



## ***Readington Township Parent Enrichment Evening***

***Wednesday, April 6, 2016  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Readington Middle School***



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### **SESSION A**

**7:00 – 7:50 p.m.**

*Please select a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice from Session A.*

#### ***A-1 Help Your Third, Fourth and Fifth Grader Succeed in School***

Is your child heading into upper elementary grades? Come spend some time with these dynamic 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and learn tips on how to study with children, how to handle homework, how to help organize children, and how to start to make them responsible for their learning.

Presenters: Michele Krayem and Meryl Vance

#### ***A-2 Literacy and Math Ideas to Use at Home***

Would you love to learn neat strategies for helping your child with math and literacy skills at home? We have some fun and engaging activities that parents and grandparents can enjoy with young children. Many of these skills can be practiced by your child at the kitchen table while you are cooking or doing chores nearby. These simple and quick activities will keep your little kiddos' brains active. For parents of Preschoolers, Kindergarteners and First Graders.

Presenters: Lisa Painter and Arlene Schlosser

#### ***A-3 Introduction to Reading and Writing Workshop at the Middle School***

Come and learn about your child's reading/writing workshop experience in the middle school. Join two 6<sup>th</sup> grade middle school Language Arts teachers for a discussion about how workshop allows for differentiation in the classroom and aligns with the rigor of the Common Core Standards. We will also discuss strategies to use at home as you support your middle school child in their reading/writing education.

Presenters: Erica DelGuidice and Shaina Mirsky

#### ***A-4 Voices from the Gulf***

Join RMS teacher Emily Bengels as she speaks of her experiences as a TEACH fellow in Abu Dhabi, Bahrain and Qatar. She will share photos and insights, and answers questions about the education, culture and professional training in the Gulf Nations.

Presenter: Emily Bengels

### **A-5 Middle School Lingo: Supplemental Resources for Content Areas**

Come out and see what your child learns each day to provide assistance at home or to strike up a conversation at the dinner table. Middle School parents, or HBS parents, will learn about the current programs and "lingo" that is used at RMS. Examples will include: just right books, unit of study for L.A., IXL, Big Ideas, Online Science Textbook, and more!

Presenters: Kristin Poroski and Lauren Greenberg

### **A-6 Navigating Genesis**

Do you want to learn how to navigate the Genesis Parent Portal? This workshop will help 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents find their way through the Genesis Parent Resources page. Parents will learn how to locate homework assignments, schedules, grades, and see how course pages work. 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents are encouraged to attend to prepare for the next school year.

Presenter: Sherry Krial

### **A-7 Raising a Middle School Child in a High-Tech Society**

Being an adolescent is not easy, but being a parent of one can be even more challenging. This workshop focuses on the middle school child and how to navigate through these years as a parent. In addition, there will be a presentation on cyber-safety by Readington Township police officers. Stay one step ahead of those teenagers!

Presenters: Sharon Moffat, Detective Mackiewicz, and Lieutenant Joseph Greco

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## **SESSION B**

**8:00 – 8:50 p.m.**

*Please choose a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice from Session B.*

### **B-1 Help your Child Develop Grit, Internal Drive and a Lifelong Love of Learning**

This book study of The Self-Motivated Kid: How to Raise Happy, Healthy, Children Who Know What They Want and Go Get It (Without Being Told) will focus on Dr. Kang's recommendations for parents and teachers. Participants will select a chapter to be an expert on in order to facilitate the book club discussion. Close reading of that section is a requirement so that the chapter facilitator can support the group's conversation. All other chapters can be read ahead of time or read after the parent academy. Parents will be provided a book.

Presenter: Kari McGann

### **B-2 Playing with Words: Building Your Child's Vocabulary (pre k – 5)**

Empower your child to develop a strong lexicon which strengthens conversational skills, reading comprehension and creative writing! This will be an interactive session providing strategies, games, apps and more for building your child's vocabulary.

Presenter: Erica Winebrenner

### ***B-3 Exploring Reading Strategies and PARCC Testing***

Would you like to try out sample PARCC practice tests in English Language Arts? In this workshop, we will visit sample reading passages as well as explore the test features available during testing. Parents will learn how to use reading strategies and locate evidence from the text when answering questions. This workshop will give parents a chance to play with the various tools students will be using during PARCC testing.

Presenters: Beverly Lax and Noelle Henderson

### ***B-4 That's Not How I Learned Math!***

Ideal for parents with children in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades. We all know that there is often more than one way to solve a problem, but some of the strategies our children are learning in their math class are like nothing we've seen before. This session will walk parents through the strategies and the reasons for introducing them to students.

