

TACTE Spring 2024
Reaching New Heights: Advancing the Profession
Virtual Conference February 12-13, 2024

Monday ♦ February 12, 2024

All Times are CST

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS	LOCATION
9:00-9:15	Opening Session	TACTE Welcome ! David Cihak, President Sharen Cypress, President-Elect	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8674398961?omn=81219935631
9:15-9:25	Sponsor talk	The Learning Liaisons, Premier Sponsor	
9:25 – 10:00	BREAK		
Sponsor Breakout 10:00 – 10:45	240Tutoring: Introducing Praxis Preparation: Redefined	Nacole Whittington - Director of EPP Advancement and Customer Care	https://meet.google.com/ejv-fgzf-qat
	The Learning Liaisons: Strategies to Boost Teacher Candidate Success on Certification Exams and Transform Program Retention	Dr. Jason Ampel, Founder of Test Preparation, The Learning Liaisons	TEAMS Link
	Pearson National Evaluation Series Updates and Support	Kellie Crawford, Associate Vice President State Partnerships & Dr. Tracie Vegh, Senior Educational Consultant, Evaluation Systems of Pearson	TEAMS Link
	Professional Educators of Tennessee: Driving Positive Change	J.C. Bowman, Executive Director, Professional Educators of Tennessee	https://meet.goto.com/755327357
10:45 – 11:00	BREAK		
	Job-Alike: Literacy	Dr. Annie Insana, Belmont University	https://belmontu.zoom.us/j/8077313866

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS	LOCATION
Breakout 1 11:00 – 11:45	Job-Alike: Job Embedded	Drs. Shane Brown, Lee University & Ronda Blevins, Carson-Newman University	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82852218583?pwd=d3JlV1diTjB3N0gveTkzNW1DZGdYUT09 Meeting ID: 828 5221 8583 Passcode: JEP
	Retaining Pre- and In-service Teachers (JEP) through Praxis Support	Drs. Karen Sewell, Aundrea McFall & Alesha Northcutt, Freed-Hardeman University	https://fhu-edu.zoom.us/j/87671924210?pwd=yzUn9mfnamDOHPU4XLGox30b9guT7W.1
	Seven Strategies for Success	Drs. Erin Crisp, Executive Director & Kate Hall, Associate Director, Tennessee Grow Your Own Center	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/82342228353
Breakout 1 11:00 – 11:45	TN Teacher Workforce	Ashley Ellison, Ph.D. candidate & Dr. Thomas Smith, Professor, Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations at Vanderbilt University	https://vanderbilt.zoom.us/j/2834282316
	TNCompass Feedback with TDOE	Taylor Reid, Senior Director of Licensure, & Jessie Gold, Director of Licensure, TDOE	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/81167284323
	Practical Implications for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education	Dr. Jeremy Wendt, Tennessee Tech University	https://tntech.zoom.us/j/89718381935?pwd=aXVxMWptWEpJM3VoOUV2ZDJOUUcydz09
	Fostering Inclusion through Resource Efforts: A Rural Institution's Response to Access Deficits	Dr. Claire Paul, University of Tennessee Southern	https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88150335705?pwd=b5dTeN6zmPLR8ZSvab2m7VLbhfQxwS.1 Meeting ID: 881 5033 5705 Passcode: ONhBAd
	Training Administrators and School Counselors with Special Education Expertise: A Program Redesign	Drs. Ginger Christian & Christine Lewis, East Tennessee State University	https://etsu.zoom.us/j/89676257073?pwd=WXRxQStnVXhYb1E1MlVkdTI3OThQdz09
11:45-1:00	LUNCH		

