
Event Agenda

2026 OMLA Annual State Conference

Wednesday, November 04, 2026

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Early Registration**

8:00 PM - 11:00 PM **Welcome Social**

Thursday, November 05, 2026

7:00 AM - 4:00 PM **Registration**

8:15 AM - 10:30 AM **General Session**
Location: Ballroom

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **Keynote Speaker Breakout Session**
Location: Ballroom
Speaker: Joe Sanfelippo

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **20 (NEW) Golden Nuggets**
Location: Zambezi
Speaker: Kerry Fial

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **Managing Trauma in the Classroom**
Location: Nile
Speaker: Missy McClain

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **Confessions of a Student Chromebook Repair District**
Location: Orange
Speakers: Brian Reynolds, Stephanie Kabert

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **OASSA Committee Meeting**
Location: Salon A
Speaker: Tim Freeman

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **PBIS On A Penny-Sized Budget**
Location: Salon H
Speaker: Caitlin Fritsch

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **Community Classrooms: Building a Culture Beyond Four Walls**
Location: Banyan
Speakers: Jenna Jackson, Autumn Adams, Amber Hawk

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **COMING SOON**
Location: Ironwood

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **Small Bots, Big Impact**
Location: Crown Palm
Speakers: Heidi Varansky, Sarah Schoeppner

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **THRIVE in the Hive**
Location: Acacia
Speakers: Molly Hosler, Jacob Branan, Ashley Stepec- Bibler, Tricia Valasek

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM **From Data to Growth: Using Readiness to Elevate Student Writing**
Location: Portia
Speakers: Nicole Ellwood, Evan Shaw

10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	Reading, Writing, Thinking — No Charger Required Location: Wisteria Speakers: Cher Culliton, Hallee Chastain
10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	Empowering Students on Environmental Issues: A Multidisciplinary Approach Location: Guava Speaker: Kristy Lubiejewski
10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	Support Student Well-Being with Simple Strategies to Increase Belonging and Engagement Location: Tamarind Speakers: Rachel Schultz, Amy Bixler Coffin
10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	Science For Free Location: Cypress Speaker: Cassidy Powers
10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	Worksheets and Workbooks? Transform into Vertical Learning Location: Leopardwood Speakers: Becky Fellers, Angela McSurley
10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	"What Happens When the Scaffolding Is Removed? Adjusting Support in Middle Level English Classrooms So That Students Can Stand on Their Own in High School and Beyond Location: Roesewood Speaker: Dr. Steve Kucinski
10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	Aligning BLTs and TBTs to Elevate OST Performance Location: Sagewood Speaker: Brian Moore
10:45 AM - 11:35 AM	COMING SOON Location: Zebrawood
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Creating Student Entrepreneurs through Authorship & Stewardship Location: Zambezi Speaker: Jen Mott
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Building and Strengthening Student Executive Function Skills Location: Nile Speaker: Missy McClain
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Orange Speakers: Tom Burton, Paul Destino
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Real Life Issues from the Field Location: Salon A Speaker: Tim Freeman
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Building Champions: Creating Stronger Students Through Team Builder Days Location: Salon H Speakers: Nicole Farah, Nicholas Wysocki, Erin Stanowick, Alison Yourstowsky
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Expanding the Youth Lens: Honoring Classroom Diversity Location: Banyan Speaker: Olivia Wirth
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Ironwood
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	STEAM Without a Million-Dollar Budget: AI and Inquiry in the Middle Grades Location: Crown Palm Speakers: Amy Crawford, Terri Jewett
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Career Connections LIVE: Exploring Interests, Skills, and Possibilities Location: Acacia Speakers: Nikki Stotler, Jessica Koon, Samantha Bly, Alana Chester

