EXECUTIVE FUNCTION, MOTIVATION, AND ENGAGEMENT: FOSTERING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND POSITIVE BEHAVIOR IN STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 9–10, 2023

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
This conference is designed for professionals in education, psychology, child development, speech and language pathology, school psychology, and other related fields.

Questions:

- How do we promote executive function and social-emotional learning to address students’ behavioral and academic struggles?
- How do we build self-understanding, motivation, and flexible thinking to promote engagement and to reduce stress in school?
- How do we use EF strategies to differentiate instruction and to address the needs of neurodiverse students with a broad range of abilities?

This conference will include a combination of plenary sessions and pre-recorded concurrent sessions to provide opportunities for in-depth learning. The program will emphasize the application of theory and research to educational practice.
LYNN MEITZER, Ph.D.
CONFERENCE CHAIR
Dr. Lynn Meitzer is the Co-Founder and President of the Research Institute for Learning and Development (ResearchILD) in Lexington, MA. She is a Fellow and Past-President of the International Academy for Research in Learning Disabilities. She is the Founder and Program Chair of the Annual Executive Function Conference which she has chaired for 38 years. For 30 years, she was an Associate in Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Child Development at Tufts University. Her 40 years of clinical work, research, publications, and presentations have focused on understanding the complexity of learning and attention problems.

Her extensive publications include articles, chapters and books, most recently, Executive Function in Education: From Theory to Practice (2018), Promoting Executive Function in the Classroom (2010) and The Power of Peers in the Classroom: Enhancing Learning and Social Skills (2015), co-edited with Karen Harris. Together with her ResearchILD staff, she has developed SMARTS, an evidence-based Executive Function and Peer Mentoring/Coaching Curriculum for middle and high school students (www.smarts-ef.org). She has been an invited speaker at numerous national and international conferences, including the International Association for Cognitive Education conference in South Africa. She has been honored with a number of awards including the Council for Learning Disabilities Outstanding Research Award in October, 2015 and the Innovative Program of the Year Award from CHADD (Children with Attention Deficit Disorders).

LYNN MEITZER, PH.D.
Conference Founder and Program Chair for 38 years, President and Co-Founder, Research Institute for Learning and Development (ResearchILD)

STUART ABLON, PH.D.
Founder and Director, Think:Kids, Massachusetts General Hospital; Thomas G. Stemberg Endowed Chair in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School

ANTHONY BASHIR, PH.D., CCC-SLP
Consultant to Architects for Learning

LEAH BENJAMIN, PSY.D
Licensed Clinical Psychologist, The Concord Center

ELLEN BRAaten, PH.D.
Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School; Kessler Family Chair in Pediatric Neuropsychological Assessment; Executive Director, Learning and Emotional Assessment Program (LEAP)

LYNN CARPENTER, M.S.ED., M.A.
Director of the Center for Professional Development and Engagement at Churchill School & Center, NY; Reading Specialist

TOMMY CHANG, ED.D.
CEO, The New Teacher Center

JESSICA CHIUSOLO, M.ED.
SMARTS Instructional Designer and Professional Development Trainer

JOANNA CHRISTODOULOU, EDD.
Associate Professor, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the MGH Institute of Health Professions; Adjunct Lecturer on Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE); Research Affiliate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

JOSH CLARK, M.ED.
Head of School, Landmark School

SUSANNAH COLE, M.ED.
Executive Function Coach, Consultant and Speaker; Managing Director of reFLEXions

JESSICA CURTIN, M.Ed.
Vice President of Professional Development, Vivido

JULIE DUNSTAN, PH.D.
Bermuda Registered Psychologist; Founding Director of reFLEXions (c/o The Reading Clinic)

ARI FLEISHER, M.ED.
Innovation Network Manager, Professional Learning Team, CAST

MICHELE GARCIA WINNER, M.A., CCC-SLP
Founder and CEO of Think Social Publishing, Inc (Known as “Social Thinking”)

