# Conference Schedule

## Series 1  May 3-6, 2021

**Monday, May 3**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions
- **6:30-7:30 PM** Keynote: Dr. Ruben Puenteheada
- **7:30 PM** Dynamic Landscapes Networking Social

Meet with friends and colleagues while exploring a Spatial Social Networking platform, GatherTown. Door prizes! This will immediately follow the keynote address, and Dr. Puenteheada will be in attendance!

**Tuesday, May 4**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions

**Wednesday, May 5**
- **3:30-5:00 PM** Dynamic Landscapes Symposium Session 1

Using Dr. Puenteheada’s keynote as a springboard, we will host large and small group discussions to help us reflect and share about what we’ve learned over the last year. What worked, and what did not work? How can we plan for the future?

**Thursday, May 6**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions

## Series 2  May 10-13, 2021

**Monday, May 10**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions
- **6:30-7:30 PM** Keynote: Jennifer LaGarde
- **7:30 PM** Dynamic Landscapes Networking Social

Meet with friends and colleagues while exploring a Spatial Social Networking platform, GatherTown. Door prizes! This will immediately follow the keynote address, and Ms. LaGarde will be in attendance!

**Tuesday, May 11**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions

**Wednesday, May 12**
- **3:30-5:00 PM** Dynamic Landscapes Symposium Session 2

We will continue our conversations from Symposium Session 1, now with additional thoughts and ideas from Jennifer LeGarde’s keynote!

**Thursday, May 13**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions

## Series 3  May 17-20, 2021

**Monday, May 17**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions
- **6:30 PM - ?** Dynamic Landscapes Networking Social

Meet with friends and colleagues while exploring a Spatial Social Networking platform, GatherTown. Door prizes!

**Tuesday, May 18**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions

**Wednesday, May 19**
- **3:30-5:00 PM** Dynamic Landscapes Symposium Session 3

We will continue our conversations from Symposium Session 2

**Thursday, May 20**
- **3:30-4:30 PM** Concurrent Sessions
**6th Grade News!**

Troubles with keeping 6th graders on task? Embrace the chaos, empower the students, and get them engaged by having them present your School News via video once a week! Based on an idea from Kerri Saultnier and her colleagues, I've adapted their concept to fit a larger group of students. Many different standards can be addressed as they research and write news segments, then film and edit these videos. The best laid lessons plans oft go awry, and the pandemic definitely put a kink in them. Hear about the failures and successes of doing the News during this past year.

Deb **Stender, Johnson** Elementary School. This is Deb's 13th year as the Librarian at JES. Although originally starting undergrad work as a Library Science student, she was sidetracked for several years in a few different professions. Back in the educational system for 20+ years now. Deb believes strongly in endless reading, tinkering around, creating cool stuff, relating school work to real life, igniting students' passions for obscure topics, and ignoring the status quo.

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**Stop Motion Animation With Elementary Students**

Stop motion animation can be a pathway to storytelling, art and science. In this workshop we will learn several easy animation techniques that can be used with students as young as kindergarten! Bring paper, black marker, straws, tape, post it notes, and your imagination and have some fun animating. Walk away from this workshop with ideas to use the next day with students. Stop Motion Studio application and its value will also be discussed. This presentation will be shared through the lens of lesson plans used with a kindergarten STEAM class during required COVID safety protocols.

**Darcie Rankin** is a STEAM teacher at St. Albans City School prek-8. She has a passion for working with students—making, creating and building.

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**Playful Learning Lounge: Create With SVG Graphics**

Bring your laptop or Chromebook and we'll create our own designs to cut out using Cricut/Silhouette cutters or laser cutters from paper, cardboard, vinyl, wood, fabric, leather, or acrylic.

With this new skill you can take your creations to a new level.

