

## TEPS Grant Conference Report

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Council for Exceptional Children Convention

Orlando, Florida

January 15, 2022- January 19, 2022

Dear TEPS Committee, Dr. Frahm, and Curriculum Office:

I would like to thank the committee for allowing me to attend the Council for Exceptional Children National Convention in Orlando, Florida. The four days were filled with an abundance of information and sessions that will benefit my students and my teaching methodology. The sessions that will have immediate impact are described as follows:

Improving Essay Writing with Technology in Various Environments: From In-Person to Virtual: This presentation provided an overview of existing technology-based interventions that support writing instruction for students with disabilities. Innovative technology-based graphic organizers (TBGOs) with embedded strategies and supports were used to provide writing instruction in various settings. This tool will be very useful for my students who struggle with writing. I will use the TBGO to enhance the quantity and quality of essays written by students in my classroom.

Using Worked Examples Can Increase Students' Conceptual Understanding in Mathematics: This session demonstrated the use of worked examples with multi-step algebraic equations by deepening critical thinking. I learned different types of worked examples, created an example, and considered how to implement the techniques in my classroom. I will utilize the solved problems planning sheet provided by the instructor to help develop critical thinking skills while completing multi-step math problems.

Data, Data, Data: Collect it and Report!

Data collection is a critical component of effective instruction. This session discussed different data collection methods to assess student progress (academic and behavior) and allowed me to practice data collection with various scenarios. I am always looking for quick, effective progress monitoring tools and will utilize some of these strategies in my classroom.

Again, thank you for allowing me to attend the conference. These three sessions are just examples of some of the items I will bring back to my classes and share with my colleagues. This conference allowed me to enhance my teaching to have a positive impact on students with intellectual disabilities at Clarence High School.

Laura Staniszewski