TURNING THE SHIP AROUND
Sustaining Holistic Improvement Practices
A FOCUS ON EQUITY

June 10-11, 2019 | The Riley Center | Meridian, MS
DR. ERICK WITHERSPOON
Keynote

Dr. Erick E. Witherspoon is a national educational leader, professor, and motivational speaker who originally hails from the sprawling Midwest air capital city of Wichita, Kansas. Dr. Witherspoon holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Kansas Newman University, a master's degree in educational administration from Wichita State University, and a doctorate in leadership for educational justice from the University of Redlands. His career in education includes experience as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, district leader, and adjunct professor in Southern California. Additionally, he has held many local, state, and national offices in the National Alliance of Black School Educators and serves on the California Staff Development Council. Throughout his career, Dr. Witherspoon has received numerous awards and recognitions, including his selection as a San Bernardino County, ACSA Region Elementary Principal of the Year; the Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association; the California Association of African American Superintendents and Administrators Emerging Superintendent Award; and the National Alliance of Black School Educators 2015 Hall of Fame inductee, among many others.

Currently, Dr. Witherspoon serves as the national director of equity for Generation Ready, the nation's premiere educational professional development company. Generation Ready partners with parents, school communities, and districts throughout the country to ensure success for all students.

SIG Participation Districts and Schools

North Panola School District
Crenshaw Elementary School
North Panola Junior High School

Quitman County School District
Quitman County Elementary School
Quitman County Middle School

Greenwood Public School District
Threadgill Elementary School
Greenwood Middle School
Greenwood High School

Forrest County School District
Earl Travillion Attendance Center

Cleveland School District
Pearman Elementary School

Yazoo City Municipal School District
Bettie E. Woolfolk Middle School
Ms. Shakinna Patterson
Director of School Improvement Programs, MDE

Ms. Shakinna Patterson serves as the bureau director for the Mississippi Department of Education Office of School Improvement. In this position, she supports the systemic improvement of and turnaround efforts for the lowest performing schools and districts in the state. In addition, she provides support for comprehensive support and improvement schools, targeted support and improvement schools, additional targeted support and improvement schools, and school improvement grant schools. Patterson has served in education for 18 years as a teacher, school counselor, district administrator, and middle and high school principal.

Dr. Marla Davis
Bureau Director for Secondary Curriculum and Instruction, MDE

Dr. Marla Davis, NBCT, is a veteran educator with almost 20 years of experience in secondary education. As the bureau director for Secondary Curriculum and Instruction at the Mississippi Department of Education, Dr. Davis’s roles include overseeing the development and implementation of curricular and instructional materials aligned to the MS CCRS in all core content areas (Mathematics, ELA, Science, Social Studies, and Fine Arts); on-site professional development and technical assistance to K-12 teachers; evaluating existing programs to improve classroom instruction and student achievement; designing and assisting in national promotion, mentorship, and selection of state-level finalists for the PAEMST award; managing a $2 million MSP grant to support math and science workshops through six IHLs; and, monitoring of SREB college and career readiness courses at the middle and high school levels.

Dr. Sebrina Palmer
Bureau Director, Professional Development and State Schools, MDE

Dr. Sebrina Palmer is embracing her 20th year in education. As the director of professional development and state schools, Dr. Palmer leads K-12 professional learning efforts and provides support to state schools. As an educator, she has been fortunate to serve as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, principal coach, leadership mentor, division director in the Office of Student Achievement and Growth, and a school improvement coach in the Office of School Improvement. Her passion, drive, and motivation for the work is fueled by her love of seeing children excel and teachers thrive in the classroom.

Dr. Talya Straughter
Director of Social and Mental Health Services, Open Arms Healthcare Center

