

# Wild Rose SD EA Conference--Drayton Valley AB

**Date(s):**

Feb 06, 2020

**Session Location:**

Frank Maddock High School, 4801 43 St, Drayton Valley, AB

**Registration Fee:**

\$120.00

**About the Conference:**

Join us for our EA Conference!

**Schedule:****8:50 am to 10:00 am**

**8:50 AM - 10:00 AM - Alas, I am not attending during this time frame**

**Presented by: TBD**

**8:50 AM - 10:00 AM - Keynote: Trauma**

**Presented by: Dr. Robbin Gibb**

Trauma is defined as a disordered psychic or behavioral state resulting from severe mental or emotional stress or physical injury. The impact of trauma depends on a number of factors including the intensity of the trauma, developmental age, and sex of the individual. We will begin by exploring how experiences impact the developing brain and then focus on the role of trauma in dysregulation of brain and behavior.

**10:30 am to 11:40 am**

**10:30 AM - 11:40 AM - Alas, I am not attending during this time frame**

**Presented by: TBD**

**10:30 AM - 11:40 AM - Behaviour Strategies for Complex Students**

**Presented by: Tania Johnson**

Join Tania Johnson, Registered Psychologist and Child Specialist, for this highly practical, tool-based workshop on behavioural strategies for the complex student. The workshop will focus on how to help your student move beyond the hurdles that he or she faces. The workshop will begin with a brief overview of the neurobiological roots of aggression; followed by an in-depth exploration of triggers; and relationship based tools and strategies which nurture emotional health and connection. We will also explore the need for educators to engage in self-reflection and self-care when working with complex students. **OBJECTIVES** • Introduction to the neurobiological and developmental roots of aggression and anger • Exploration of triggers which fuel emotional dysregulation • Identifying tools and strategies for coping with anger • Self-reflection and Self-care practices for the educator and support staff

**10:30 AM - 11:40 AM - Boys Brains / Girls Brains**

**Presented by: Dr. Robbin Gibb**

Right from the time of conception the brains of boys begin development in fundamentally different ways than girls. High testosterone levels are responsible for masculinizing both the brain and body but they also change the trajectory of development. Not only do boys start kindergarten about 6 months behind girls in their language abilities, boys are developmentally behind girls throughout their school years. Wiring patterns and thought processing are also different between males and females. Males have more within hemisphere connections and females have more between hemisphere connections. These different patterns in connectivity give rise to different ways of thinking and behaving. We will discuss boy typical and girl typical brains and behavior and relate how Mom's and Dad's interact with their children differently based on their own brain wiring.

**10:30 AM - 11:40 AM - Brain Smoothie**

**Presented by: Sue Reich**

Brain Smoothies provide an escape from the time-bound, agenda driven processes that dominate our daily thoughts and lives. Brain Smoothies help to boost and nourish your brain through different art activities using a water canvas or board. Each Brain Smoothie session includes a mindfulness session, art activity and the opportunity to talk about your experience with others. This session will provide you with the opportunity to play with the water canvas and create something individually, as a group and if time allows with a partner.

**10:30 AM - 11:40 AM - Executive Functioning**

**Presented by: Joanna Johns**

Executive functioning difficulties often derail students who understand concepts and seem to be able to complete tasks but don't. This session will focus less on what executive functioning is, and more on how to coach Executive Functioning skill development and on how to use technology to help students become more independent learners. (This session will focus on middle or high school students)

**12:20 pm to 1:50 pm**

**12:20 PM - 1:50 PM - Alas, I am not attending during this time frame**

**Presented by: TBD**

**12:20 PM - 1:50 PM - Anxiety**

**Presented by: Joanna Johns**

We keep hearing about how there is an epidemic of anxiety in our students, which in turn can increase our anxiety about how to help. Come learn about why worry and stress isn't all bad, and how you can support students who have so much anxiety that it is getting in the way. Suitable for individuals working with all ages, but particularly those working in middle schools, junior high schools and senior high schools.