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Navigating Middle School with Autism: Practical Strategies for Structure, Support, and Success Location: Portia Speaker: Megan Trowbridge
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Social Studies: Students Make the Darndest Things Location: Wisteria Speakers: Joseph Catullo, Rachel Trentanelli
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Beyond Referral: Building Teacher Confidence to Support Student Mental Health Location: Guava Speakers: Molly McVoy, John Paydo, Jackie McLaughlin
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Educator Wellness - Reduce Stress and Stay Healthy Location: Tamarind Speaker: Jennifer Burkholder
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	It Takes a Village: Family Engagement That Builds Belonging Location: Cypress Speaker: Audrey Beining
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Leopardwood
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Reimagining Assessment: A Year-Long Genre Study Approach Location: Roosewood Speaker: Lauren Buell
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Is It June Yet? A Survivalist's Guide to First-Year Leadership Location: Sagewood Speakers: Misty Goetz, J.R. Easterling
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Zebrawood
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	AI-Powered Agency: Making Personalized Learning Possible in Middle School Location: Zambezi Speakers: Tracy Merica, Jake Miller, Missy McClurg
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Increasing Developmental Assets and Building Resiliency in Children Location: Nile Speaker: Missy McClain
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Small Moments, Big Impact: Navigating Tier 2 Success in the Middle Location: Orange Speakers: Michael Sislowksi, Sara Meyers, Jessa Schmitz, Alexis Brady, Kristen Jedlicka, Taylor Kovach
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	STRS Location: Salon A Speaker: Kelley McChristy
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	The Dream Team... Most Days: Trials and Triumphs in Team Teaching Location: Salon H Speakers: Christa Samber, Katie Reilly, Lisa Stahlberg, Kyle Menn, Kerrigan Klicman
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	It Takes a Community: Connecting Students to Real-World Learning Location: Banyan Speaker: Debbie Heimbrook
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Building a Master Schedule that Fosters Personalization and Creative Use of Time Location: Ironwood Speaker: Daniel Sheppard
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Food Truck Fever Location: Crown Palm Speaker: Jason Board

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Future Ready: Middle School Career Experiences Location: Acacia Speaker: Rachel Hoag
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	EL-evate Your Classroom Location: Portia Speakers: Maggie Carter, Morgan Boldt, Desiree Parente
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Revolutionary Education: Cross-Curricular Living History Location: Wisteria Speaker: Kyle VonKamp
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	From Eye Rolls to High Goals: Igniting Middle School Engagement Location: Guava Speakers: Tina Leonard, Dave Ehrbar, John Paydo
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Community Wide Projects in the Middle School Location: Tamarind Speaker: Tom Grodek
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Cypress
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	"Leveling Up" Writing With Vertical Learning Location: Leopardwood Speaker: Becky Fellers
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Level Up Learning: Gamified Review That Gets Students Moving Location: Roesewood Speakers: Kara Fitzpatrick, Chase Barrett, Jessica Montunnas
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: An Administrator's Guide to Cultivating Meetings that Principals Actually Want to Attend Location: Sagewood Speakers: Eric Dunn, Jessica Bartels, Misty Goetz
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Zebrawood
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Beyond "Doing School": Moving Middle Schoolers from Compliance to Investment Location: Zambezi Speaker: Jake Miller
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Strengthening Developmental Relationships with Children Location: Nile Speaker: Missy McClain
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Ways To SSLAY Location: Orange Speakers: Kerry Rutigliano, Rachel Trentanelli
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	STRS Location: Salon A Speaker: Kelley McChristy
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Designing the Future: Engaging Middle School Students Through Purpose-Driven Learning Location: Salon H Speakers: Ellen Erlanger, Kathy Meyer
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	The G.O.A.T. (Great Ohio University Education Advisory Team) Location: Banyan Speakers: Matt Murphy, Karen Corcoran
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Ironwood