Dr. Talya Straughter is the director of social and mental health services at Open Arms Healthcare Center in Jackson; owns and serves as the clinical director of Talya Straughter, DPC, LPC, Inc.; and holds numerous counseling-related credentials. She received a bachelor’s degree in communication disorders, a master’s degree in rehabilitation counseling from Jackson State University, a master’s degree in marriage and family counseling, and a doctorate in professional counseling from Mississippi College.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Presenter</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>2B</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome and Overview</td>
<td>Dr. Sonja Robertson</td>
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<td>9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Turning the Ship Around Book Overview (Parts 1-3)</td>
<td>Ms. Shakinna Patterson</td>
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<td>Having one point of command not only limits the efficiency of leadership, but also the decision-making authority of others. Imagine a workplace where everyone engages and contributes their full intellectual capacity, where people are healthier and happier because they have more control over their work, and where everyone is a leader. This session will continue the institute's focus on equipping school and district leaders with the necessary tools to build an effective organization by creating a culture of “giving control” and creating leaders.</td>
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<td>10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Turning the Ship Around Book Overview (Part 4)</td>
<td>Ms. Shakinna Patterson</td>
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<td>12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch (On Your Own)</td>
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<td>1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Teams 1-5</td>
<td>Planning, Implementing, and Measuring Impact: It’s the Standard</td>
<td>Dr. Sebrina Palmer</td>
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<td>As lifelong learners, it is imperative that we seek opportunities to strengthen and continuously develop our professional craft. This session is designed to support school and district leaders in the development of professional learning systems that are aligned with the Learning Forward Standards for Professional Learning. The presenter will address correlating professional learning programs to the learning standards. Participants will also explore methods for measuring the impact of professional learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Teams 6-10</td>
<td>Supports for Math Academic Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>Dr. Marla Davis</td>
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<td>During this session, SIG school leaders will learn about instructional supports, strategies, and programs that can be used to identify students in need of interventions in the mathematics classroom. The activities displayed in this session can be adapted to any core content area across grade bands. Participants are asked to bring a technology device with internet capabilities (e.g., a laptop, iPad, or smartphone). Time will be allocated for a question-and-answer session.</td>
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<td>2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions</td>
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### School Teams 6-10

**Planning, Implementing, and Measuring Impact: It’s the Standard**  
*Dr. Sebrina Palmer*

As lifelong learners, it is imperative that we seek opportunities to strengthen and continuously develop our professional craft. This session is designed to support school and district leaders in the development of professional learning systems that are aligned with the Learning Forward Standards for Professional Learning. It will address correlating professional learning programs to the learning standards. Participants will also explore methods for measuring the impact of professional learning.

### School Teams 1-5

**Supports for Math Academic Classroom Teachers**  
*Dr. Marla Davis*

During this session, SIG school leaders will learn about instructional supports, strategies, and programs that can be used to identify students in need of interventions in the mathematics classroom. The activities displayed in this session can be adapted to any core content area across grade bands. Participants are asked to bring a technology device with internet capabilities (e.g., a laptop, iPad, or smartphone). Time will be allocated for a question-and-answer session.

## Tuesday, June 11, 2019

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<td>8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Sign In</td>
<td>Second-Floor Lobby</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Reflections</td>
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<td><em>Ms. Shakinna Patterson</em></td>
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<td>9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Overview of Day 2 and Introductions of Presenters</td>
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<td><em>Ms. Shakinna Patterson</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Equity CPR to Turn the Ship Around</strong></td>
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<td><em>Dr. Erick Witherspoon</em></td>
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<td>This keynote will illuminate leaders’ ability to connect, prioritize, and respond to all students’ diverse cultural learning needs. An engaging and electrifying experience awaits you as Dr. Witherspoon, a nationally recognized and awarded equity leader, delivers a prolific message that shouldn’t be missed.</td>
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<td>Lunch (On Your Own)</td>
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<td>School Teams 1-5</td>
<td><strong>Adverse Childhood Experiences/Trauma Informed Practices</strong></td>
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<td><em>Dr. Talya Straughter</em></td>
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<td>This presentation will give a general overview of trauma so educators can understand trauma in a broad and inclusive way, including its definition and various types. Participants will learn how the brain and body respond to stress and trauma. With that understanding, participants will also recognize the effects of trauma on students, staff, and schools. Participants will be able to apply knowledge of trauma to their daily work through discussion and activities.</td>
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**School Teams 6-10**

### 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Anchoring Success Through Equity Leadership**  
*Dr. Erick Witherspoon*

This presentation will illuminate leaders’ ability to connect, prioritize, and respond to all students’ diverse cultural learning needs. An engaging and electrifying experience awaits you as Dr. Witherspoon, a nationally recognized and awarded equity leader, delivers a prolific message that should not be missed. To close the achievement gap, we must first close the relationship gap! During this presentation, leaders and leadership teams will be empowered to galvanize relationships with diverse students, educational stakeholders, and the entire educational community. This highly engaging learning experience will provide synergy to articulate your equity vision, define your equity leadership story, crystallize your equity values, and create tenets of your equity action plan.

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### 1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

**Break**

### 1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Concurrent Sessions**

### School Teams 6-10

### 1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Adverse Childhood Experiences/Trauma Informed Practices**  
*Dr. Talya Straughter*

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### School Teams 1-5

### 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**  
*Ms. Shakinna Patterson*

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