



## Agenda

**7:15 – 8: 15 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast**

**8:15 – 9:45 a.m. Welcome & Opening Keynote**

Welcome from **Jamey Fitzpatrick**, President & CEO, *MVU*<sup>®</sup>

Keynote Address from **Lee Rainie**, Director of Pew Internet & American Life Project

Rainie will discuss the Pew Internet Project's latest research findings on students and their world, highlight some of the trends that are developing and share his perspectives on this important research. The Pew Internet & American Life Project is a non-profit, non-partisan "fact tank" that studies the social impact of the Internet.

**10 – 10:50 a.m. Breakout Sessions**

### **Why Learning in Schools Has to Change**

This session will explore several recent research findings on adolescents and the Internet, the impact of information technology on cognitive and psychological development, the implications of gender differences, and the importance for schools to bring along all socio-economic groups. This session will provide education leaders with some recommendations that include immediate and long-term solutions.

*Presenter*

**Dr. Linda Jackson**, Professor, Department of Psychology, Michigan State University

### **Being There Virtually for Students**

*The Importance of Online Teacher Presence – MVU Teacher of the Year*

A key component of a successful educational experience for students is the support and presence of a quality teacher. While online teachers aren't physically in the classroom, their virtual presence is critical to student success as well. Timely responses to student questions, substantive feedback to written work and thoughtfully posed questions on discussion boards are some of the ways in which teachers exhibit their presence in online courses. Time and time again *MVS*<sup>™</sup> instructors speak of the quality of the communication and relationship building that occurs in the online course environment. This year's *MVU* Online Teacher of the Year will share some of these student and teacher testimonials and highlight examples of the many ways that *MVS* instructors engage their online students.

*Presenter*

**Michigan Online Teacher of the Year**



## **Attacking the Dropout Challenge – An Innovative Online Approach in St. Clair County**

What is the impact of a dropping out of school on your students, school and community? In your district the situation is probably like many others in Michigan, once a student has left high school the odds are very slim that he or she will return. Every time a student drops out they begin a path that leads them on a downward spiral and further from success. When students drop out it impacts your schools in lost revenue, lower graduation rates and AYP status and also your community. In this session you will learn how St. Clair County RESA in a co-operative effort with their local school districts and Michigan Virtual School is using online learning to attack the dropout challenge. The St. Clair County Online Learning Academy has taken an innovative approach in helping St. Clair county students get back on the academic track to success. Project staff will share how the plan was developed and implemented as well as the data they've compiled and lessons they've learned.

### *Presenters*

**Joanne E. Hopper**, Director, Educational Services, St. Clair County RESA

**Denise Lapish**, Director, Virtual Learning Academy, St. Clair County RESA

**Dan DeGrow**, Superintendent, St. Clair County RESA

**Richard Ferdig**, RCET Research Professor and Professor of Instructional Technology, Kent State University

## **Algebra for All: What It Means for Thousands**

Answering a call from the governor, the Michigan Mathematics and Science Network, Wayne RESA, the Michigan Department of Education and *Michigan Virtual University* teamed up to meet the challenge of teaching algebra to all Michigan students and providing professional development for 1,000 Michigan teachers. This session describes the project, Algebra for All, which consists of eight days of face-to-face training at sites across Michigan, coordinated through video from a central site, with local facilitation of learning activities. *Michigan LearnPort*® serves as the resource-sharing site for the documents used in the professional development, provides complete online coursework to replicate each day's training for those who miss a session, and has established social networking for the teachers between sessions. This is proving a powerful model for large-scale professional development, with applicability to many additional content areas.

### *Presenters*

**Libby Pizzo**, Mathematics Consultant, Wayne County Mathematics and Science Center, Wayne RESA

**Carolyn Siebers**, Mathematics Consultant, Wayne County Mathematics and Science Center, Wayne RESA

**Roger Verhey**, Emeritus Professor of Mathematics, and Director of the Center for Mathematics Education, University of Michigan – Dearborn

**Ken Schramm**, Manager of Video Telecommunication Services, Wayne RESA

**David Young**, Instructional Designer, MVU

## **Virtual Learning Lab**

Visit the Virtual Learning Lab to learn more about the services offered by our sponsors, try out *MVS* courses and learn how *Michigan LearnPort* provides online professional development for the K-12 educational community. You can also get online with the new and improved *myDreamExplorer*®, MVU's powerful career development websites, a free resource for Michigan students. The *CareerForward*® course will also be demonstrated. MVU team members and symposium sponsors will be available to inform and guide you through the lab.

### *Presenters*

**Mary Barry-Cybulski**, Associate Director, *Michigan LearnPort*

**Justin Meese**, Database Administrator/Analyst, MVU

**Jason Marentette**, LMS Administrator, *Michigan LearnPort*

**11 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.**

## **Breakout Sessions**

### **Student Panel: What if schools turned off the filters?**

Today's students, who grew up immersed in digital technologies, are often called "digital natives." Much has been made about this generation of technology-savvy students who reportedly take technology for granted and have made staying connected with one another a central part of their lives. In this student panel session, students will talk about what could be and not what is. They will share their thoughts on using technology outside of school and how they think technology should be used in school if school districts "turned off the filters" to allow for great use of networking tools like blogs, wikis, Facebook and Twitter.

