



12125 Woodcrest Exec. Dr., Suite 110
St. Louis, MO 63141

Phone: 314-275-8599
Website: www.wcpastl.com

Frequently Requested Presentation Topics for School Professionals

Motivating the Unmotivated Student What are the ways that we as teachers can truly motivate a student? What are the mistakes many of us make, that sabotage these efforts? Both these questions are answered, along with a plan for building internal motivation.

Stress, Over-Scheduling, and Hyper-Parenting: De-Stressing Our Students' Lives How can parents and schools decrease stress in their children? This presentation examines this question, as well as: What causes stress in children? What symptoms does stress cause in kids? And how do adults contribute to the problem?

Anxiety in Students Discusses the different types of anxiety that students experience, from shyness to compulsivity, and gives specific suggestions for responding to students with various anxiety-related behaviors.

Dealing with Difficult Parents Most teachers and school administrators have, at one time or another, been confronted with particularly difficult parents. In this presentation, specific types of difficult parents are clarified, along with concrete suggestions for response.

Bully-Proofing the School How does a school and its faculty respond to bullying? This presentation offers information about how to promote a no-bullying atmosphere, and how to respond to the bully and victim, once discovered.

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD): What causes ADHD? How is the diagnosis made? What are the best coping strategies for parents? This presentation answers these questions and pays special attention on how to get a reliable and accurate diagnosis for a child and explaining the need for and uses of stimulant medications.

Diversity Training Today, we are beginning to recognize diversity as the strength it truly is. However, working effectively with different people is neither an easy nor an obvious process. This presentation discusses ways for teachers to become more culturally competent as they

work with students and families different from themselves.

Setting Limits and Giving Consequences in the Classroom Effective discipline is one of the toughest challenges for today's parents and educators. Responding well when kids behave badly is fundamental to an effective classroom. This presentation covers what works.

Understanding Real Self-Esteem Self-esteem is a frequently misunderstood concept. This presentation describes the definition of self-esteem, how it is created, and how it can be either stifled or supported by parents and schools.

Understanding Asperger's Disorder Asperger's Disorder is an emerging diagnosis that schools are hearing more and more often. What exactly is it? This presentation is focused on giving concrete information and suggestions for school interventions.

Improving Parent-Teacher Conferences This workshop includes information about taking a proactive approach to conferences, which may prevent problems from starting in the first place. Also discussed: what makes conferences uncomfortable (or even scary,) how planning can avoid some common pitfalls, and what you can do when a parent is upset.

Recognizing and Responding to Students' Mental and Emotional Disorders Unfortunately, many teachers have not been given training on how to recognize common mental disorders and how to approach parents with suspicions of a problem. This presentation offers information about warning signs to look for and how to approach parents.

Preventing, Recognizing and Responding to Substance Abuse Most young adults who abuse substances began experimenting around age 11 or 12, well before high school. This presentation gives pointers on talking to young people about alcohol and other drugs, on recognizing the signs of abuse and how to respond if use is discovered, at home or at school.

When Eating Disorders Impact the School This presentation describes eating disorders, their warning signs, and how one gets diagnosed. In particular, it focuses on do's and don'ts for parents and schools, when relating to an eating disordered student.

The School Professional's Response to Child Abuse Teachers, as much as or more than any other professional, must be aware of the warning signs and symptoms of child abuse. This presentation reviews these signs and symptoms, as well as the myths and realities of abuse and Do's and Don'ts as a school professional.

Collaboration with Parents to Insure Student Success While both teachers and parents want what is best to insure a child's success, there is all too often an adversarial relationship between the two that work against their goal. A collaborative relationship between the two is critical. Ways to collaborate with parents and build positive rapport is discussed.

Responding to Violence and Crisis in the School Crisis comes in many forms and no school can ever be completely immune to it. This talk offers strategies for responding to school crises, and particularly focuses on anticipating student reaction.

Communication Skills (daylong workshop for faculty) A daylong workshop designed to help faculty members learn their own communication styles and build effective skills for communicating with parents, students and colleagues.

Boundaries Using appropriate boundaries is critical with today's difficult parents (and occasional colleagues!) Ways that our boundaries are challenged, three "types" of poor boundaries, and specific suggestions for change are included in this presentation.

Improving Your School's Care Team As Care Teams become more common, and even mandated in many areas, they can flounder and feel ineffective at times. This talk offers several detailed strategies for improving the effectiveness of your existing Care Team.

Locus of Control - Building Independence and Responsibility within Our Students It seems as though students today are less responsible and capable than previous generations. This presentation offers reasons for this change in students and how schools (and parents!) can begin to re-establish true independence and responsibility within our young people.

Ending the Homework Hassle Forever When did it become Mother's job to do the homework? Both schools and parents today use tactics with homework that lessen the child's personal responsibility over it. This presentation covers a specific method for ending this homework hassle forever.

Self-Injury in Students Self-injury, sometimes called self-mutilation, is a scary phenomenon that seems relatively new to many educators. This presentation educates about this behavior – why it happens, how, when, and what schools can do about it, once discovered.

Creating a Safe Environment: Preventing Child Sexual Abuse within Your Organization Many organizations want to create "safe child" environments, but they often focus on the wrong end of the equation, namely how to recognize an abused child. This presentation flips this on end, and trains staff and volunteers how to recognize the abusive adult in their midst. A must for all organizations that serve children.

Conflict Management Managing conflict is an essential skill for everyone. It sounds easy, until one is actually in a serious conflict situation. This presentation assists educators to identify their conflict management "style" and then to improve on their personal skills in this area. Conflicts with parents and with colleagues are discussed.

Family Violence In this talk, the cycle of violence is presented, along with its effects on children in the home and answers to the most common question, “Why does she stay?” The warning signs of domestic violence are shared, as are suggestions for safe school responses.

The Ethic of Confidentiality How do school professionals maintain appropriate confidentiality while sharing certain information with appropriate colleagues? This presentation covers the mandates and exceptions to the confidentiality rules.

Working Within A Child's Learning Style Why is a child who's good at math labeled “smart,” while one good at the piano is “talented” and another who excels at football called “athletic?” Individuals learn and excel in different ways, and that when we discover a person's learning styles, we can use their strengths to optimize their education and joy for learning.

Is it Depression? (And what do we do if it is?) While it's normal for kids to occasionally have the blues, it is not normal for them to experience clinical depression. This talk covers the warning signs about which teachers should be aware and what appropriate responses include.

In addition, the following topics are frequently requested for students:

- Anti-bullying
- Relational bullying (for girls)
- Goal setting
- Organization skills
- Empowerment and leadership
- Friendship skills
- Boosters and Busters (for young children, about making friends)
- Internet safety
- Personal hygiene
- Eating and good health
- Body image
- Peer pressure