Prepare to unleash your creativity. Learn a New Skill, Tips, and Tricks for creating using SVG Graphics Create and Make Time with your New Skill Connect and Discuss ideas for designing playful learning using SVG Graphics Enter the No Tech – Low Tech – High Tech Playful Learning Challenge

**Lucie deLaBruere** has spent 30 years as am ambassador of creativity and innovation in K12 schools. From her days as a high school teacher, to her time as a K-8 innovation coach to teaching graduate courses, she has integrated cutting edge technology. She is passionate about connecting educators who love to design hands on minds on learning through creating and making.

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**Check Out All Of The Playful Learning Lounge Opportunities!**

Design a Playful Learning Experience for

- End of Year Learning
- Summer Learning
- Back to School Engagement

Stop by the Playful Learning Lounge Mondays & Thursdays 3:30 – 4:30PM

- Learn a new skills in 15 minutes or less
- Create and Make Something Fun during a 15 minute practice time
- Connect with others explore ideas for Designing Playful Learning
Series 2 - Monday, May 10, 3:30-4:30PM
Stowe Room

Newsela Mash Ups: Infusing Instruction With Tools That You Can Use

Come explore some of Newsela’s “mashups” with other edtech companies such as Nearpod, Peardeck, Better Lesson, Listenwise, Tuva Labs, and more! From this workshop teachers and leaders will gain an understanding of how to use some of these exciting partnerships to truly enhance instruction across content areas, spark creativity, and to continue to challenge the status quo in grades 3-12.

Ashley Hart is a Solution Architect at Newsela. She is a former Massachusetts Humanities Curriculum Supervisor who believes in providing students with curricular and content experiences that have “mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors” that inspire them to make a difference in the world. In her work at Newsela, she empowers leaders and educators across the Northeast to grow students who think, innovate and use their voices to enact change. Ashley holds an M Ed from Bridgewater State University and a BA in English and Secondary Education from Stonehill College.

Series 2 - Monday, May 10, 3:30-4:30PM
Lake Champlain Room

Mentoring School Librarians Matters

School Librarians do far more than just teach. Existing evaluative structures do not necessarily support this specialized skill set. Come learn about how to find an experienced mentor, or how to BECOME a mentor yourself! For mentors we offer professional learning (a 2 credit course and ongoing PD) around the AASL standards, current evaluation models in the state, as well as specific training on the skills necessary for mentorship: structured conversations, continuum of interaction and developing your skills as a Growth Agent are all included!

Nancy Daigle is a librarian of 20 years, NBCT, and passionate about mentorship. She coordinates the Mentoring program in her district, and two years ago wrote a grant with Judy Kaplan to support new librarians in the state of Vermont.

Stephanie Canter is the New England District Partnerships Manager for Newsela and supports Maine, Massachusetts, NH, Vermont, and RI. Canter served as a school board member with a focus on social justice, equity, and innovation. She continues her civic engagement by working to enact anti racist local policies and training in the principles of Kingian Nonviolence.

Series 2 - Monday, May 10, 3:30-4:30PM
WeVideo Grand Ballroom

TBA – Workshop With WeVideo
Broadening Educator Expertise Through UVM’s CS Education Certificate Program

This panel will discuss a new Computer Science Education (GSE) graduate certificate program that is currently in development at the University of Vermont. We will discuss the CSE framework and how it aligns to the AOE endorsement standards for Computer Science in Vermont. In our panel we will address the following: How can you become endorsed to teach CS? What are the challenges of teaching this discipline? What can be done to attract students to CS classes?

Regina Toolin is an Associate Professor of STEM Education in the College of Education and Social Services at the University of Vermont. Her research, teaching, and program development focuses on social constructivist models of teaching and learning in STEM and Computer Science education. She is particularly interested in promoting and researching STEM+CS classrooms that are grounded in the principles of project-based, inquiry-based, and culturally relevant teaching and learning. She is Principal Investigator of UVM’s NSF Robert Noyce Scholarship Program and the GEAR-UP Champlain Research Experience for Secondary Teachers (CREST) Program. She is Co-PI for the NSF Collaborative Research: Network Cluster: Using Big Data approaches to assess ecohydrological resilience across scales and is Senior Personnel on the NSF EPSCoR RII Track 2 FEC: Leveraging Intelligent Informatics and Smart Data for Improved Understanding of Northern Forest Ecosystem Resiliency (INSPIRES) Project. Dr. Toolin recently served as the Regional Director for the Northeast Association for Science Teacher Education (NEASTE), is an editorial board member for the Journal of Science Education and Technology, and has published her research pertaining to STEM+CS teaching and learning in The Science Teacher, Science Education, International Journal of Science Education, Journal of Science Education and Technology, Journal of Computational Science Education and the International Journal of Social Policy and Education.