**12:20 PM - 1:50 PM - Emotions and Learning**

**Presented by: Dr. Robbin Gibb**

Emotions are "feelings" regarding someone or something or induced in ourselves under certain circumstances. They are difficult to define and even harder to study and so have been on the backburner of Neuroscience research. New evidence in the education domain underscores the importance of positive feelings for optimal learning. I will describe how emotions can moderate the learning experience and offer some advice to get students in "learning mode".

**12:20 PM - 1:50 PM - Next Steps: First Nations Hand Drumming and Dance Experience**

**Presented by: Glenn Macleod**

This active session will review several basic rhythms used in Powwow and Round Dance for participants to experience the power of the drum! Basic footwork will also be shared to understand the rudiments of Powwow dances to the "heartbeat" of the drum.

**12:20 PM - 1:50 PM - Supporting Rigid Thinkers**

**Presented by: Tania Johnson**

Rigid thinking is often a symptom of underlying anxiety in a student. In this workshop, we will explore the root causes of rigidity, followed by a focus on helping students take steps towards increased emotionally and cognitive flexibility. Helping rigid thinkers is indeed an art form that needs to be approached with patience, confidence and warmth. This workshop will teach you how to help students to open up to new ways of approaching life. OBJECTIVES • Introduction to the mechanisms of rigidity • Explore specific personality characteristics in an educator or support staff which nurtures trust in a student • Identify tools to help students be less rigid • Implementation ideas with individual students and groups of students

**2:10 pm to 3:30 pm**

**2:10 PM - 3:30 PM - AAC 101--Implementing Augmentative & Alternative Communication Tools in the Classroom**

**Presented by: Leah Odynski, Liane Huson & Nancy Kinderjeski**

In this session, Leah Odynski -Student Services Coordinator, Liane Huson-Assistive Technology Coordinator and Speech and Language Therapist Nancy Kinderjeski will be will review the goals of AAC, identify strategies that make strong communication partners, and provide participants with helpful tools and strategies to ensure success in implementing AAC into the classroom.

**2:10 PM - 3:30 PM - Alas, I am not attending during this time frame**

**Presented by: TBD**

**2:10 PM - 3:30 PM - Behaviour Supports for Children with Autism**

**Presented by: Tania Johnson**

Behavioural Strategies: Helping Children on the Autism Spectrum” will give a fundamental understanding of autism’s diagnosis, characteristics, and triad of impairments. This workshop will also explore evidence-based approaches and practices, and give practical tools and strategies so teachers and support staff can work collaboratively to respond to the unique needs of children with autism. OBJECTIVES • Understand the diagnosis and characteristics of ASD • Understand ASD’s triad of impairments and its behavioral implications • Explore evidence-based approaches • Develop practical tools and strategies to help children with ASD.

**2:10 PM - 3:30 PM - Compassion Fatigue**

**Presented by: Darlene Ferris**

Compassion Fatigue - the "cost of caring". In this session, we will define compassion fatigue and how to spot it in yourself and colleagues. We will explore the differences between compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma, and burnout. Ways to measure it, recognize it, what can be done to stop it!

**2:10 PM - 3:30 PM - Play for Success: It is all fun and games!**

**Presented by: Dr. Robbin Gibb**

Executive functions are skills that develop from the time of birth until the late 20's. It turns out that EF is a better predictor of academic success than IQ and it can be trained through playful activities. Three takeaways for this event include: 1. Participants will learn what executive function is, and the three main components of EF 2. Participants will learn about the importance of "serve and return" in building engaging relationships with children 3. Participants will learn about the value of play in teaching children; and then learn about activities to "play" that strengthen executive function. Everyone will be given access to the Building Brains Website and contact information if they have questions or require more support.

**2:10 PM - 3:30 PM - Rhythm to Regulate**

**Presented by: Vibe Drumming**

Come with me on an amazing journey! Using a variety of drums, native wood flutes, percussion and instruments from all over the world we will explore how to use scientifically proven concepts to regulate using rhythm. Participating in a drum circle will let you feel the benefits firsthand. We will discuss how the developing brain works and how trauma and special needs can affect those areas. You will learn some strategies to regulate emotion, physical responses and adjust behaviours in a fun and healthy way. With education budgets constantly getting tighter, we will talk about how to implement strategies without having to purchase expensive equipment, or any at all!