ARIELLE GARTENBERG, PSY.D., NCSP
Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP), The Concord Center

MICHAEL GRESCHLER, M.ED.
Director, SMARTS Program; Educational Specialist, ResearchILD

STEPHANIE GUTHMAN, PH.D.
Psychologist, reFLEXions

ADAM Hickey, ED.M., M.S.ED.
Research Coordinator/Consultant, Landmark School Outreach

PETER ISQUITH, PH.D.
Senior Attending Neuropsychologist with the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Program, Boston Children's Hospital

TAMI KATZIR, PH.D.
Director, Edmond J. Safra Center for Brain and Learning Disabilities, Full Professor, Haifa University

ALFIE KOHN, M.A.
Author and Lecturer

SHELLY LEVY, M.S., M.ED.
Director of Professional Development and Training, ResearchILD

KEVIN MACKey, M.A., M.ED.
Intervention Specialist, St. Ignatius School, OH

POLLY METZ, M.S., M.A.ED.
School Outreach Specialist; Founder, Learnabilities; SMARTS Consultant and Trainer, ResearchILD

BOBBY SINGER, PH.D., CCC-SLP
Founder and CEO of Vivido

JOHN RATEY, M.D.
Associate Clinical Professor, Harvard Medical School

MINDY SCRiRi, PH.D.
Educational Consultant/Learning (Dis)ability Specialist; Founder, Learnabilities; SMARTS Consultant and Trainer, ResearchILD

BONNIE SInGER, PH.D., CCC-SLP
Founder and CEO of Vivido

JOAN STEINBERG, M.ED.
Special Education Teacher and Instructional Leader, Wilton Public Schools, CT

JESSICA CURTIN, M.ED.
Consultant to Architects for Learning

JOYCE DALE, M.ED.
Principal, Leader, Wilton Public Schools, CT

JOSEPH DOLZ, M.ED.
Special Education Teacher and Instructional Leader, Wilton Public Schools, CT

JOHN RATEY, M.D.
Associate Clinical Professor, Harvard Medical School

MARY SCOOTER, M.A.
Director of Educational Therapy; Educational Specialist, ResearchILD

MARCI SPRAGUE, M.S.
School Outreach Specialist; Founder, Learnabilities; SMARTS Consultant and Trainer, ResearchILD

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“Your speakers were fantastic! This conference is so rich with information and ideas. Thank you for the quality, the caliber, and the smoothness of the entire learning experience.”

2022 Conference Attendee

Research Institute for Learning and Development websites:
researchild.org
smarts-ef.org
### Thursday, November 9, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30-9:35</td>
<td>Conference Logistics and Technology Overview</td>
<td>Elizabeth Ross, M.A.</td>
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<td>9:35-9:50</td>
<td>Welcome — Lynn Meltzer, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>9:50-10:50</td>
<td>Unlocking Students' Potential: Promoting Motivation, Flexible Thinking, and Stress Management in the Classroom</td>
<td>Lynn Meltzer, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>10:50-11:00</td>
<td>Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>11:00-11:15</td>
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<td>Bright Kids Who Couldn’t Care Less: Rekindling Students’ Motivation</td>
<td>Ellen Braaten, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>12:15-1:00</td>
<td>Lunch and/or SMARTS Optional Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;12:25-12:55</td>
<td>Optional Session: SMARTS: A Practical Approach for Teaching Executive Function Strategies Across the Curriculum</td>
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<td>1:00-1:50</td>
<td>Rethinking Challenging Behaviors: Combining Neuroscience, Compassion, and Common Sense</td>
<td>Stuart Ablon, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Exercise: An Antidote to Stress for Challenging Times</td>
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“It was such a privilege to participate in this conference! The speakers, knowledge, research and ideas were practical and accessible.” — 2022 Conference Attendee
## 38th Annual Executive Function Conference

### Plenary Presentations

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All session recordings will be available through January 15, 2024.
Thursday, November 9, 2023

3:30-4:30 PM, EST
Panel: Executive Function and Social-Emotional Learning
Anthony Bashir, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Josh Clark, M.Ed.
Ari Fleisher, M.Ed.
Michael Greschler, M.Ed.
Peter Isquith, Ph.D.
Mindy Scirri, Ph.D.

