

# SPEAKERS

## Megan Collins

Megan Collins is Director of Curriculum & Instruction for Fonda-Fultonville CSD. Her education experience includes thirteen years as an elementary education classroom teacher, a RttT project assistant for NYSED Higher Education and Curriculum and Medicaid Specialist for HFM BOCES, Spec. Ed. Megan will be joined by Superintendent Thomas Ciaccio and Principal Aaron Grady and Solutions Architect Educational Vistas Bill Bouchard.

## Victoria Curry

Victoria Curry began teaching in Manhattan with the NYCDOE. During that time she worked with Teachers College Reading and Writing Workshop and Eureka Math. Her journey with educational leadership started in the Hudson Valley where she was in the role of assistant principal for four years. For the past two years, Victoria has been in the role of Chief Information Officer and Data Coordinator for Dutchess BOCES. Data Storytelling and data visualizations are her current areas of focus.

## Jeff Davis

Jeff Davis is the Senior Manager for the Instructional Data Warehouse (IDW) at Nassau BOCES. Jeff joined the Nassau BOCES team in 2002 during the inception of the Nassau BOCES IDW and has designed numerous tools and reports to assist Nassau County school districts analyze student assessment results and improve instruction. Jeff has a background in data analysis and computer programming and is an alumnus of the Harvard Strategic Data Project fellowship.

## Robert Feihel

Robert is responsible for data acquisition software development and Instructional Data Warehouse databases. Trained in electrical engineering, Robert has spent more than 30 years as a Systems Design Engineer and Consultant, providing training to enterprise accounts--telecommunications, banking, universities, and government. His accomplishments include the development of an artificially-intelligent program in automotive education, providing training and technical support to more than 4000 technicians working to reduce emissions across New England. Additional interests include the development of software applications for sailing regatta scoring and real estate investment.

## Gail Galusha

Gail Galusha has served as Ballston Spa's CIO/DDC, MCO & Testing Coordinator for 6 years. Prior to this, she served as the DW Program Coordinator at NERIC. Lynn Bedeaux has served as the DDC, Testing Coordinator & System Administrator at Hudson Falls for 12 years. She also served as a DW Program Coordinator at NERIC for 2 years. Amanda Pignone, Ballston Spa's System Administrator, has held the DDC, Testing Coordinator & Homeless Liaison titles in various districts. Her experience spans 16 years. Margaret Giller is the System Administrator & DDC for Mechanicville. Margaret also currently holds the title of Vice President of the Board of Education for Cohoes. Margaret has 15 years' experience in her field. Combined, 61 years of experience!

## Aaron Hawn

Aaron Hawn is a Research Affiliate at the Penn Center for Learning Analytics and Co-Founder of Thirteen Ways Consulting. Aaron works with educational programs to impact practice and outcomes through evaluation, learning analytics, and collaborative inquiry. His research investigates the interface between educational information systems and their human users, with an eye toward adapting systems to the everyday practice of local stakeholders. Aaron is just as excited about the possibilities that exploratory visual analytics and machine learning offer to educators as he is about the professional guidance and expert judgement that educators offer right back. Prior to consulting, Aaron worked as a classroom teacher and educational administrator.

## Timothy Johnson

Timothy Johnson has been an educator for 30 years. He taught secondary science for 10 years in both the public and private setting. He has been a professional development coordinator at Erie 1 BOCES in K-12 science and data analysis for the past 20 years. He has a BS in Geophysical Engineering from Colorado School of Mines, an MS in Science Education from Buffalo State College and an MS in Administration & Supervision from Canisius College.

## Laurel Jones

Laurel Jones has been an administrator in the Bethlehem Central School District for the past 4 years, after having served as an assistant elementary principal in the Mohonasen Central School District. As Bethlehem's Coordinator of Response to

Intervention, Laurel plays a leadership role in the district's use of data teams and the RtI process to support students on the learning journey.

## Lauren Luckert

Lauren Luckert has been overseeing the Data Integration Group at the Northeastern Regional Information Center for two years, developing procedures and policies around data movement for the RIC. She joined NERIC in 2015 as a part of the eSchoolData support team and prior to that was a Technology Teacher Assistant at Valley Stream School District 24. Before entering the realm of educational technology, Lauren earned her Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Computer Art from Syracuse University.

