



**MT AGATE Conference Schedule - April 19-20, 2024**

FRIDAY - Hyalite	
5:00 PM	<b>Registration Open - Dinner Available After Registering</b>
6:00 PM	<p align="center"><b>Welcome &amp; Keynote: "What Matters in Curriculum Design and Instruction for Academically Advanced Learners" - Tamra Stambaugh (Whitworth University):</b></p> <p align="center"><i>How can you differentiate for gifted learners by incorporating depth, complexity, and abstractness to your lessons? What approaches, frameworks, and key ideas are important to know about when differentiating instruction and developing talent? We will examine definitions, models, and implementation strategies that have been found effective in promoting learning with academically advanced students based on lesson learned and current research.</i></p>
7:30 PM	<b>Networking</b>
SATURDAY - Hyalite/Clark	
8:30 AM	<b>MT AGATE General Membership Meeting - Breakfast Included</b>
Strand 1 - Hyalite/Clark	
9:30 AM	<p align="center"><b>Simple Ways to Add Complex Thinking - Tamra Stambaugh (Whitworth University):</b></p> <p><i>How do you differentiate instruction and develop complex thinking? Models can help you with design tasks! Learn field-tested and evidence-supported models you can use to add complexity to science, social studies, and/or ELA lessons. Analyze and practice applying models to your upcoming lessons and view examples of questions, activities, and projects that incorporate varying levels of complexity.</i></p>
Strand 2 - Lewis/Madison	
9:30 AM	<p align="center"><b>Six Approaches to Dynamic Media Integration in the Elementary Classroom - Nikki Vradenburg (Montana PBS):</b></p> <p><i>Montana PBS is committed to supporting the meaningful use of media at home and at school. K-3 teachers in Montana are invited to join us for an inspiring exploration of the PBS Media Literacy framework, encompassing six dynamic approaches: Spark, Model, Explore, Create, Document, and Share. Discover how to seamlessly integrate media into your teaching to spark curiosity, model effective strategies, encourage exploration, foster creativity, document progress, and facilitate meaningful sharing. Please bring a laptop or tablet to get the most out of this session.</i></p>
10:30 AM	<b>Break</b>
10:45 AM	<p><b>Creative Classrooms - Syndey Pasternak (MCPS) , Angie Nelson (Savage PS):</b> <i>Let's talk about what creativity means and doesn't mean and how that plays out in your classroom. WE will also tackle how we can deal with potential barriers that creatively gifted students face.</i></p>
10:45 AM	<p><b>Using AI to Supercharge Developing Reader Engagement/Motivation - Andrew Rowse (Word Wise Learning):</b> <i>Emerging work in leveraging cutting edge generative AI technologies to deliver student-driven reading content to developing readers. How does enabling students to create their own illustrated stories impact reading engagement and motivation? What is the right balance between structured choice vs absolute choice?</i></p>
10:45 AM	<p><b>Profiles in Giftedness: House, Sherlock, &amp; Rory - Angie Nelson (Savage PS), Syndey Pasternak (MCPS) , Tabitha Ringler (Fort Benton PS):</b> <i>How are gifted individuals portrayed in media? Using examples you're likely to know, we examine what can we learn about the nature and needs of gifted students by examining what TV and movies get right (and wrong).</i></p>
10:45 AM	<p><b>AI-mazing Modern Assessments: Assessing Learning in the Age of AI - Lindy Hockenbary (InTECHgrated PD):</b> <i>Yes, generative AI can complete traditional assessments. So what do you do? Modern assessments! These integrate students' interests and emphasize creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving. They're AI copy-and-paste-proof by design and perfect for gifted learners. Get ideas, templates, an analogy, and inspiration!</i></p>
11:45 PM	<b>Lunch</b>
12:30 PM	<p><b>Redirecting for a Cooperative Classroom - Jennifer Wagner (Blue Creek School):</b> <i>Examine negative ideas that we bring to our classrooms and with our students regarding their behaviors and our conception S.</i></p>
12:30 PM	<p><b>Get Certified! PBS Media Literacy Certification for Educators - Nikki Vradenburg (Montana PBS):</b> <i>Are you a media savvy educator looking to develop your expertise in Media Literacy? Are you passionate about teaching kids how to think critically about their roles as media consumers and creators? Consider learning more about PBS Media Literacy Certification. Teachers can earn certification by completing 8 micro-credentials that help you demonstrate your expertise in teaching K-12 students (or fellow educators) to think critically about their roles as media consumers and creators. Bring your favorite device and get ready to jump into PBS Media Literacy Certification!</i></p>
1:30 PM	<b>Break</b>
1:45 PM	<p><b>Who's Missing on Your List? How to Spot Talent in Your Classroom - Holly Kincaid (SRV Schools):</b> <i>How might educators begin to create an equitable impact for all gifted learners, including neurodivergent learners in their classrooms? Meeting the diverse learning needs of all students is a daunting task. Educators often struggle to connect with the challenging personalities presented to them daily, and they lack specific tools to do so. Session takeaways will include research-based activities and tools applicable to K-12 educators who serve diverse groups of gifted learners.</i></p>
1:45 PM	<p><b>Incorporating Robots into Your Classroom and School - Jordan Capp (Hellgate ES):</b> <i>Unlock the potential of robotics in education! Learn innovative methods to engage students and foster STEM proficiency in your classroom and school. Join us for practical strategies and hands-on demonstrations that inspire learning and creativity.</i></p>
2:45 PM	<b>Snack Break--grab a cookie and beverage!</b>
3:00 PM	<p><b>Life at Both Ends of the Bell Curve - Cara Dunn (Blossoming Minds LLC):</b> <i>Twice-exceptional learners (individuals who are both gifted and have learning disabilities) are constantly trying to balance their abilities and their struggles. Their unique cognitive profiles can result in their strengths and/or challenges being masked and going unidentified. This can lead to a variety of challenges in school. By providing background information and real-life student learning profiles, this session will provide participants with strategies to help them embrace these students' strengths and support them with their challenges.</i></p>
3:00 PM	<p><b>Promoting Intelligent Thinking and Life Skills through Strategy Games - Joe Helbling (Carroll College):</b> <i>Plato said, You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation. These words of wisdom are applied as we explore the unique qualities of turn-based abstract strategy games. You will be introduced to a wide variety of strategy games, learn lessons in thinking and living, and have ample time to play!</i></p>
4:00 PM	<b>Thank you for coming! We hope to see you in Billings in the spring of 2025!</b>