound, and feel like. Let's look at how you can introduce this environment into your resource room, yet still respect the traditional safe space moniker.

Todd Sniezek is a SERT at the District School Board of Niagara. His love of everything digital and fondness for embedding rich, technology-enabled learning in the classroom is infectious for everyone around him. Todd is known to champion technology for special education and his focus on utilizing low-cost solutions for classrooms ensures that students have more access to tools in and out of school. For Todd, effective technology integration is an essential need for all students to be successful in all areas of the curriculum from K-12. He constantly pushes the limits of what can be done with the tools available and he is more than willing to share his excitement with anybody who asks and often with those that don't.

B3. ENGAGING THE DISENGAGED THROUGH CODING IN SCRATCH.

Frank Hagar & Kelly Cooper

Teaching curriculum to a wide variety of students with academic needs, from gifted to LD. Through a discussion and hands on exploration we can share the way in which we engaged students to go deeper with various topics and how this might work for you. (Note: We encourage you if possible to bring your own tech to explore scratch for yourself**)**

Frank is a 14 year teacher in Halton that has taught a variety of programs from gr. 4-8 including self contained and transitions classes. He is currently teaching a self contained gifted class.

Kelly has been teaching in Halton for 20 years including self-contained LD, self-contained gifted, and life skills classes from K-8. He is now a full time SERT in a K-8 school in Halton.

B4. CREATING A DIGITAL CLASSROOM

Sara De Cloet

Looking for student engagement? This is the session for you! In this technology session, we will explore how to make your classroom digital through the use of Digital Notebooks with Google Slides and Google Docs. We will also explore the benefits of designing your projects and worksheets using HyperDocs with Google Docs. Digital classrooms not only keep your students engaged but keep everything all in one place for easy tracking, storage and marking. A great benefit of a digital classroom is being able to meet the needs of all learners through the use of Google Read and Write. This session is for all learners, whether you are a beginner, intermediate, or advanced technology user.

Sara De Cloet is a passionate teacher in the Halton District School Board teaching Grade 7 and 8 gifted students in a self-contained classroom. Over the past 6 years, she worked in the Special Education Resource teacher role working with students with disabilities through the use of Assistive Technology. Throughout her career she has been a lead technology teacher, assisting teachers in differentiating their programs to engage and meet the needs of all learners.

B5. Not Just for Books! Creating Differentiated Lessons with Book Creator App

Erin Ing

Take a new look at Book Creator for iPad and Chrome! Support early writers in their journaling, creative and procedural writing. Provide students in life skills program with video modelling within task charts or visual schedules. Facilitate non-writers in labeling diagrams and charts and so much more!

Come see how the simple but powerful tools in this application can add support and structure to a task with features like voice recordings, videos and drawing tools. Leave with lots of ideas for independent sharing of ideas and knowledge! Come with an iPad and free version of Book Creator, Google Chrome on laptop or Chromebook to try it out!

Erin Ing has spent the last 20 years coming up with creative uses for and pushing the limits of technology for people with special needs. Outside of the box is where she does her best thinking! Currently, she works for LEARNstyle's Low Incidence team, supporting students with complex learning needs.

B6. ATSELECT.ORG: THE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TOOL SELECTION PROTOCOL

Todd Cunningham and Bronwyn Lamond

Assistive Technology (AT) may improve the academic, social, and functional skills for individuals with a variety of disabilities. For students with learning difficulties, AT aids in circumventing specific areas of academic difficulties. Which of the nearly 400 products are the right tools for your students and how can they be implemented in the classroom? Teachers who attend this workshop will learn how to use ATSelect.org, which provides a procedure and an online tool to help in the implementation of AT and is the newest version of the AT selection protocol used by many. To demonstrate and reinforce the effectiveness of this free online protocol, case studies will be provided for participants to work through. The aim is for teachers who participate to walk away with new knowledge and a tool they can immediately use to refine their assistive technology implementation for their students.

Dr. Todd Cunningham is a Clinical Psychologist and a faculty member at OISE at the University of Toronto. He completed his Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children after earning a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Toronto. His research investigates the integration of assistive technology and learning strategies for children with learning difficulties. Bronwyn Lamond is an Ontario Certified Teacher with a MA in Child Study and Education. She is currently in the School and Clinical Child Psychology program at OISE. Her research investigates student and teacher perceptions of assistive technology.

B7. MICROSOFT TBD

SESSION C (2:05 – 3:15)

C1. DIGITAL TRACKING: MINIMIZE THE PAPERWORK, MAXIMIZE THE DATA USING GOOGLE FORMS AND GOOGLE SHEETS

Kim Maitland

We all know how much paperwork is required in special education. With IEPs often comes the dreaded "D" word: Data! Tracking student achievement and monitoring progress can be time consuming, difficult to organize and hard to manage when multiple staff members are required to contribute and collect the data required. This workshop will introduce you to the idea of using Google Forms and Google Sheets to collect data and effectively manage the data collected. Instead of passing paperwork between teachers, educational assistants, and specialists, share a link! Come and see how a digital tracking system works and walk away with the confidence to explore the use of digital tracking in your current role.

Kim is a Special Education teacher with the Halton District School Board. Currently a Self Contained Life Skills Teacher, Kim is dedicated to helping students with special education needs meet their programming goals and develop their individual skill sets. Previously an Educational Assistant and a Child and Youth Worker, Kim has extensive experience supporting children and youth with complex profiles and varied learning needs. Kim incorporates technology into all aspects of her daily programming, planning and assessment as well as to enhance skill acquisition for all students.

