

# Preconference Workshops

WSCA Conference  
2021-2022

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WISCONSIN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION

**reUNITED**

*One Community, Together Again.*

**2021**



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Meet the Preconference Team



# About Preconference

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Join us for the 2021-2022 WSCA Preconference!

Every year, we hear from our school counselors that they wish they had more time to learn about certain topics they encountered during the WSCA Conference.

Based on the recommendations from YOU, the school counselors of Wisconsin, we have assembled a high quality, diverse set of preconference sessions that cover areas such as Leadership & Advocacy, Academic and Career Planning, and Social-Emotional Learning across all levels of practice.

Mix and match two half-day sessions, or attend a full-day session to focus more in-depth on a single topic. Create a pre-conference day that provides the best learning opportunities for your professional development needs!

# Preconference Workshops at a Glance

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## FULL DAY WORKSHOPS

- Journey Toward Anti-racist Education (K-12)
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) in Schools: A Preventative Curriculum for Emotion Dysregulation (6-12)

## HALF DAY WORKSHOPS - MORNING

- Culturally Sustaining Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support: Prevention And Intervention For All Students (K-12)
- Transgender And Gnc Resources To Support Our Non-Binary Students, Staff, Families And Administrators (K-12)
- Decolonizing Education (K-Ps)
- Wisedata 102: Wisedata 102 For School Counselors (K-12)
- Kindness Is The Real Global Warming (K-5)
- Learn How To Facilitate Adult, Parent, And Teen Wellness Circles In Your School Community (6-12)
- Ramp Up Your School Counseling Program (K-12)

## HALF DAY WORKSHOPS - AFTERNOON

- Addressing Racism In Schools (K-12)
- Effective School Counseling Utilizing Solution Focused Theory (K-12)
- Ask Not "How Are You?" But "Where Are You?": Using Pictorial And Word Imagery Continuums When Supporting Students Experiencing Grief (K-8)
- Advanced Suicide Risk Assessment And Intervention (6-12)
- Bringing It All Together: Synthesize The Myriad Of College And Career Readiness Initiatives Into One Seamless Plan! (6-12)
- Counselors, Collaboration, And Comprehensive Programs (K-12)
- Afternoon On The Hill (K-Ps)

# Preconference Workshops Themes and Tracks

Social/Emotional	Full Day	
	Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) in Schools: A Preventative Curriculum for Emotion Dysregulation (6-12)	
	Morning	
	Learn How to Facilitate Adult, Parent, and Teen Wellness Circles in Your School Community (6-12)	
	Kindness Is The Real Global Warming (K-5)	
	Afternoon	
	Advanced Suicide Risk Assessment and Intervention (6-12)	
	Effective School Counseling Utilizing Solution Focused Theory (K-12)	
	Ask not "How are you?" but "Where are you?": Using Pictorial and Word Imagery Continuums When Supporting Students Experiencing Grief (K-8)	
Leadership/Advocacy	Morning	
	RAMP Up Your School Counseling Program (K-12)	
	Afternoon	
	Counselors, Collaboration, and Comprehensive Programs (K-12)	
Academic/Career/PostSecondary	Morning	
	WISEdata 102: WISEdata 102 for School Counselors (K-12)	
	Afternoon	
	Bringing It All Together: Synthesize the Myriad of College and Career Readiness Initiatives into One Seamless Plan! (6-12)	
Equity	Full Day	
	Journey Toward Anti-Racist Education (K-12)	
	Morning	
	Culturally Sustaining Multi-tiered Systems of Support: Prevention and Intervention for All Students (K-12)	
	Transgender and GNC Resources to Support our Non-Binary Students, Staff, Families and Administrators (K-12)	
	Decolonizing Education (K-PS)	
	Afternoon	
	Addressing Racism In Schools (K-12)	

*\*\*some topics may address more than one theme, please read the full description for more information\*\**

Use these tracks to help design the perfect professional development day with a focus on what matters most to YOU!



# FULL DAY WORKSHOPS

NOVEMBER 10, 2021 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM



## **Journey Toward Anti-Racist Education (K-12)**

Dr. Carolyn Strong, Dean of Students, Thornton Township High School

Journey toward Anti-racist education is an overview of racism and how it has impacted schools and gives strategies to move forward from this systemic issue. This workshop will unpack bias, privilege and racism in a way that will allow us to move within our individual school districts as informed agents of change.