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS	LOCATION
1:00 – 2:00 DOE Update	TN Department of Education: Updates	TDOE Educator Preparation and Licensure Teams	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8674398961?omn=81219935631
2:00-2:15	BREAK		
2:15 – 3:00 SBE Update	TN State Board of Education: Priorities & Vision of the Education Licensure Review Committee	Michael Deurlein, Deputy Executive Director of Policy, and Research	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8674398961?omn=81219935631
3:00 – 3:15	BREAK		
Breakout 2 3:15-4:00	TACTE Advocacy Conveying	Drs. James McIntrye & Sharen Cypress	https://belmontu.zoom.us/j/87689387536
	Job-Alike: Clinical Experience Coordinators	Dr. Jalea Adams, UT-Knoxville	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/87522805813
	Unpacking TNCR: From SSR to SBE	Drs. Jennifer Nelson, Senior Director of Educator Preparation, & Alisha Hill, Manager of EPP Engagement and Partnerships, TN Department of Education	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/88917036313
	Seven Strategies for Success	Dr. Erin Crisp, Executive Director & Dr. Kate Hall, Associate Director, Tennessee Grow Your Own Center	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/82342228353
	TN Teacher Workforce	Ashley Ellison, Ph.D. candidate & Dr. Thomas Smith, Vanderbilt University	https://vanderbilt.zoom.us/j/2834282316
	Empowering Educational Leaders: The Transformative Impact of Job-Embedded Practices in Principal Preparation Programs	Drs. Laura Barnett & Christi Maldonado, Austin Peay State University	https://apsu.zoom.us/j/6577532334?omn=95690445641

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS	LOCATION
Breakout 2 3:15-4:00	Supporting Teacher Candidates in Balancing Theory and Practice with Scripted Curricula	Drs. L. Kathryn Sharp & Angela Shelton, East Tennessee State University	https://etsu.zoom.us/j/83820684996?pwd=UCtIS2prRWlvSktHWGh5UVBVMWJpQT09 Meeting ID: 838 2068 4996 Passcode: 438606
	CodeCollab: Empowering Educators through Fun, Immersive Computer Science PD	Drs. Ayanna Perkins, CodeCrew, Eric Harris, Jessran Foundation, Jean Francois Mahoro, Danielle Jones, Jean Francois Mahoro, Pamela Egwuekwe, CodeCrew	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89098789724?pwd=cXdCbVNSUDF3eDkrVDJWeUEzVktUT09 Passcode: 180432
	Believe it or Not Collaboration in Education is Key in 2024	Dr. LaToshia S. Chism, Lane College	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84227025310?pwd=QTRnNDhgaytuKzhla0lVkJVRlIBQT09 Meeting ID: 842 2702 5310 Passcode: 197372

Tuesday ♦ February 13, 2024

All Times are CST

TIME	SESSION	LEADERS	LOCATION
9:00-9:30	TACTE Survey Conveying	Drs. Cindy Lang, David Cihak, & Kaitlin Binsted, Tennessee Education Research Alliance (TERA)	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8674398961?omn=81864531423
9:00-9:30	TACTE 101: New Members Information	Dr. Kim Hawkins	https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84521585251
9:30-9:45	BREAK		
9:45-10:45	Regional Sessions	East TN: Drs. Cindy Lang & Miriam Stroder	https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87821674444
		Middle TN: Megan Parker Peters	https://lipscomb.zoom.us/j/89080364924
		West TN: Julie Alexander	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74796968834?pwd=4CWzpzWeyDIBLNf58y1gjbRPKoP9by.1 Meeting ID: 747 9696 8834; Passcode: u2L9zf
		Affiliate: Stacie Bradshaw	https://roanestate.zoom.us/j/89595656939
10:45-11:00	Break		
11:00-12:00	Business Meeting	David Cihak, President	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8674398961?omn=81864531423
12:00-1:00	LUNCH & NETWORK https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/8674398961?omn=81864531423		
TIME	SESSION	LEADERS	LOCATION
Job-Alike 1:00-1:45	Accreditation/Assessment/CAEP & TNCR Coordinators	Drs. Amelia Brown, UTK, & Malina Monaco, Senior Vice President for Accreditation, CAEP	https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/2420457918
	Certification Officers	Mr. Kevin Fee, Austin Peay State University	https://apsu.zoom.us/j/2631106626