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	"Do You Believe in Miracles?" How to Use Sports Business to Engage the Middle School Mind Location: Crown Palm Speakers: Dylan McKinney, Caleb Keeton, Andy Schatzel
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Acacia
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	They Can Pass a Test — But Can They Do Laundry? Life Skills, Culture & the Circle of Courage: The Coy Cares Story Location: Portia Speaker: Andrea Ferguson
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Wisteria
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Game On: Learning in Motion Location: Guava Speakers: Erik Halm, George Prokopovich, Jennifer Haney
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	From Blueprint to Bloom: Cultivating Interdisciplinary Learning Through Garden-Based Education Location: Tamarind Speakers: Julie Picchetti, Stacie Sokolowski
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Cypress
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Gamify the Math BTC Location: Leopardwood Speaker: Angela McSurley
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Lights, Camera, Learning: Why every subject needs a Director's Cut Location: Roesewood Speaker: Brad Zahar
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Sagewood
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	COMING SOON Location: Zebrawood
3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	North Central Regional Roundup Location: Zambezi Speakers: Tom Grodek, Chip Plush
3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	Northeast Regional Roundup Location: Nile Speakers: Rebecca Reese, Meredith Stanton
3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	Northwest Regional Roundup Location: Orange Speakers: Matt Smith, Leigh Pancoast, Audrey Beining
3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	West Regional Roundup Location: Banyan Speakers: Nick Guidera, Tracy Merica, Jennie Gearhardt
3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	Central Regional Roundup Location: Ironwood Speakers: Josh Frame, Jen Page
3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	East Regional Roundup Location: Crown Palm Speaker: J.R. Easterling

3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	Southwest Regional Roundup Location: Acacia Speakers: Misty Goetz, Jessica Bartels
3:55 PM - 4:15 PM	Southeast Regional Roundup Location: Portia Speakers: Sarah Keen, Gay Lynn Shipley
8:00 PM - 11:30 PM	OMLA Conference Social

Friday, November 06, 2026

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Registration
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Instructional Coaching Literacy and Technology Location: Zambezi Speakers: Danielle Moody, Alan Speer
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Student Grouping Strategies for Collaboration Success Location: Nile Speaker: Marty Fish
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Turning Around the Math Classroom: Shaping Students into Problem-Solvers with Amplify Math Location: Orange Speaker: Makenna Dues
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	6/7 and 8: Aligning Middle Level Education to Future Careers Location: Salon A Speakers: Claire Garner, Kristina Lucas, Jama Cobb, John Hambrick
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	The Scientific Method and the Modern Media Landscape Location: Salon H Speaker: Paul Genzman
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	COMING SOON Location: Banyan
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Flex Time: Break the Cycle Location: Ironwood Speaker: Dan Lee
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Changemakers Location: Crown Palm Speakers: Kim Favor, Ben Stallsmith
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	The Momentum Formula: Turning Data into Achievement and Growth Location: Acacia Speakers: Matthew Ballentine, Dustin Weaver, Elaine Domo
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	COMING SOON Location: Portia
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	COMING SOON Location: Wisteria
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Relationships with Rigor: Is Engagement a Dog and Pony Show? Is Student Engagement about Entertainment—or Is It Something Deeper? Location: Guava Speaker: Carmen Coleman
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	BASA– Belpre Aeronautics Space Activity Location: Tamarind Speaker: Jessic McNally

8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Chaos & Joy: Favorite Things Worth the Risk

Location: Cypress
Speakers: Ashley Swaney, Kelly DuPlaga

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Keynote Breakout Session

Location: Zambezi
Speaker: Kevin Fleming

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

COMING SOON

Location: Nile
Speaker: Matthew Mays

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Multiplying Math Success through Skill-Based Math Intervention at the Middle School Level

Location: Orange
Speakers: Samatha Reeds, Rose Endreola

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

From Curiosity to Pathway: Building a Middle Level Career Exploration System That Feeds High School Readiness

Location: Salon A
Speakers: Michael Howton, Matt Heredia

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Learning Like Scientists: How Modeling Instruction Transformed Our Science Classrooms - And Never Looking Back!

Location: Salon H
Speakers: Kelly Kroesen, Kiersten Franklin, Kourtney Samuelson

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Leaning on support, where educational assistants fit in the school community!