*Track: Equity*

## **Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) in Schools: A Preventative Curriculum for Emotion Dysregulation (6-12)**

Madisen Stoler, DBT Therapist

Sarah Weber, DBT Therapist

Rose Summers, Intern

In this presentation, participants will receive an introduction to Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), an understanding of applications for adolescents, a review of the 4 modules in the DBT STEPS-A curriculum, and experiential modeling of teaching/learning DBT skills. This presentation will serve as a foundation for implementing DBT STEPS-A at participants' schools.

*Track: Social/Emotional*



# HALF DAY WORKSHOPS MORNING

NOVEMBER 10, 2021 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM



## **Culturally Sustaining Multi-tiered Systems of Support: Prevention and Intervention for All Students (K-12)**

Jennifer Betters-Bubon, Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin Whitewater

School counselors are leaders in implementing multi-tiered systems of supports (MTSS), such as PBIS and RTI, ensuring these frameworks are aligned with their comprehensive school counseling program, such as the ASCA National Model. Aligned programs meet the needs of all students across three tiers of support, serving all students through Tier 1 universal curriculum and support, some students through Tier 2 academic and behavioral interventions and few students through Tier 3 intensive services. These approaches should infuse culturally sustaining practices to combat disproportionality in school discipline and educational access, while also creating effective, equitable and antiracist learning environments.

This preconference sectional will focus on the implementation and alignment of the ASCA National Model and MTSS. Integrated MTSS/school counseling programs allow school counselors to strengthen systems that organize initiatives, such as trauma informed practices, academic and career planning, mental health, SEL, into organized frameworks. Through this dynamic presentation, participants will examine their school counseling program, identifying ways to strengthen data collection, analysis, and interventions with MTSS initiatives. Participants will have opportunities to consider how evidence-based practices, universal mental health screening, and culturally sustaining practices fit within aligned programs. Come have your MTSS questions answered and leave with strategies you can use to strengthen your work as a school counselor.

*Track: Equity*

## Transgender and GNC Resources to Support our Non-Binary Students, Staff, Families and Administrators (K-12)



Lisa Koenecke, Counselor Educator, Lakeland University

Discover more about the T in LGBTQ+ and focus your equity lens. Three out of ten of us know someone who is transgender. As early as age 5, identities are formed. We are born this way. Resources, best practice, laws, tips and ideas will be provided to save lives. Gender Support & Communication Plans need to be implemented, join us to learn how.

*Track: Equity*

## Decolonizing Education (K-PS)



Walter Williams, School Counselor, Verona Area High School



Shawn Harris, School Counselor, LPC-IT, Verona Area High School

Wisconsin is voted the worst place to raise Black and Brown youth and Wisconsin has the highest incarceration rate for Black men. There has been a purposeful system in place to perpetuate the school-to prison-pipeline that is not indistinguishable from this country's history of racism. White supremacy is responsible for the cycle of inequities in education and can be interrupted if we understand the mechanisms that uphold this system and take personal accountability for the ways in which we contribute to it as educators. This accountability includes learning new practices that promote educational equity and inclusivity for ALL students.

*Track: Equity*



## WISEdata 102: WISEdata 102 for School Counselors (K-12)

Jessie Sloan, Student Services Director, CESA 4



This sectional will assist School Counselors with the validation rules within WISEdata Portal and how to view data in WISEdash for District. WISEdata Portal and WISEdash for District access is required prior to attending the sectional. The WISE reporting system in WI is compiling data for accountability, funding, college career readiness, and overall school data. Questions are welcome on how fix data issues in WISEdata Portal. Roster, Career Education, and Program data reporting will be included. School Counselors can utilize these reports for equitable practices within their Comprehensive School Counseling Program, ACP, Regional Career Pathways, and course sequencing guidance for ALL students, staff and parents. School Counselors must have access to WISEdata Portal and WISEdash for District.