TIME	SESSION	LEADERS	LOCATION
Job-Alike 1:00-1:45	Deans/Directors/Chairs	Drs. Sharen Cypress, Freed-Hardeman University & Robyn Ridgley, MTSU	https://fhu-edu.zoom.us/j/88293051286?pwd=rXPNkaSIJE8qz3TvnzgfjUbhciOdqn.1
	edTPA Coordinators	Drs. Karen Foster, Lincoln Memorial University & Beth Sisson, Bethel	https://lmu.zoom.us/j/2856657230?omn=89651034247
	Instructional Leadership (Ed Administration)	Dr. Rodney Russell, Carson-Newman University	https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89478704288 Meeting ID: 894 7870 4288

ABSTRACTS

Sponsor BreakOut: 10:00 – 10:45 AM

240Tutoring: Introducing Praxis Preparation: Redefined. At 240 Tutoring, we understand the critical role of educator preparation programs in helping candidates pass their Praxis® certification exams. With a commitment to delivering top-tier, exam-aligned preparation resources and strategies, we're thrilled to unveil our newly redesigned platform. This transformation has been shaped by invaluable feedback from our partners, aimed at helping your students by providing a more personalized experience, allowing them to target their specific deficiencies and get the practice tests sooner. Join us on this exciting journey as we discuss our latest enhancements, helping your students overcome testing anxiety, master the content, and achieve their Praxis® certification goals using 240's Guaranteed Praxis® test prep. Nacole Whittington, Director of EPP Advancement and Customer Care, 240Tutoring.

The Learning Liaisons: Strategies to Boost Teacher Candidate Success on Certification Exams and Transform Program Retention. Putting teacher candidates in the best position to pass their required certification exams on the 1st attempt is a one powerful way to help teachers increase their confidence and ensure they stay in your program. Join me in a discussion on how universities can boost recruitment, elevate retention, and let their students focus on what is most important, finishing their coursework for graduation. With an average of 45% of teachers passing their exams on the 1st attempt nationwide (NCTQ, 2021), this not only adds stress to our teacher candidates, but also reduces the risks of dwindling program numbers. It is one thing to have test anxiety. It is another to have your career choice on the line because of a test. Learn some easy methods to make sure your candidates are confident and ready to pass their Praxis Tests. Dr. Jason Ampel, Founder of Test Preparation, The Learning Liaisons.

Pearson National Evaluation Series Updates and Support. This session will provide updates to Pearson's National Evaluation Series (NES) tests including Mathematics 6-12 (304) and Middle and Early Secondary Grades Mathematics 6-10 (105). We will discuss new NES supports for teacher candidates that include a free interactive practice test, free retakes after 3 attempts, and an introduction of Right Start, a comprehensive system of competency-based instruction, assessment, and remediation to support candidates. Kellie Crawford, Associate Vice President State Partnerships & Dr. Tracie Vegh, Senior Educational Consultant, Evaluation Systems of Pearson.

Professional Educators of Tennessee: Driving Positive Change. We advance the profession through continuous learning, embracing innovation, and fostering collaboration to elevate standards. We need to do a better job with earned media and other promotional efforts. This working with the press, use of social media, and other organic methods of exposure. We need to become the most vocal advocates of our profession. Kaylee Joslyn, Member Services Coordinator, Professional Educators of Tennessee.

BreakOut #1: 11:00 - 11:45 AM

Retaining Pre- and In-Service Teachers (JEP) Through Praxis Support. This presentation delves into the critical intersection of teacher licensure and Praxis exam success, specifically focusing on the job-embedded program to support both pre- and in-service teachers in achieving success in Praxis exams required for licensure. The overarching goal is to establish a connection between targeted Praxis support initiatives and the successful licensure of Tennessee teachers. Drs. Karen Sewell, Aundrea McFall, & Alesha Northcutt, Freed-Hardeman University.