Location: Banyan
Speaker: Saige Heath-Lovell

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Small School Middle Level Practices Learning Lab

Location: Ironwood
Speaker: Jay Clark

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

20 AI Tips and Tricks for Middle Grades Teachers

Location: Crown Palm
Speaker: Jason Ellis

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Teaching Beyond the Numbers: The Challenges and Strengths of Educating in a Small Rural School District

Location: Acacia
Speaker: Laura Renollet

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Visual Writing Strategies That Motivate and Engage! Discover the Snowman Writing Outline and the 7-Up Paragraph"

Location: Portia
Speaker: Jessica Rolfes

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Building Relationships Inside and Outside of the Classroom

Location: Wisteria
Speaker: Ebony Donley

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Back to ELA Basics with Structure and Rigor

Location: Guava
Speakers: Vicki Packard-Cooper, Casey Wical, Elizabeth Martin

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

The First 10 Days of School

Location: Tamarind
Speaker: Jennifer Shutt

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Yes, You Can Get Them to Talk

Location: Cypress
Speaker: Cathy Burke

10:00 AM - 10:50 AM

Keynote Breakout Session

Location: Zambezi
Speaker: Kevin Fleming

10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	COMING SOON Location: Nile Speaker: Matthew Mays
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Stretching the Standard: Advancing Learning for Math Students Location: Orange Speakers: Samantha Kelecava, Rachel Ayers
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Zero Dollar, Ready to Use: Engaging Career Readiness Platforms for Middle Schoolers Location: Salon A Speaker: Christy Kerchenski
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	From Struggling to Soaring: How MTSS and Tiered Reading Supports Drive Student Success & Personalized Learning Location: Salon H Speakers: Samatha Reeds, Jennifer Shelton
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Neurodiversity in Action: Educating Neurodiverse Learners as an Autistic Teacher Location: Banyan Speaker: Tabitha Mosley
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Low Pressure, High Expectations: Tiered Math Assessments that Support Standards-Based Grading Location: Ironwood Speaker: Joshua Luckhaupt
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Library of Congress: Primary Sources for Every Middle Grades Classroom Location: Crown Palm Speaker: Erik Kormos
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	The Art of Language: Leveraging student discourse in the content areas Location: Acacia Speaker: Jessica Raber
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Beyond the Test: End-of-Year Projects Students Remember Location: Portia Speaker: Jessica Rolfes
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	A Gathering of Nations: Preserving the Past While Forming the Future Location: Wisteria Speakers: Vanessa Board, Kathy Pugh, Charlotte Clevenger, Adrienne Dickerson, Drew Stauffer, Julie Poole
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	RACE Writing: Not a race, but a means to successful student writing. Location: Guava Speaker: Jennifer Kirwen
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	No More Desk Zombies: Activating Middle School Minds Location: Tamarind Speakers: Kelly Taylor, Jennifer Lyons
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	Building Community and Leadership Through Clubs Location: Cypress Speakers: Katie Ketcham, Adrienne Smythe
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	COMING SOON Location: Zambezi
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	COMING SOON Location: Nile Speaker: Matthew Mays
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	Providing Pathways: Administrative Considerations for Advanced Learning Opportunities in Mathematics Location: Orange Speakers: Samantha Kelecava, Rachel Ayers

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

COMING SOON

Location: Salon A

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Tier 2 Behavior Interventions - Tried and True!

Location: Salon H

Speaker: Lisa Moorer

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

How to Train Your Dragon

Location: Banyan

Speaker: Theresa Lindeman

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

COMING SOON

Location: Ironwood

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Finding their Genius: Helping Students Explore Future Possibilities

Location: Crown Palm

Speaker: Jessica Bartels

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Beyond the Bell

Location: Acacia

Speaker: Chris Miller

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Instruction Rounds

Location: Portia

Speakers: Nelson Karshner, Shauna Jarrett, Ashley Reynolds

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Don't Believe Everything You Believe!

Location: Wisteria

Speaker: Anne Farley Schoeffler

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Reading Across the Content Areas

Location: Guava

Speaker: Kristina Henson Waner

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Personalized Learning and Passion Projects

Location: Tamarind

Speaker: Dan Battaglia

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

COMING SOON

Location: Cypress

12:00 PM - 2:30 PM

General Session and Plated Lunch

Location: Ballroom