## Jeffrey Luks

Jeffrey has been the Managing Program Coordinator of Student Services at the Northeastern Regional Information Center (NERIC) since 2012. Prior to joining NERIC, Jeff spent a number of years working in the not-for-profit and public sector in a variety of areas, including human services, research and evaluation, and developing and support management information systems. Throughout the course of his career, one of his main focus areas has been reporting on and utilizing meaningful data to help improve performance. Jeff received his Bachelors in Political Science and Masters of Public Administration from the University at Albany and is a certified School District Business Leader.

## Benjamin Norris

Benjamin Norris is a Data Analyst for the Syracuse City School District's Office of Shared Accountability. His primary areas of focus are around school accountability and reform, and he often serves as the go-to person in his office around ESSA. He has a Doctorate in Educational Psychology and Quantitative Methods from the University at Buffalo and is currently working toward his CAS in School District Leadership from Niagara University.

## David Peelle

David Peelle is known to senior DATAG members as, in the olden days, the ruthless editor of presenter bios and the presenter, himself, of arcane assessment data topics. With the legendary Tony Tripolone, he has co-authored "Data Elements Supporting Successful Teaching" (available from Kindle Publishing). He currently works as an Information Analyst for Children's Institute, Inc. in Rochester, New York.

## Jeff Shaffer

Jeff currently works at the New York State Education Department in the Office of Information and Reporting Services where he oversees the collection of educator and course data. Prior to joining NYSED, he worked for more than 20 years in a number of offices holding positions that involved education research and policy analysis.

## Maria Sommer

Maria Sommer's background teaching Music, Science, and Gifted programs, and experience as Data Coordinator brings a diverse perspective to her role as the Director of Curriculum and ISS at SCBOCES. Prior to her time at SCBOCES she taught and worked as a Curriculum Coordinator/Staff Developer in River Vale, NJ, where she sat on the Board of the Directors of the Bergen County Curriculum Consortium and was an active member of the New Jersey Literacy Leaders Network. She also participated in a year-long Instructional Coaching Think Tank through The Educator Collaborative. Maria Sommer is committed to promoting the value of instructional coaching to move the needle forward on student achievement and improving teacher practice.

## Sarah E. Weeks

Sarah E. Weeks is a Ph.D. student in the Education Leadership program at Teachers College, Columbia University where she studies how teachers, students and school leaders use assessments and other data sources to inform classroom and school improvement efforts. She is particularly interested in the impact of mastery-based learning practices on equity. Sarah is a Doctoral Research Fellow in the Education Leadership Data Analytics Research Group working on an NSF funded project, Building Community and Capacity for Data-Intensive Evidence-Based Decision Making in Schools and Districts. Prior to beginning her doctoral work, Sarah spent 17 years working in public and independent schools as a teacher, principal, district leader and consultant.

## Elizabeth A. Young

Elizabeth A. Young has been the Statistician in the Nassau BOCES Instructional Data Warehouse for the past 4 years. She conducts educational research and statistical analyses for various departments within the Agency, other RICs, and for Nassau County school districts. In her additional role as Program

Manager, Elizabeth oversees the implementation, design, administration, and data analysis of grants and surveys as assigned. Prior to working at Nassau BOCES, Elizabeth spent over 10 years holding various analytical roles within healthcare, government, and business. Elizabeth has a BS degree from Cornell University, an MPH degree from The George Washington University, and she completed doctoral coursework at the University of Pittsburgh.

## Susan Zieres-Teeple

In 2005, Susan Zieres-Teeple received a Masters of Science in Education with a certification in Business, Computer and Information Technology Education. Susan taught business education at Livingston Manor Central School and Sullivan West Central School between 2005- 2013. She received her Certificate of Educational Administration in June of 2013 and was hired at Sullivan County BOCES as the Model Schools Coordinator for Instructional Support Services. In her current role she is helping districts and teachers make instructional data informed shifts in their classrooms. Recently, she was a writer for the NYSED Computer Science Standards, Co-Chair Model Schools Statewide Consortium, and member of the NYSCATE Conference Committee.

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