*Track: Academic/Career/Post-Secondary*

## Kindness Is The Real Global Warming (K-5)



Barbara Gruener, School Counselor, Speaker, Author, Coach,  
The Corner On Character

Have you ever visited a school where empathy is elevated, compassion is mobilized, and kindness has become so routine that you felt the warmth of its glow from the very moment you open the front door? If so, then you likely remember wanting to pull up a chair and stay there all day. Something so magical doesn't just happen by chance. In this engaging and interactive session, Barbara will share the benefits of an ongoing kindness campaign and provide innovative, concrete strategies to intentionally weave empathy, compassion, and kindness into the very fabric of your school's culture to help our all of our school family members and stakeholders understand kindness, embrace it, and give it wings to soar within and beyond our school's walls. Add some meaningful movement (Did someone say kindness to self?) and a little ukulele strumming for

NOVEMBER 10, 2021 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

good measure and prepare for this breakout to set your soul on fire for the heart work that'll be instrumental in strengthening the caring connections and relationships in your character building.

*Track: Social/Emotional*

## Learn How to Facilitate Adult, Parent, and Teen Wellness Circles in Your School Community (6-12)

Holly Hughes Stoner, Co-Director, Samaritan Family Wellness Foundation

Jeff Treul, School Counselor, Whitefish Bay School District

Samaritan Family Wellness, a local nonprofit, is offering this half-day facilitator training. Attendees will learn how to host six-week Wellness Circles for adult, parent, and teen audiences. As a trained Wellness Circle facilitator, you will help groups of adults, parents, or teens (think people in your school community) assess their wellbeing, develop personal goals, and support each other in creating further wellness in their lives. This six-week-long journey results in everybody leading more self-aware, healthy, and more satisfying lives. LMFTs Holly and Scott Stoner have designed unique lessons for discussion and an eight-part wellness assessment for each type of Wellness Circle, with adult and teen circles focusing on their own wellness objectives, and parent circles focusing on developing a better understanding of both themselves and the wellbeing of their families.



*Track: Social/Emotional*



## RAMP Up Your School Counseling Program (K-12)

**FREE for  
Members!**

Join us for this morning workshop, "RAMP Up Your School Counseling Program" where we will share the ins and outs of applying for the Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) and Wisconsin School Counselor Program Accountability Report. Your facilitators will guide you

NOVEMBER 10, 2021 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

through the RAMP and WSCPAR application requirements and help you understand each section of your school's application. You will learn tips and suggestions on how to approach the process.

This workshop will be facilitated by WSCPAR Program of Promise Review Committee members and ASCA RAMP application reviewers.

*Track: Leadership/Advocacy*



**WSCA has secured beautiful and convenient hotel rooms at the Kalahari Resort!**

**Discounted room rates and resort fees waived for conference attendees!**  
**More details on the WSCA Conference Page.**



# HALF DAY WORKSHOPS AFTERNOON

NOVEMBER 10, 2021 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM



## Addressing Racism In Schools (K-12)

Derek Francis, Manager of Counseling Services, Minneapolis Public Schools

Whether it is a social media post or something said in the hall at passing time, racism impacts the school environment. Many educators find themselves stuck and looking for answers to respond. This is not a fire drill, there is no one-pager with explicit directions. There is no flow-chart for processing these traumas. As our country and our schools try to heal and make changes to a fundamentally flawed system, it is critical we proactively engage students in conversations of race. Our students are looking for ways to talk and process a wide range of emotions. School counselors are called to do the social emotional work of fighting racism. This session will provide strategies to proactively address racism in school. Attendees will leave with concrete strategies to respond when major racial incidents happen in school or the community.

*Track: Equity*

## Effective School Counseling Utilizing Solution Focused Theory (K-12)

Mark Gillen, Professor, UW River Falls



Challenging clients require a strong theoretical foundation for school counselors to effectively perform their jobs. Solution Focused Theory provides a solid foundation for working with all clients. But how do you remember what to do when things are seemingly out of control? This



presentation provides an effective and interactive overview of the basic tenets of SFT, tips, techniques, and the opportunity to explore how apply SFT beliefs immediately after the WSCA conference.

*Track: Social/Emotional*



## **Ask not “How are you?” but “Where are you?”: Using Pictorial and Word Imagery Continuums When Supporting Students Experiencing Grief (K-8)**

Mary Brey, Consultant, Mindful Steps & Teacher, The American School of Tampico (Tampico, Mexico)

“How are you?” can be the “dreaded question” when someone is in the depths of grief and does not know “how” they are or are too afraid to express the truth. Transform your practice by turning “How are you?” into “Where are you?” using vivid pictorial and word-imagery continuums to create connections, build and strengthen relationships, and provide a safe space for individuals to be “where they are” as they navigate the overwhelming pervasiveness of grief. The imagery scales create pathways for deeper introspection and self-awareness, which, in turn, help individuals nurture their emotions and feelings.