Optional Lunchtime Sessions November 9th and 10th

Thursday, November 9th
12:25-12:55 PM, EST
SMARTS: A Practical Approach for Teaching Executive Function Strategies Across the Curriculum

Friday, November 10th
1:25-1:55 PM, EST
Optional Networking Sessions
Join ResearchILD staff and your colleagues from across the globe as we gather for an informal discussion on EF Strategies for academic success.

“This conference was top notch. In addition to being full of incredible content, the delivery was tremendously organized and easy to navigate. The speakers, tech support and all members of ResearchILD were engaging and a pleasure to listen to. THANK YOU!” 2022 Conference Attendee
Friday, November 10, 2023

12:15-1:15 PM, EST
Panel: EF Across the Grades — Success Stories from Administrators and Teachers
Polly Metz, MPS, M.A.Ed
Lynn Carpenter, M.S.Ed., M.A.
Ebonia Williams, M.A.
Kevin Mackey, M.A, M. Ed.

3:15-4:15 PM, EST
Panel: EF and Social-Emotional Learning: The Keys to Resilience
Julie Dunstan, Ph.D.
Shelly Levy, M.S., M.Ed.
Susannah Cole, M.Ed.
Joan Steinberg, M.Ed.
Joanna Christodoulou, Ed.D.
Jessica Chiusolo, M.Ed.
Leah Benjamin, Psy.D.

“The sessions were so relevant to my daily practice. The live sessions and the recorded concurrents explored so many topics and provided so many resources to use in the future.” 2022 Conference Attendee

“I love having access to the latest research-based programming in EF and SEL from experts in the field. I am inspired and equipped to add new strategies and perspectives to my work.” 2022 Conference Attendee

All session recordings will be available through January 15, 2024.
The following pre-recorded Concurrent Presentations will be available November 2 through January 15, 2024 and can be viewed at your leisure.

**From Frenzied to Focused: Time Management and Organization Strategies for School and Home**  
*Michael Greschler, M.Ed. and Mindy Scirri, Ph.D.*

**Executive Function and Social-Emotional Learning: Strategies for Perspective Taking and Self-Awareness**  
*Shelly Levy, M.Ed. M.S. and Jessica Chiusolo, M.Ed.*

**Overcoming Math Anxiety with Executive Function Strategies**  
*Joan Steinberg, M.Ed.*

**Resilient Preschools: Opening the Window for Learning in Early Childhood**  
*Julie Dunstan, Ph.D., Susannah Cole, M.Ed. and Stephanie Guthman, Ph.D.*

**Students Can't Organize What They Can't See: Making Language Visible for Learning**  
*Anthony Bashir, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Bonnie Singer, Ph.D., CCC-SLP and Jessica Curtin, M.Ed.*
Resilience in Students with Reading Challenges: The Intersection Between Neuroscience and Educational Practice
Joanna Christodoulou, Ed.D.

The Science of Reading Meets the Art of Instruction: Designing Instructional Practices for Students with LD
Joshi Clark, M.Ed. & Adam Hickey, Ed.M., MEd

Universal Design for Learning: What It Is and How It Promotes Students’ Agency
Ari Fleisher, M.Ed.

Understanding the Cycles of Anxiety, Avoidance, and Accommodation
Arielle Gartenberg, Psy.D, NCSP and Leah Benjamin, Psy.D.

Cognitive Disengagement Syndrome: When Students Can’t Get Things Done
Peter Isquith, Ph.D.

Reading Comprehension: Strategies That Improve Accuracy and Reduce Reading Anxiety
Tami Katzir, Ph.D.

“This is the best virtual conference I’ve attended. It was succinct and had all the resources we needed.” 2022 Conference Attendee