Seven Strategies for Success. As the TN GYO Center shifts to a sustainable model, many people from around the state and the country have asked questions about how to fund teacher apprenticeship sustainably. In this session, TN GYOC leaders will provide an update on the current status of teacher apprenticeship in Tennessee along with 7 strategies for EPPs to consider when planning for long-term sustainability of teacher apprenticeship programs. Sustainability will also require funding shifts from LEAs, state, and federal agencies, but in this session, we will focus on the shifts EPPs should consider. Dr. Erin Crisp, Executive Director & Dr. Kate Hall, Associate Director, Tennessee Grow Your Own Center.

TN Teacher Workforce. In this session, we will delve into the evolving landscape of Tennessee's education sector. Our focus will be on highlighting transformative changes in the teaching workforce, which includes examining the influx of non-traditional entry points, exploring potential links to the evolving career norms and expectations of the profession, uncovering subtle demographic shifts within the Tennessee teacher workforce, and more. We invite you to join us for a thought-provoking exploration into the present and future of education. Ashley Ellison, Ph.D. candidate at Vanderbilt University in the department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations & Dr. Thomas Smith, Professor in the Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations at Vanderbilt University.

TNCompass Feedback with TDOE. This spring, TDOE is engaging stakeholders in conversations around TNCompass and how we can improve both the ease of use and the overall usefulness of TNCompass. During this session, we would like to include our EPP partners in this conversation. The department will be soliciting feedback from participants around TNCompass functionality as well as answering any questions you may have. Please note, that while the department works closely with the State Board of Education on licensure rule and policy and is always happy to discuss any feedback or suggestions you have related to SBE rule or policy, this session will focus specifically on TNCompass functionality and how the platform can be better utilized moving forward. Taylor Reid, Senior Director of Licensure, TDOE, and Jessie Gold, Director of Licensure, TDOE.

Practical Implications for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education. This session will cover a number of topics relevant to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and learning in the classroom. We'll explore a variety of AI resources to guide and inform best practices for integration and detection specifically for preservice/in-service teachers and administrators. Policy and syllabus info will also be shared. During the session, we'll sift through pros/cons as well as myths/truths about this rapidly evolving tool that has impacted every aspect of the education profession. Jeremy Wendt, Tennessee Tech University.

Fostering Inclusion through Resource Efforts: A Rural Institution's Response to Access Deficits. This presentation describes a rural institution's response to a lack of access to disability resources, led by a group of special education teacher candidates in a collaboration course. Through research and planning, teacher candidates collaborated with each other, their faculty members, their campus, their community, local school district partners, and resources across the state to create a resource fair for their local community and learned

first-hand the importance of collaboration in education, particularly special education. Dr. Claire Paul, University of Tennessee Southern.

Training Administrators and School Counselors with Special Education Expertise: A Program Redesign. This session highlights two graduate programs, special education integration, and Office of Special Programs 1.25-million-dollar federal grants. The redesign focuses on integrating SPED expertise through licensure coursework, seminars, and internships. The Project Directors will provide curriculum updates, recruiting information, access to national SPED experts, and policy to practice examples. Drs. Ginger Christian & Christine Lewis, East Tennessee State University.

BreakOut #2: 3:15 - 4:00 PM

Seven Strategies for Success. As the TN GYO Center shifts to a sustainable model, many people from around the state and the country have asked questions about how to fund teacher apprenticeship sustainably. In this session, TN GYOC leaders will provide an update on the current status of teacher apprenticeship in Tennessee along with 7 strategies for EPPs to consider when planning for long-term sustainability of teacher apprenticeship programs. Sustainability will also require funding shifts from LEAs, state, and federal agencies, but in this session, we will focus on the shifts EPPs should consider. Dr. Erin Crisp, Executive Director & Dr. Kate Hall, Associate Director, Tennessee Grow Your Own Center.