Panelists: Robert Erickson, Lisa Dion, Peter Drescher, & Randy Brown

KEYNOTE: Developing Digital Detectives: Essential Lessons For Helping Learners Survive And Thrive During An INFOdemic

In this fun, interactive keynote, we’ll tackle what Jennifer considers the most important work of our time: helping today’s learners develop into Digital Detectives, capable of evaluating information to determine what’s been designed to inform us vs what’s been designed to influence, manipulate or even harm us. Participants will walk away from this session with practical tips for getting started tomorrow along with the reignition of the ethical imperatives driving this work. The road ahead is long and difficult, and our students need guides along the way. Jennifer has built this session to be your map and compass. Let’s get started!

Jennifer LaGarde is a lifelong teacher and learner with over 20 years in public education. Her educational passions include leveraging technology to help students develop authentic reading lives, meeting the unique needs of students living in poverty and helping learners (of all ages) discern fact from fiction in the information they consume. A huge fan of YA Literature, Jennifer currently lives, works, reads and drinks lots of coffee in Olympia, Washington. Follow her adventures at www.librarygirl.net or on Twitter @jenniferlagarde.

Networking Social (Follows Keynote)

Come join us for an informal networking social hour and explore a spatial social networking platform, Gather Town! Join our keynote speaker and your peers for conversation and sharing. Complete a virtual scavenger hunt to be entered to win a door prize! Login to Hopin to find the special login link and password to our Gather Town virtual space!
Series 2 - Tuesday, May 11, 3:30-4:30PM
Seesaw Auditorium

Seesaw: Authentic Assessments
Teachers learn to support growth over time with authentic assessments on Seesaw.

- Templates for culminating choice projects
- Supporting self-assessment with rubrics
- Using folders to see growth over time

Mia Leonard taught Kindergarten in the Chicago Public Schools for 10 years. Mia is a Google Certified Innovator, PBS Digital Innovator, and Seesaw Certified Educator. In the classroom, Mia explored innovative methods to transform teaching and learning and empower her students daily. Mia currently works at Seesaw Learning as a Professional Development and Training Specialist. Mia is the author of Building Blocks for Tiny Techies: A Teacher's Guide to Digital Learning in Primary Classrooms. She also speaks regularly on how to amplify the voices of our littlest learners through technology at conferences and events across the country.

You can follow Mia and her class on Twitter: @mrsleonardk.

Series 2 - Tuesday, May 11, 3:30-4:30PM & Synology Theatre

Ransomware Protection For Schools
Ransomware attacks are a growing threat to schools and can lead to significant costs and downtime for organizations that suffer an infection. Amid the chaos of shifting to remote learning, many districts may have overlooked their ransomware defense strategy. With the dust settling, now is an opportune time to implement a strong preparedness plan. Having a robust disaster recovery plan can significantly improve an institution’s chances of recovering from an infection without paying a ransom. Join the session and find out how to set up a ransomware protection and disaster recovery plan before it is too late!

Joshua Douglas, Technical Account Manager at Synology, has been working directly with IT resellers and systems integrators to provide customized Synology hardware and software solutions. He has tailored solutions for educational organizations of all sizes to increase data protection and management efficiency.

Series 2 - Wednesday, May 12, 3:30-5:00PM
WeVideo Grand Ballroom

Dynamic Landscapes Symposium
A facilitated discussion for educators to reflect and learn from each other. We will use the week’s keynote speaker as a launching point for the discussion. Imagine a ballroom with round tables. Conference facilitators will set the stage, then you’ll have a chance to a table discussion to dig deeper. What have we learned this year? What does it mean for the future? Are there practices and resources that we will keep, even if we return to classrooms in a pre-pandemic manner? What will learning spaces and environments look like in the fall?