C2. TECH TOOLS FOR IEP STUDENTS

Stephanie Morris

I've taken all the best of my Spec Ed digital tool belt and put them into this one-stop, fast paced presentation! I'll demo all the most relevant tools, apps and sites to engage IEP'd or at risk learners. These tech tools will help you accommodate a variety of learning needs, keep students focused and help inspire and organize ideas. Whether you are teaching students who struggle daily with executive functioning or simply could use some digital tools to assist in their learning and time management, you will walk away with easy to use and accessible tools to start using in your classroom or program next week!

Stephanie has been a proud member of the WRDSB for the last fourteen years. She was a Secondary school English teacher for eleven and half years before becoming the Head of Special Education at Sir John A Macdonald Secondary School. She is currently in the role of Special Education Program Lead at the WRDSB Education Center where she supports the 16 Secondary Schools in the board. She is passionate about learning, leading, making and innovating. She has an amazing stay at home husband and three delightful daughters age 5, 7 and 9.

C3. VIDEO MODELLING FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Monica Rivera and Monica Carey

In this session, participants will learn about video modelling as a teaching and learning tool for both educators and students. The presentation will review examples of video modelling as well as the skills needed to successfully utilize this tool in various learning settings and for a variety of goals.

Monica Rivera is a Speech-Language Pathologist who has worked with the Toronto District School Board on the ASD Team for over 12 years and has over 20 years' experience in the field of ASD. Monica has worked as an ABA Therapist and as a Speech Language Pathologist with preschool, school-age and adult populations with ASD.

Monica Carey is a Consultant on the Autism Team at the Toronto District School Board. Her experiences include teaching students in special education programs in the primary, junior, and intermediate levels. She facilitates Special Education AQ courses at OISE.

C4. PUTTING THE 'EYE' IN iPad AND APPLE PRODUCTS FOR STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

Antonia Del Monaco and Sarah Colby

This presentation will review the steps to choose appropriate iOS apps and products for students with several vision conditions, including low vision and Cortical Vision Impairment. Discussion of how to implement Apple technology instruction in Direct Service hours and the Expanded Core Curriculum will be included.

Antonia Del Monaco and Sarah Colby are Central Resource Teachers at the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. Sarah Colby is a Specialist Teacher of the Blind/Low Vision and Deaf/Hard of Hearing. Antonia Del Monaco is a Specialist Teacher of the Blind/Low Vision. Both ladies are strong advocates of inclusion and technology use.

C5. #NEVERSTOPLEARNING WITH TVO!

Urs Bill

For more than four decades, TVO has built a reputation of trust and quality as the technological extension of Ontario's public education system. Today, TVO is a leader in creating digital resources to promote learning and citizen engagement, both inside and outside the classroom. In addition, TVO is deeply committed to supporting Ontario's public education agenda with its focus on high levels of student achievement and well-being, excellence and equity.

In this hands-on session, educators will be introduced to TVO's many free K-12 digital resources including mPower, TVO Mathify, TeachOntario, TVOkids & TVO.org. Following the introduction, participants will have!

Urs Bill is an Ontario educator who has been passionate about the use of technology to enhance learning and teaching since he started teaching in the early nineties.

Urs worked as a teacher in Toronto and Italy for 13 years, and as an Education Officer at the Ministry of Education for another 13 years. He is currently at TVO, where he supports the work to bring TVO Mathify, mPower and TeachOntario to students and educators across the province.

C6. EMPOWER STUDENTS AND MAKE LEARNING COME ALIVE!

Andrea Statton, Lorna Jones and Busi Tshuma

We will demonstrate how you can showcase what students are learning and offer students the opportunity to receive support and feedback that will further their learning and empower them by validating their voice using G Suite, podcasts and QR Codes. Applying the Universal Design for Learning philosophy, we created a fully accessible learning experience for our students, including those that are non-verbal.

This hands-on presentation encourages participants to use their phones or devices to scan QR codes that will allow them to experience what students, adults, and visitors see and experience when they interact with our bulletin boards.

As educators at Bloorview School, we provide innovative school programs that harness the use of technology to empower and engage students, with a focus on accessibility for all of our students.

As the TELT Contact, Andrea Statton transforms learning and teaching using technology to best support student needs.

As a Special Education Resource Teacher, Lorna Jones provides innovative and inclusive approaches to learning that excite, challenge, and meet the needs of all learners.

As an Educational Assistant, Busi Tshuma has extensive experience working with special needs students and is committed to helping them reach their full potential.

B7. MICROSOFT TBD

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday April 11th, 2019

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	Registration and Reception - Hot and cold selection of food will be provided
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	Vendor Showcase
8:00 am to 12:00 am	Entertainment - Magic Show and Live Band

Friday April 12th, 2019

7:30 am to 8:45 am	Registration and Breakfast
8:45 am to 9:05 am	Welcome and O'Canada Opening Remarks
9:05 am to 10:20 am	Keynote Speaker: Rick Green
10:20 am to 10:35 am	BREAK
10:35 am to 11:45 am	Session A Workshops
11:45 am to 12:45 pm	LUNCH
12:45 pm to 1:55 pm	Session B Workshops
2:05 pm to 3:15 pm	Session C Workshops
3:15 pm to 3:30 pm	Prize Draw