This interactive session will demonstrate the power of using these scales in four areas:

- 1.) Provide versatile support opportunities. The imagery-scales allow for simple check-ins, a shared language, a pathway to self-reflection, and a deeper-dive into grief work.
- 2.) Promote understanding and normalization of grief reactions. Attendees will learn how the use of these scales is aligned with current grief theory and models.
- 3.) Foster self-awareness through mindfulness. Implementing the scales into a mindful practice can allow for the readiness for healing and building resilience.
- 4.) Open avenues for meaning-making and continuing bonds. Topic-themed, personalized scales can facilitate individuals as they explore meaning in their “new normal.”

Participants will leave with research-backed tangible tools aligned with Wisconsin’s SEL competencies. Start asking “Where are you?” with imagery scales and discover how pictorial and word-imagery continuums can be a game-changer in your practice in grief support and beyond.

*Track: Social/Emotional*

## Advanced Suicide Risk Assessment and Intervention (6-12)

Melannie Litscher, School Psychologist, Milwaukee Public Schools

Jessica Coyle, School Psychologist, Milwaukee Public Schools

Jean Gatz, School Psychologist Supervisor, Milwaukee Public Schools

Alecia Corbett, Alecia Corbett, Clinical Social Worker, Children's Wisconsin

Brenda Mikell, School Counselor, Milwaukee Public Schools

Participants will learn foundational and advanced strategies for suicide risk assessment, including full training the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) and advanced validation techniques to obtain the most accurate and essential information for determining suicide risk. Participants will also learn advanced intervention strategies tailored to level of suicide risk, including intervention strategies that can be adapted across virtual and in-person environments. Learn from a multi-disciplinary team of experts from Milwaukee Public Schools! Presenters are: Melannie Litscher, Jessica Coyle, Jean Gatz, Alecia Corbett, & Brenda Mikell

*Track: Social/Emotional*



Register online today at:

<https://www.wscaweb.org/conferences/2021-annual-conference/>



## Bringing It All Together: Synthesize the Myriad of College and Career Readiness Initiatives into One Seamless Plan! (6-12)

Karin Smith, Academic and Career Planning Consultant,  
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction



Teri LeSage, Education Consultant, Wisconsin Department  
of Public Instruction

Wisconsin has rolled out many new and exciting college and career readiness initiatives over the past few years. However, it can be hard to understand how it all fits together. This interactive pre-conference session will help counselors understand how social-emotional learning, career-based learning experiences, academic and career planning, and career pathways are all designed to come together to help your students graduate college, career, and community ready!

*Track: Academic/Career/Post-Secondary*

## Counselors, Collaboration, and Comprehensive Programs (K-12)

Rice Lake Area School Counseling Team  
(Shari Booth, Mary Krovoza, Nicole Weinstock, Mike Shomoin, Jessica Ebner, Erika Spear, Lori Neuman)

Hudson Elementary Counselors (Kelly Curtis, Aria Krieser, Anna Lurndal, Kristen Ziebol, Chris Strop, Sarah Flier)

Whether you are a counselor in a smaller district where your counseling team is comprised of counselors at various levels or you are in a larger district where several counselors are at the same



level, collaboration is key to establishing a comprehensive program. Hear how Hudson Elementary counselors work together to advocate for their role, improve practices for student growth and coordinate to impact all students across their district. You will also hear from the Rice Lake Area school counseling team and how they are working with the model to organize, advocate and close achievement gaps for their students from a K-12 perspective.

*Track: Leadership/Advocacy*

## Afternoon on the Hill (K-12 and Post-Secondary)



Kelly O'Connell, WSCA Government Relations Director

**FREE!**

WSCA's Afternoon on the Hill continues to be a cornerstone of the annual conference. Come learn how to effectively advocate for the profession you love and put it to practice under the dome! The event will begin with a discussion of effective strategies for meeting with our elected representatives in the WI Legislature and propose some key issues and talking points for your meetings. Then we will head to the Capitol for individual or small group meetings with your Senator and Representative!

Be aware that with transportation times we expect participants to be back to the Kalahari by 6pm.

*Track: Leadership/Advocacy*







**Erin Wood**  
PreConference Director



**Andrea Berlin**  
PreConference Director

Send any questions or  
comments to:

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