Presenter: Sarah Pauch

### ***B-5 What Parents Should Know About Heroin***

Do you know the gateway behaviors for heroin use? Do you know who to turn to if your child or a friend was experimenting with drugs? This session with Readington police officers will provide important information parents should know about drug use in teens, including warning signs and symptoms of heroin use.

Presenters: Lieutenant Joseph Greco and Detective Raymond Mackiewicz

### ***B-6 Green Schools, Green Students***

What do we do during the school day to teach students to recycle, save energy, and conserve resources? Come learn about green initiatives in place in our schools and how students learn how to be good stewards of the environment. We will also take a look forward to new initiatives being considered in the district.

Presenter: Jodi Bettermann

## Workshop Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Youngest Child's School: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (to confirm session choices): \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your first and second choices for Session A **and** Session B by placing a **1** and a **2** on the line next to your session choice.

### SESSION A

- \_\_\_ *A-1      Help Your Third, Fourth and Fifth Grader Succeed in School*
- \_\_\_ *A-2      Literacy and Math Ideas to Use at Home*
- \_\_\_ *A-3      Introduction to Reading and Writing Workshop at the Middle School*
- \_\_\_ *A-4      Voices from the Gulf*
- \_\_\_ *A-5      Middle School Lingo: Supplemental Resources for Content Areas*
- \_\_\_ *A-6      Navigating Genesis*
- \_\_\_ *A-7      Raising a Middle School Child in a High-Tech Society*

### SESSION B

- \_\_\_ *B-1      Help your Child Develop Grit, Internal Drive and a Lifelong Love of Learning*
- \_\_\_ *B-2      Playing with Words: Building Your Child's Vocabulary (Pre k – 5)*
- \_\_\_ *B-3      Exploring Reading Strategies and PARCC Testing*
- \_\_\_ *B-4      That's Not How I Learned Math!*
- \_\_\_ *B-5      What Parents Should Know About Heroin*
- \_\_\_ *B-6      Green Schools, Green Students*

Please complete and return this form to your child's teacher by **Monday, March 21**. If you prefer, the registration may also be faxed to Barbara Sargent at 908/349-3042. A confirmation of session registration and reminder e-mail will be sent to you during the week of April 4<sup>th</sup>. Questions may be directed to Barbara Sargent in the BOE offices or at [bsargent@readington.k12.nj.us](mailto:bsargent@readington.k12.nj.us). We look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**!

## About the Presenters

**Emily Bengels** is in her 21<sup>st</sup> year of teaching and teaches gifted education and enrichment at RMS. She received her B.A. in Romance Languages from Bryn Mawr College, her M.A. in Language Education from Rutgers Graduate School of Education and an M.A. in Gifted Education from the University of Missouri. She is active with musical theater and other creative arts both in and out of school, and has received grants to research at Emily Dickinson's house, attend Space Academy for Educators in Huntsville, take part in a Fulbright Education Seminar in Uruguay and, most recently, attend the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. She hopes her students find a career to love as much as she loves hers!

**Jodi Bettermann** is the district's Energy Efficiency Coordinator. She works with all four district schools to monitor energy usage and to educate students and staff about energy conservation. Jodi has a degree in Chemical Engineering and worked for Merck & Co., Inc. for several years before starting her family. She now has four children attending Readington schools and Hunterdon Central Regional High School.

**Erica Del Guidice** is in her 4<sup>th</sup> year teaching at RMS. She holds a B.A. in English from Rutgers University, as well as a M.A. in Education from Rutgers Graduate School of Education. She has attended Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University to deepen her understanding of workshop model. Ms. Del Guidice is an advisor for Destination Imagination and the Newspaper Club at RMS. She enjoys helping students work toward their fullest potential.

**Lieutenant Joe Greco** began his Law Enforcement career in 1998 with the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Department where he was assigned to the Narcotics Task Force. In 1999 he was hired by Readington Township Police Department and assigned to the patrol division where he held the rank of Corporal and Sergeant. In 2009 he was assigned to the Detective Bureau as Detective Sergeant. He was promoted to the Rank of Lieutenant in 2012. Lieutenant Greco is a graduate of the 250<sup>th</sup> session of the FBI National Academy.

**Lauren Greenberg** is a middle school special education teacher who obtained her B.A and M.A. degrees from Widener University. Lauren has been teaching for 5 years at Readington Middle School. She is the advisor of the Notebook Club, stage manager of the spring musical, and co-advisor of *Destination Imagination*.

