

2019 Southside TLC Symposium Presenters

- **Matthew Uselton** - A classroom teacher with 17 years experience, Matthew Uselton has taught mostly high school English (except for those two years in middle school that we don't talk about). He has served as an Instructional Facilitator, AP Coordinator, a Collaborative teacher, and as a therapy animal for stressing teachers. He currently plies his trade in Bedford County at Liberty High School and is still waiting on his invitation to Hogwarts.
- **Aimee Brenner** - Dr. Aimee M. Brenner has been in the field of education for over twenty years. Currently, she is an associate professor of education at Averett University in Danville, Virginia, where she has worked for eight years. Her primary role is teaching curriculum, instruction and literacy courses for secondary level preservice teachers, as well as supervising field experiences. Her research interests include growth mindset, instructional technologies, and engaging learning strategies.
- **Tim Thomas** - Dr. Tim Thomas works with preservice teachers in and outside of classrooms, with a focus on communities that learn, and on place-based education. Tim is an Associate Professor at James Madison University. He has two daughters, with one beginning college in Fall 2019.
- **Wes Warner** - Wes Warner is entering his third year as Assistant Principal at Burlington Elementary School in Roanoke County. Prior to Burlington, Wes was a Behavior Specialist for Roanoke City Schools for three years and taught special education for 15 years at Salem City Schools and for Rivermont School. He received a B.A. in Psychology from Emory and Henry, a Masters degree in Education from Old Dominion University, and a Masters degree in Administration and Supervision from Radford University.
- **Jason Breeding** - Jason Breeding is the current principal of Northside High School in Roanoke, Virginia. He previously held administrative positions as an Assistant Principal at Patrick Henry High School and Lucy Addison Middle School in the Roanoke City Public School system. Prior to holding any administrative positions, he taught math and science at Abingdon High School for nine years. Additionally, Jason has served on several state SOL Item Review and Articulation Committees.
- **Bill Birdlebough** - For more than 25 years, Bill Birdlebough has been committed to serving others through teaching, leading, and mentoring in public education, private industry, and the military. As an educator, he has a reputation for helping students become highly successful in STEM related careers and competitions. His students have won numerous State, National, and even World Championship level competitions. Bill has been honored at the local, regional, and state level as a

Teacher, Educator, and Program of the Year, and was presented with the Virginia Technology Student Association's highest award for career service.

- **Gary Gogerty** - Gary has been involved in public and higher education for over thirty years. He taught at one university and two private liberal arts colleges before accepting a position in the public schools. He received recognition from the Virginia Department of Education for the creation of educational software. He also received regional, as well as local recognition for instructional excellence. He has presented at VSTE and holds endorsements in Fine Arts, Secondary Computer Science and Gifted and Talented Education.
- **Theresa W. Richardson** - Theresa Richardson has been a school counselor for 15 years. Her role has varied, and she has served as a middle school Student Assistance Program (SAP) counselor, middle school counselor, middle school counseling coordinator, and elementary school counselor. During all of her years of service, she has worked in urban Title I schools. She is currently working as a school counselor in an elementary school in Roanoke County and has fallen in love with her students!
- **Teresa A. "Gibby" Gibbons** - Gibby Gibbons has worked in the education field for over 31 years. Her experience includes elementary, middle, high, alternative education, and higher education. She has served as a consultant, , contributed to leadership development, and provided diversity training around the country. Gibby is currently working at a specialty school preparing high school students for wherever their career path may take them.
- **Lydia Stewart** - Lydia Stewart is a Special Educator for Prince William County Schools, providing instruction for students with intellectual disabilities and those who have been dually identified (English Language Learners and Special Education). She has been the recipient of numerous awards to include the Washington Post Agnes Meyer Teacher of the Year, Prince William County Teacher of the Year, and the Region IV Teacher of the Year for Virginia. She is married to a retired Air Force Lt. Col. with three children and a dog. She is the music director for two choirs at Ebenezer Baptist Church and a member of the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation.
- **Summer Nester** - Summer Nester has been a Special Education teacher for ten years, with the vast majority of her experience taking place in co-taught middle school math classrooms. She was a special education teacher at James Breckinridge Middle School in Roanoke City Schools for 8 years before embarking on her current journey at Glenvar Middle School in Roanoke County. When

Summer isn't in the classroom, she enjoys spending time with her husband, caring for her three cats, and playing World of Warcraft.

- **Tiffany Vietinghoff** - Tiffany Vietinghoff is currently a lead teacher at Chickahominy Middle School in Hanover County Schools. Over the past five years, she has worked for Roanoke City Schools and Henrico County Schools. She has taught sixth through eighth grade math, with students at various levels. Outside of school, she spends her time with her husband and two 'fur' children.