*Presenters*

**MVS students**

*Moderator*

**Scott Vashaw**, Associate Director, MVS

### **Using Web 2.0 Tools to Meet Students Where They 'Live'**

The Internet as a one-way or static experience is being replaced with the interactivity of Web 2.0 tools. This presentation will show you how today's online teachers use Web 2.0 tools to connect students with their teachers, classmates, and the digital world. The tools covered in today's presentation will run the gamut from blogs and wikis to avatars and streaming video. Learn how these tools allow students the experience of the dynamic interaction that is a valuable part of the Web 2.0 experience in both the virtual and physical classroom.

*Presenters*

**Jay Bennett**, Instructor and Course Coordinator, MVS

**Kristi Bush**, Online Instructor, MVS & Michigan LearnPort; Media Specialist, Shepherd Public Schools

### **When the Flu Bug Bites: Planning for Continuity Using Online Resources**

Are you prepared? School closures for prolonged periods of time are a real possibility. If not the flu, natural disasters or other situations could cause schools to close, idling students and staff for days, weeks or months. How are you preparing for educational continuity? This session will examine low- and no-cost online solutions to keep students and teaching staff in touch and engaged. Social networking and media offer solutions that were nonexistent just a few years ago. Learn how teachers can create a classroom-based social network, use Twitter and YouTube and provide lectures, demonstrations and conduct group discussions for little or no cost.

*Presenters*

**Dr. Mary Barry-Cybulski**, Associate Director, Michigan LearnPort

**James Bell**, LMS Specialist, Michigan LearnPort

### **Using Online Solutions to Do More With Less**

School districts today are being asked to solve increasingly complex problems while dealing with dwindling resources. Learn how the 20 school districts in Kent County ISD partnered with the *Michigan Virtual School* to collaboratively find online solutions to three significant challenges: (1) Maintaining student access to the 22 career tracks offered at the Kent Career Technical Center ; (2) providing Kent students an opportunity to recapture core credits while still having access to the Kent Career Technical Center; and (3) developing and providing virtual testing out opportunities in a less costly and more efficient manner. Learn how the Kent ISD and MVU team responded to these challenges and how their efforts are changing the way Kent students access testing out and CTE programs at the Kent Career Tech Center.

*Presenters*

**Jason Kalis**, Academic Support Teacher, Kent Career Technical Center

**Ron Moag**, Principal, Kent Career Technical Center

**Deb VanDyke**, Academic Support Teacher, Kent Career Technical Center

**Jackson Fox**, Academic Support Teacher, Kent Career Technical Center

**Scott Vashaw**, Associate Director, MVS

### **Virtual Learning Lab (repeat)**

**11:50 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Lunch & Lunch Keynote**

Lunch keynote by **Julia Angwin**, Columnist and Technology Editor for The Wall Street Journal

**1:40 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Breakout Sessions**

**S.T.W. – Three Simple Letters, One Big Opportunity**

Using teacher-led online courses the MDE-approved Seat Time Waiver (STW) program allows schools to set aside the specific requirement that a student be in attendance at the school in a seat and in front of a traditional teacher. This session will highlight educators from Michigan schools and districts offering STWs to their students. Joining the discussion will be a representative of the Michigan Department of Education who works closely with the schools using the waivers. Attendees of this session will gain knowledge of the challenges faced in implementing the waiver program as well as the benefits and successes students have experienced from this flexible approach to learning. You'll take home a set of MVU guidelines for supporting online learners, a rubric to assess student readiness and a sample board policy regarding full-time online learning.

*Presenters*

**Jayne Mohr**, Associate Superintendent, Traverse City Area Public Schools

**Marsha Myles**, President & CEO, EdTech Specialists, LLC

**Al Vigh**, Frontiers Program Director, Wyoming Public Schools

**Joe Tibaldi**, Principal, Traverse City West Senior High School

**John Bailey**, Northwest Academy, Charlevoix

**Beyond Google Docs - Collaboration Tools for Students**

Discover how students are harnessing Web 2.0 tools to create collaborative projects. Explore sites which support student sharing of ideas, media and text. Leave with ideas on how teachers can create lessons which use applications beyond Google Docs or WikiSpaces for student collaboration. Sample lessons and best practices will be demonstrated.

*Presenter*

**Andy Mann**, Educational Technology Consultant, Calhoun Intermediate School District

**Virtual Learning Lab (repeat)**

**2:45 – 3:40 p.m.**

**Panel Discussion: The Future of Online Learning**

**3:45 – 4 p.m.**

**Closing Remarks by Jamey Fitzpatrick, President & CEO, MVU**