Series 2 - Thursday, May 13, 3:30-4:30PM
Seesaw Auditorium

That’s A Cool Graph
Spreadsheets can make some nice graphs, but taking those graphs and tables and putting them into a presentation, or report, or website is not always that simple, especially if you want that data to be up-to-date. Google actually has a program that does all of that, it is called Google Data Studio (GDS). For Administration it has allowed them to have nicely formatted reports they had control to filter the data as needed. We used it to generate a live donation graph that updated based on Google Form submissions, and we were able to create a searchable & filterable staff directory with photos. GDS could be used by students and teachers in the classroom as a way to visualize data collected in all those great STEM activities.

Bjorn Behrendt is the Technology Innovation and Data Management Specialist for Bennington Rutland Supervisory Union. He has been working in educational technology for 20 years and a regular presenter at the VT conferences. Bjorn also teaches courses through The Center For Schools in Castleton.
Augmenting Elementary Students Worlds With Augmented Reality (AR)

Have you been interested in incorporating Augmented Reality into your elementary classes, but aren't sure where to start? In this interactive session, we will explore free and easy-to-use tools to introduce Augmented Reality to your students for reinforce math, science, social studies, and language arts. Purpose of this presentation is to help teachers introduce and effectively use augmented reality to supplement elementary students' learning. I will showcase apps that are available on both Google and Apple platforms.

Judy Nguyen is a Teaching and Learning Consultant for All Covered Education. Judy has been an educator for over 15 years. Prior to joining All Covered Education, she taught in a 1:1 laptop and interactive white board environment at Rosary High School. When Rosary adopted a campus-wide 1:1 laptop program, Judy accepted the position as Director of Educational Technology. In this role, she was part of a 1:1 implementation, supported teachers with blended and flipped instruction, and developed an online summer and elective program. Judy passionately loves working with schools and teachers to accomplish their educational goals. Currently, Judy has been partnering with teachers to experiment on effectively integrating 3D Building, Virtual Reality, and Augmented Reality into their curriculum.

Playful Learning Lounge: Create With Loose Parts

Grab a shoe box and fill it with masking tape, craft supplies, bottle caps, foam, paper, recycling or anything you might find in your junk drawer at home or at school.

Prepare to unleash your creativity as you invent using your loose parts box. Learn a New Skill, Tips, and Tricks for creating with Loose Parts Create and Make Time with your New Skill Connect and Discuss ideas for designing playful learning using Loose Parts Enter the No Tech – Low Tech – High Tech Playful Learning Challenge

Darcie Rankin started her professional career as an electrical engineer, but found her true passion was for working with students when she had a chance to go into schools to speak about science and engineering. She received her elementary teaching endorsement and Masters degree in Curriculum from St. Michael's College. She has been learning alongside elementary students for the last eleven years and loves working with younger learners to engage them with hands-on activities. She strives to infuse her educational practice with student voice and choice as she encourages students to take risks, be creative, collaborate, play and have fun! She is currently a PreK – 8 STEAM educator at St. Albans City School in St. Albans, Vermont. Darcie is also a code.org elementary level facilitator for Vermont and enjoys connecting coding and robotics with the elementary learning experience.

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Green Mountain Room

This Class Is LIT!: Creating An Information Literacy Course

Many secondary librarians are tasked with developing and teaching courses. But how do you decide what to include? Where do you get the materials and lesson plans? This session will walk through my experience in developing an information literacy course at Colchester Middle School, as well as providing an open forum for attendees to share their experiences. We will touch on the AASL standards, proficiencies, curricula, and online resources as well as sharing some specific lesson ideas.