**Noelle Henderson** is a Literacy Support Teacher at Three Bridges School. She has worked in Readington Township for 19 years where she has taught second grade and kindergarten. She is the co-leader of her daughter's Girl Scout Troop and enjoys reading and staying active with her son.

**Michele Krayem** has been teaching for 22 years and is currently a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Holland Brook School. During the 15 years she has been with the district, Michele has also taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, served as Team Leader, and facilitated many Teacher Academy workshops. Michele has a B.A. from Felician College and was the recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Before coming to Readington Township, Michele also taught kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in Paramus, Upper Saddle River and Alpine.

**Sherry Krial** is in her 21<sup>st</sup> year of teaching and currently leads the district's Staff Development Programs. She received her B.S. from Bloomsburg University, M.A. from DeSales University, and most recently her Ed. S. from Seton Hall University. She can be found participating in outdoor activities in her free time.

**Beverly Lax** has been teaching in Readington Township for the past 23 years. It is where she has used her passion to promote and share her love of literacy with her students. For over 11 years, Beverly has been a Literacy Support Teacher at Three Bridges School. Beverly's life-long love of literacy led her to obtain a Masters of Education in Reading from The College of New Jersey. Her favorite pastime activities are spending time with her family, traveling and reading.

**Detective Mackiewicz** has worked for the Readington Township Police Department since 2007 where he is assigned to the Patrol Division. Det. Mackiewicz is a graduate of the Somerset County Police Academy Alternate Route program. He possesses a B.A. degree in Sociology from William Paterson University and an Associate degree in Criminal Justice from Raritan Valley Community College. Det. Mackiewicz has been assigned to the Detective Bureau since August 2013.

**Kari McGann** is the Supervisor of Humanities for the Readington Township School District. As a teacher for over twenty years, she has experience with students in multiple grade levels. She holds a B.A. degree in Elementary Education and an M.A. in Business Management. Kari is the proud mother of four children ages 15, 13, 11, and 8. She is a life-time learner, avid reader, and a teacher for the young and young-at-heart.

**Shaina Mirsky** is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> year of teaching 6<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts at RMS. She earned both her B.A. in English and M.A. in Teaching English from Drew University. She taught special education before coming to RMS and is currently pursuing her reading specialist certification at Rutgers University. Shaina is an advisor for the Newspaper and Yearbook Clubs at RMS.

**Sharon Moffat** is Principal of Readington Middle School. She received her M.A. degree from Rider University and has served as the K-12 STEM Supervisor and the Pond Road Middle School Assistant Principal in Robbinsville before coming to Readington. Previously, Sharon was a middle school teacher for twenty years and is passionate about middle school education.

**Lisa Painter** is currently a kindergarten teacher at Whitehouse School. She began teaching 26 years ago in South Brunswick, NJ where she taught full day kindergarten and K/1 combined classes. Her time in our district has been spent teaching first and third grades, along with a few years as an Intervention Specialist, at Whitehouse School.

**Sarah Pauch** is Supervisor of Math, Science, and Technology for Readington Township. She received her master's degree from The College of New Jersey. Sarah has been part of the Readington Township School District for eighteen years and has served as a third-grade teacher, first-grade teacher, and staff development coordinator.

**Kristin Poroski** is a special education teacher at Readington Middle School. She has been teaching at RMS for ten years in various grades and departments for both inclusion and resource room. Kristin holds a B.A. in Elementary and Special Education and a M.A. in Supervision. She is co-Athletic Coordinators, advises many after school clubs including Mock Trial and Photography Club, and organizes the Read-a-thon each year.

**Arlene Schlosser** has been a teacher for 12 years, working in Readington as a pre-school teacher, academic support teacher and kindergarten teacher at WHS. Her hobbies include family time, going to the beach, and eating Peppermint Patties. Arlene and her husband have four children and One Big Golden Retriever.

**Meryl R. Vance** is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Holland Brook School. This is her 13<sup>th</sup> year in the district where she has also taught first grade, second grade and Intervention classes. Mrs. Vance has a B.A degree from Trenton State College and an M.A. from The College of New Jersey. She also held various positions in the Department of Student Affairs at the University of Connecticut from 1997-2001. During her tenure at the university, she taught two college courses, in addition to her departmental responsibilities. It was her teaching experience at UConn that sparked her passion for education and her desire to commit to teaching on a full time basis.

**Erica Winebrenner** is a Speech/Language Specialist in Readington Township. She received her M.A. degree in Speech/Language Pathology from Kean College. Erica has been providing speech/language services in our district for the past 16 years. Prior to that, she was with Lawrence Township Public Schools for 14 years.