Unpacking TNCR: From SSR to SBE. Join fellow EPP leaders in an examination of the Tennessee Comprehensive Review process. TDOE staff will lead attendees through TNCR guidance materials, resources, and overall process to support EPPs in completing a robust comprehensive review. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and collaborate with colleagues during this session. Dr. Jennifer Nelson, Senior Director of Educator Preparation & Dr. Alisha Hill, Manager of EPP Engagement and Partnerships, Tennessee Department of Education.

TN Teacher Workforce. In this session, we will delve into the evolving landscape of Tennessee's education sector. Our focus will be on highlighting transformative changes in the teaching workforce, which includes examining the influx of non-traditional entry points, exploring potential links to the evolving career norms and expectations of the profession, uncovering subtle demographic shifts within the Tennessee teacher workforce, and more. We invite you to join us for a thought-provoking exploration into the present and future of education. Ashley Ellison, Ph.D. candidate at Vanderbilt University in the department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations, & Dr. Thomas Smith, Professor in the Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations at Vanderbilt University.

Empowering Educational Leaders: The Transformative Impact of Job-Embedded Practices in Principal Preparation Programs. In a cutting-edge approach to principal licensure, APSU traded antiquated “logged administrative hours” for job-embedded learning activities connecting theories and laws to practices of leadership within students’ own schools. Mentor Principals facilitated these experiences, and the impact is substantially changing learning outcomes. This presentation outlines the process and the implications. Drs. Laura Barnett & Christi Maldonado, Austin Peay State University.

CodeCollab: Empowering Educators through Fun, Immersive Computer Science PD. This session will directly align with advancing the teaching profession through innovative pedagogical approaches. By focusing on immersive and inclusive computer science education for culturally and economically diverse youth, we extend our impact beyond students to empower educators. This isn't just about teaching coding; it's about cultivating computational thinking skills that transcend devices and backgrounds, benefiting both students and teachers. Our collaborative session exemplifies our dedication to advancing pedagogy: we will showcase differentiated strategies, and partnership experiences like JESSRAN's pre-K to K-12 pathway, and we will provide an open forum for educators to collectively strategize around supporting preservice teachers. Drs. Dr. Ayanna Perkins, CodeCrew, Eric Harris, Jessran Foundation, Jean Francois Mahoro, Danielle Jones, Jean Francois Mahoro, & Pamela Egwuekwe, CodeCrew.

Supporting Teacher Candidates in Balancing Theory and Practice with Scripted Curricula. This interactive session examines how we can best support teacher candidates as they plan, implement, and assess commercial curricula while balancing and integrating best practices such as differentiated instruction. This session also explores instructional alignment with the state standards and assessments. Drs. L. Kathryn Sharp & Angela Shelton, East Tennessee State University.

Believe it or Not Collaboration in Education is Key in 2024. Today's educational technology drives collaboration in the classroom, instilling more than the curriculum in students. Dr. LaToshia S. Chism, Lane College.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER(S)
Call to Order	David Cihak, President
Approval of Fall 2023 Minutes	Staci Fuqua, Secretary
Treasurer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 501(c)(3) update ● Approved 2024 Budget ● Fall 2024/Fall 2025 In-Person Conference Planning 	Chris Brown, Interim Treasurer
Business Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fall 2024 In-person Conference. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sept 16 and 17th, 2024 at Franklin Marriott Cool Springs ● Advocacy Update 	David Cihak, President James McIntyre, Advocacy Coordinator
Recognitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Officers' transitions ● Thank you for your service! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tricia Hunsader, President cycle ● Staci Fuqua, Secretary ● Cindy Lang, East TN Representative ● Welcome New Officers! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robyn Ridgley, President Elect ● Annie Insana, Secretary ● Miriam Stoder, East TN Representative 	David Cihak, President
Incoming President	David Cihak, President Sharen Cypress, President-Elect
Adjourn	David Cihak, President