



**New Mexico  
Christian  
Educator  
Conference  
October 22, 2021**



**Hope Christian School**

**8005 Louisiana Blvd NE  
Albuquerque, NM**

# Welcome!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2021-2022 New Mexico Christian Educator Conference. It is an honor and a privilege to have you with us today. We are really excited about the conference line-up this year. We have some exceptional speakers in both our general and break-out sessions.

The purpose of this conference is to provide an opportunity for leaders, teachers, and staff to receive professional development that is relevant and of high quality. It is also a place for networking with individuals in the same profession who have similar beliefs and values.

Our goal is to strengthen Christian schools while enjoying the friendly exchange of dialogue among Christian School leaders, teachers, and staff.

We pray this conference would be one where you receive encouragement and motivation as a Christian leader and take home new ideas to put into practice in your field of education.

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## Schedule

7:40 – 8:15 am	Registration
8:15 – 8:30 am	Worship/Announcements
8:30 – 9:30 am	Keynote 1
9:30 – 9:40 am	Break
9:40 – 10:40 am	Breakout Session 1
10:40 – 10:50 am	Break
10:50 – 11:50 am	Breakout Session 2
11:50 am – 12:50 pm	Lunch (Provided)
12:55 – 1:55 pm	Breakout Session 3
1:55 – 2:05 pm	Break
2:05 – 3:05 pm	Breakout Session 4
3:05 – 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 – 4:15 pm	Keynote 2

## Keynote Speaker

**Kim E. Boyd, Ed.D.**

**Dean, College of Education**

**Assistant to the Provost for Exceptional Teaching and Innovation**

**Oral Roberts University**

Dr. Kim Boyd serves as the Dean for the College of Education at Oral Roberts University. Previous to her current position, she served as the Associate Dean and an instructor of elementary and professional education. Dr. Boyd is a Commissioner for the Council of Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP), the national accrediting body for education preparation programs. She previously served as the vice-chair for the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation, now the Oklahoma Council for Educational Quality and Accountability, which is the state accrediting body for education preparation programs. Dr. Boyd sits on numerous education boards both national and international, including ORUEF and ICAA, and has conducted numerous workshops at local, state, national, and international levels that focus on performance-based assessment.



# Workshop Session 1

## **What is Your Probortunity?**

Terry Heisey, Hope Christian School-Albuquerque, NM (Head of School), Room #209, Secondary audience

In this session we will explore the collaborative process of solving problems and creating opportunities. We will learn how to use a three-stage creative strategy for solving “probortunities” and using this process in the classroom or at the administrative level. We need to learn to think not just outside the box but think in a new box.

## **Helicopters and Snowflakes-Dealing with Today’s Parents**

Pam Litzenberger, BJU Press, Room #210, General audience

Parents and students are very different from those we dealt with 20 and even 10 years ago. In this workshop we will discuss several types of parental involvement, explore how and why parents are different than they were in the past, and talk about practical methods for handling difficult parental situations in your classroom-without losing your sanity!

## **Math Motivators**

Cindy Dickinson, BJU Press, Room #211, Elementary audience

Do you have questions about using manipulatives in your math classroom? Perhaps you feel like manipulatives are a burden, a bother, or a waste of classroom time. Research shows that using manipulatives in your math classroom can positively affect student understanding. Learn creative ways to use your math manipulatives leading your students to a deeper understanding of math. Learn creative ways to organize your math manipulatives making the most of your classroom time.

## **Watch Me Grow! Understanding and Cultivating Preschoolers’ Developmental Skills**

Becky Custer, BJU Press, Room #212, Early Childhood audience

Learn practical ways to instruct and inspire early learners to grow academically, socially and spiritually. Explore the most productive methods for Circle time and Learning Centers so the preschooler can thrive in their classroom environment.

## **Fun Learning Activities for the Classroom**

Jessica Donaldson, Autism Specialists (Clinical Director), Music Room, Early Childhood audience

We will discuss fun learning activities for the classroom and how to engage your students in learning through play, sensory exploration, and movement. Learn hands on, interactive activities that are fun and will keep your students engaged. Specific activities for early learning will be discussed and demonstrated.

# Workshop Session 2

## **#AssignmentsMatter-Part 1**

Steve Lindquist, ACTS, Room #203, General audience

Day in and day out, teachers give “assignments” to students for a variety of reason: assessment, skill-building, “busy work”, etc. But are we being effective in the assignments we teach and assessments we give? This session will explore the concepts of assignment construction, rubrics, assessments, and teaching style. (Adapted from *Assignments Matter* by Elanor Dougherty).