Rebecca Sofferman is the school librarian at Colchester Middle School in Colchester, VT. A graduate of Syracuse University’s iSchool (MLIS), Rebecca was previously district librarian and technology coordinator for the Tupper Lake Central School District in Tupper Lake, NY, an elementary school librarian in Saranac, NY and a high school librarian in Malone, NY. She was formerly Secretary of NYLA-SSL and has taught a course in the School Librarian sequence at UVM. Find her on the web at http://rsofferman.weebly.com/ and on twitter at @sofferbrarian.

Series 2 - Thursday, May 13, 3:30-4:30PM
Synology Theatre

Ransomware Protection For Schools

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Series 2 - Thursday, May 13, 3:30-4:30PM
Stowe Room

Help Me, I’m Buffering! Techniques To Combat Cognitive Load

We know that how we present information has a direct correlation to a person's ability to learn, acquire a new skill, or perform a task and that we are in a constant competition for their attention. In this session we will explore the basics of Cognitive Load Theory and apply them to Just In Time Learning techniques. That is, how we design instruction to give learners the support they need when and where they need it. The result, more time on task and increased performance.

Peter Diederich is the Assistant Director Of Education Technology for Harwood Union Unified School District where he works with everyone across the district to ensure that technology is increasing learning. Before joining HUUSD he worked at National Life Group as a Learning and Development Instructional Designer and as the Associate Manager of Distance Education for the College of Continuing and Distance Education at the University of Vermont. He holds a Bachelors degree in Political Science from UVM, in addition to a Masters of Education from Cabrini College and a Master of Science in Learning Technologies from Drexel University. Pete is a Vermont certified Social Studies, Special Education, Educational Technology Specialist, and Online Learning Specialist. You can find him on Twitter @OutpostID
Series 2 - Thursday, May 13, 3:30-4:30PM  
Woodstock Room

School Library Services In The Pandemic And Post Pandemic Era

COVID-19 has been a force that threatened to hinder access to school library learning resources. Interestingly, students, parents and teachers continued to demand access to books, and librarians with technology developers found innovative ways to provide safe services that resemble online shopping without a credit card! Deployment of Chromebooks, tablets and other devices, the Internet, hotspots and Zoom have also been catalysts that made it easier to integrate digital library resources in remote learning contexts. This presentation explores what has changed forever and paradoxically, what remains the same.

Harry Chan is the founder of library services companies located in the U.S. and Canada. Media Flex Inc. developed one of the earliest PC-based, integrated library systems in 1986 and in 2004, introduced OPALS, a Web-based, open source, integrated library system used in many Vermont school libraries and worldwide. OPALS technology consistently receives the highest survey ratings from school and small academic libraries in Library Technology Report’s annual “Perceptions” surveys. https://librarytechnology.org/perceptions/2019/#opals

Series 2 - Thursday, May 13, 3:30-4:30PM  
Lake Champlain Room

Storytime Jam!

A panel of teachers and librarians will read-aloud their favorite elementary storytime books and share storytime strategies and activities. After each story the panelists will invite attendees to share thoughts about curricular tie ins for the story, ideas for discussion questions, and potential paired activities.

Matt Gile is the librarian for the Winooski School District, serving students from preK-12th grade. Matt does weekly read-alouds with all ages of students, including ELL students in both elementary and High School. He was selected as his school’s Outstanding Teacher of the Year for the 2021.

Duncan McDougall is the founder and Executive Director of the Children’s Literacy Foundation, a nonprofit that inspires low-income, at-risk, and rural young readers and writers from birth to age 12 throughout New Hampshire and Vermont. Since 1998 CLiF has served more than 300,000 children in 425 communities and given away almost $9 million worth of new books to those children who need them the most.

Cara Clopton is passionate about picture books! She’s on the current VT Red Clover nominating committee, and serves as Allen Brook School’s PreK-2 School Librarian in Williston.

Abby Adams has been a library director for 9 years and a school librarian for 5 years in small, rural Shoreham, Vermont. Her library career began in a much larger public library system in Virginia where she presented storytime to around 400 children ages 0-5 every month. She brings the dual perspectives of public library and school library with her wherever she goes.