ONLINE EDUCATION: TEACHING IN A TIME OF CHANGE

• Proposal Title:
Embracing Technology in Literacy and Math with Pre-Service Teachers in Higher Education

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• University or Company Affiliation:
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• Abstract (300 words):
This presentation will focus on utilizing technology, both for delivery and engagement, for course instruction in higher education classrooms. Student engagement is a high area of importance and focus while delivering content in a virtual and face-to-face classroom. Developing high-quality courses and creating positive and engaging learning environments can be challenging with no or limited experience and resources.

The presenters work for a small liberal arts university in Iowa. However, in addition to the main campus, there are multiple remote sites located around the state. Both presenters were delivering instruction remotely prior to the shift due to COVID19 so their experience connecting virtual teaching and learning is based on many years of experience. Presenters will share how instruction can be delivered via Zoom to students in literacy and math courses. Additional information will be shared about specific technology apps and tools that are used during instruction by instructors and students. Both presenters will share how the use of videotaping lessons and activities can allow instructors to “observe” students teaching or completing hands-on activities remotely. Since the instructors are
employed by the School of Education at the University, it is key that their students are still interacting with school-age children to teach lessons and administer learning activities. The use of videotaping remote lessons also provides the pre-service educators with opportunities to practice teaching in a remote format.

University leaders and professors can learn steps on how to increase active engagement, reflective practices, motivation, and skill development in an online environment. Information will be shared about the benefits and challenges of the current practices in their virtual literacy and math courses. Attendees will hear examples of practices to incorporate into their own virtual classes as well as receive additional resources in the area of literacy and math.

- Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

**Dr. Jill Tussey**

Dr. Jill Tussey's career in literacy education has provided a variety of experiences in curriculum and instruction across K-12, undergraduate, and graduate courses. While the majority of the courses that she teaches are literacy based, she has also taught foundation courses. As an instructor, she feels that it is highly important for students to gain a strong foundation over educational practices and strategies to help ensure future success.

Service leadership is important to Dr. Tussey and can be clearly seen in her current work as the Division Chair for Literacy, TESL, and Early Childhood as Buena Vista University. Dr. Tussey has presented at local, state, national, and international settings in a variety of literacy and higher education related topics. Additionally, she has authored and edited books, chapters, and journal articles with the focus on literacy and practices in higher education. Her area of interest includes student engagement and motivation with a targeted focus on digital literacy, poverty impacts, and social-emotional learning. Dr. Tussey earned her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education Degree, her master's degree in Effective Teaching and Instructional Leadership, and Specialist in Administration. Her Doctorate Degree is in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus on literacy.

**Dr. Michelle Metzger**

Dr. Michelle Metzger’s experiences include working as a classroom teacher, professor, professional development facilitator, research coordinator, and department chair. Her research interests include spatial thinking, problem solving, critical thinking, and STEM learning. These areas have led to presenting over varies topics at state and national conferences as well as leading specialized work in classrooms. Dr. Metzger earned her Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education and her Master’s Degree in Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education with an emphasis in Mathematics and Statistics. Her Doctorate Degree is in Mathematics Education with a focus on Instructional Technology.
and Curriculum and Instruction. Her current work involves a variety of instructional opportunities in mathematic content courses and pedagogical courses.

As a National Ongoing Assessment Project Facilitator, Dr. Metzger believes in teaching math for understanding through modeling, which takes her to places across the United States within a professional development setting. She believes that students must hold the math in their hands before they can hold it in their heads. Dr. Metzger has authored journal articles in mathematics education. She also looks for collaboration opportunities with colleagues as well as developing partnerships at the local, state, and regional levels.