## **Managing the Middles**

Pam Litzenberger, BJU Press, Room #210, Middle school audience

Wondering how to keep your 30 sixth graders engaged? Or those 25 eighth graders actually paying attention in class? In this workshop I will present practical ways to keep your class moving and engaged in what you are teaching! We will discuss how to take attendance painlessly, make transitions, grade homework easily without having to repeat answers numerous times, grade that endless pile of tests more quickly, and record those grades. Come loaded with your questions and tips to share with the group!

## **Math Motivators**

Cindy Dickinson, BJU Press, Room #211, Elementary audience

Have you ever wondered how to keep students motivated while reinforcing math concepts and skills? Join me in this hands-on session to discover ways you can use common items like Lego building bricks, pool noodles, paint stirrer, and more to engage students! Take away ideas you can use in your classroom right away.

## **Music and Puppets-Supplemental Teaching Tools to Enhance and Stimulate Learning**

Becky Custer, BJU Press, Room #212, Early Childhood audience

Music, a powerful motivator, can also be one of the joys of learning as well. Introducing puppets to the early learner allows his or her mind to create, explore, and flourish. There is no better way to create fun, memorable learning experiences, than by incorporating appropriate melodies and exciting puppet friends into the classroom!

## **Movement Strategies for the Classroom**

Jessica Donaldson, Autism Specialists (Clinical Director), Music Room, Early Childhood audience

We will discuss how to calm the students in your classroom and increase their attention span. All students will benefit from the strategies discussed, but it can be especially helpful for students with anxiety, ADD/ADHD, sensory processing disorders, and other developmental delays or disabilities.

# Workshop Session 3

## **#AssignmentsMatter-Part 2**

Steve Lindquist, ACTS, Room #203, General audience

Day in and day out, teachers give “assignments” to students for a variety of reasons: assessment, skill-building, “busy work”, etc. But are we being effective in the assignments we teach and assessments we give? This session will explore the concepts of assignment construction, rubrics, assessments, and teaching style. (Adapted from *Assignments Matter* by Elanor Dougherty).

## **Ideas Have Consequences**

Dr. Gwetheldene Holzmann, Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship, Associate Professor, Room # 204, General, Middle/Jr. High School, Elementary, High School audience

There is a battle for the hearts and minds of our students. Help them be victorious by arming them with a Biblical worldview and an understanding of philosophies currently operating in the culture. This can be accomplished throughout the curriculum so they will be able to give an answer for the hope within them (1 Peter 3:15).

## **Strategies for Teaching and Learning in the Virtual Environment**

Dr. Mary Lou Miller, Oral Roberts University, Room #209, General audience

How does a teacher engage his/her students in a virtual environment? What are some ways teachers can ensure students are learning?

## **Survival Tips for New or Not-So-New Teachers**

Pam Litzenberger, BJU Press, Room #210, General audience

So, you’re a new teacher or in a new school or you’re teaching new subjects. How will you ever get through this first year or two? This workshop will give you pointers and tips for making it through those tough first few months. Come learn about lesson planning, classroom management, dealing with coworkers, finding a mentor, and where to go for help when you need it.

## **How to Win Friends and Influence Parents**

Cindy Dickinson, BJU Press, Room #211, General audience

Developing relationships with your students’ parents is so important. Join me to learn ways you can work together with parents for the benefit of your students. Discover strategies for successful parent-teacher conferences and communications throughout the year.

## **Highly Explosive! Handle with Care: How the Bible Can Impact the Classroom!**

Becky Custer, BJU Press, Room #212, Early Childhood-2<sup>nd</sup> grade audience

God’s Word contains light to direct, food to support, and comfort to cheer. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. We will discover multiple ways to incorporate the principles of God’s Word into the classroom.



# Workshop Session 4

## **Classroom Management-Proactive v. Reactive:**

Steve Lindquist, ACTS, Room #203, General audience

Teachers begin each year with anticipation of the possibilities of a new year. With the proper investment of time and energy into small details of your classroom program, classroom management will not become the “800 lb. Gorilla in the room” that derails your expectation. This session will challenge us to think of management in a proactive approach rather than a reactive approach through 3 simple yet powerful dynamics already in play in your classroom.

## **God’s One Another Plan**

Dr. Gwetheldene Holzmann, Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship, Associate Professor, Room # 204, General, Early Childhood, Middle/Jr. High School, Elementary, High School audience

In this digital age, students are losing the ability to interact with others appropriately. However, God’s Word has the answer and will guide us as Christian educators in developing social skills in our students that honor Him through God’s One Another Plan.

## **Growth Mindset and Grit**

Dr. Mary Lou Miller, Oral Roberts University, Room #209, General audience

We will discuss both Growth Mindset and Grit; we will then discuss how these constructs can be assessed and developed in the classroom.

## **Incorporate Learning Centers into the Classroom**

Tonya Johnson, Hope Christian School-Albuquerque, NM, Room #212, Preschool audience

Incorporating centers can be a fun way for children to learn new concepts in an early childhood classroom.

# Campus Map

