PEAK Parent Center
2018 Conference on Inclusive Education

ELEVATE
INCLUSION

FEBRUARY 8-9, 2018
Denver, Colorado
Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel

Conference Highlights
• FIVE Keynote Presentations
• Silent Auction
• Exhibit Marketplace
• Sneak Peak of Filmmaker Dan Habib’s “Intelligent Lives”
• Karaoke Extravaganza
• Closing: Participant Prize Drawings

Keynote Presenters
Doug Fisher
LeDerick Horne
Dan Habib
Shelley Moore
Brent Anderson
Welcome!

On behalf of PEAK Parent Center and an impressive lineup of presenters in 2018, thank you for joining us at this cutting edge conference that will equip you with the practical, evidence-based strategies needed to ensure access, equity, and opportunity for ALL students, particularly students with disabilities!

By attending this conference, you are demonstrating your commitment to changing education and reinventing schools to be places where all students can achieve success. And by all, we mean ALL!

During these two days, may we not only cultivate hope for education, but also develop the skills and expertise required to put that hope into action!

Here are a few important reminders:

**Nametag:** Your nametag is your ticket to all conference sessions and meals. Please wear it at all times.

**Arrive to Sessions Early!**
If there is a session you absolutely don’t want to miss, be sure to arrive early and get yourself a spot as sessions may reach capacity.

**Conference Materials and Handouts – Electronic Password Protected Dropbox Folder!**
In efforts to be environmentally friendly and to be able make handouts and materials available during and after the conference, any handouts and conference materials that were approved to share with participants electronically will be stored in a password protected Dropbox folder managed by PEAK Parent Center. Materials in this online folder will be available until August 3, 2018. To access these materials visit bit.ly/PEAK2018ConfHandouts and when prompted enter the password PEAKInclusion2018 (note the password is case sensitive).

**Evaluation**
Please complete the hard copy evaluation form included in your conference packet. Your ideas and input provide PEAK with important information to use when planning future conferences. Please drop your completed evaluation off at Registration Headquarters in the baskets provided.

**PEAK Sales Table**
Visit the PEAK sales table to purchase books and resources from various conference presenters and other leading experts in the field of inclusive education!

**Silent Auction Fundraiser – Thursday Only Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level**
Come bid on the eclectic assortment of items at PEAK’s 16th annual Silent Auction Fundraiser! Featured items include jewelry, a gift card bidding tree, mystery wine bidding, artwork, gift baskets, Steamboat Springs Timeshare and much more! Don’t miss out on this excellent shopping where 100% of the proceeds will help fund future conferences and support the mission of PEAK Parent Center! Bidding opens at 10:00 am and closes at 5:30 pm so you can bid on the bargains throughout the day Thursday. And, join us during the networking hour from 4:30-5:30 pm – we’ll have live music, and a cash bar!

**Exhibit Marketplace – Thursday and Friday Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level**
Visit the exhibit marketplace, open all day Thursday AND Friday, and support the awesome self-advocate business entrepreneurs in 2018! PEAK is proud to showcase these innovators who are exemplars of inclusion!

**Participant Prize Drawing – After Friday’s Closing Keynote! Colorado Ballrooms C & D**
We appreciate YOU – that you chose to attend our conference and that you are committed to inclusive education. In appreciation a prize drawing will be held at the end of the conference on Friday. Drop your name into the baskets provided as you enter the closing keynote, for a chance to WIN an awesome prize including two 2019 Conference on Inclusive Education registrations, and more! You MUST be present to win!

**Continuing Education Credit**
Professional development (recertification) hours are available based on the clock hours of content at the conference. These may apply toward the professional development requirement for educators renewing their licenses. Certificates will be available for pick up at the end of the day Friday.

**Exploring Denver**
The Renaissance Denver Hotel is located near two shopping areas. It is about 15 minutes away from Downtown Denver by either Light Rail or car! Check with the front desk of the hotel for light rail information or driving directions! We hope you enjoy the Mile High City!
Thursday, February 8, 2018
7:30-9:00 am .................. Registration Check-In, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
7:30-9:00 am .................. Coffee, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
8:45-10:30 am .................. Opening Keynote Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
Conference Welcome and Introductions
Presented by: Doug Fisher
10:30-11:00 am ............... Break, Silent Auction, & Exhibit Time
10:30 am-5:30 pm ........... Exhibit Marketplace Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
10:30 am-5:30 pm ........... Silent Auction Bidding Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
11:00 am-12:30 pm ........... Morning Breakouts: Choose from Sessions #1-5
                                          Sessions Run Simultaneously
12:30-1:15 pm ............... Lunch, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
1:15-2:30 pm .................. Keynote Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
Presented by: LeDerick Horne
2:30-3:00 pm ............... Break, Silent Auction, & Exhibit Time
                                          (Sweet Treat Served in Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level)
3:00-4:30 pm ............... Afternoon Breakouts: Choose from Sessions #6-10
                                          Sessions Run Simultaneously
4:30-5:30 pm ............... Silent Auction Final Bidding & Networking with Live Music!
                                          Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
7:00-9:00 pm ............... Sneak Preview of Documentary, “Intelligent Lives” by Dan Habib
                                          (Your ticket is your conference badge) Colorado Ballrooms C & D
9-11:00 pm ............... Karaoke Extravaganza, Colorado Ballrooms A & B

Friday, February 9, 2018
8:00 am-5:30 pm ........... Registration Headquarters Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
7:30 am-8:30 am ........... Coffee, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
8:00 am-5:15 pm ........... Exhibit Marketplace Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
8:15-9:30 am ............... Keynote Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
Presented By: Shelley Moore
9:30-10:00 am .............. Break & Exhibit Time
10:00-11:30 am ............ Morning Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #1-5
                                          Sessions Run Simultaneously
11:30 am-12:15 pm ........ Lunch, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
12:15-1:30 pm ............... Keynote Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
Presented By: Dan Habib
1:30-2:00 pm ............... Break & Exhibit Time
                                          (Sweet Treat Served in Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level)
2:00-3:30 pm ............... Afternoon Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #6-10
                                          Sessions Run Simultaneously
3:30-4:00 pm ............... Break & Exhibit Time
4:00-5:00 pm ............... Closing Plenary Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
                                          Keynote Presentation: Brent Anderson
5:00 pm ....................... Participant Prize Drawings and Close of Conference
Thursday, February 8 • Keynote Sessions and Breakout Sessions

**Thursday Morning**

7:30-9:00 am  ............  Registration Check-In, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
7:30-9:00 am  ............  Coffee, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
8:45-10:30 am  ............  Opening Keynote Session - Conference Welcome and Introductions, Colorado Ballrooms C & D

**Keynote Presentation: Inclusive Practices: Now Is The Time!**
*Presented by Doug Fisher*

Why is it taking so long to implement what actually works? What can we do to transform instruction for students now? How do we provide sound, rich curriculum to ALL students? How do we provide quality instruction and supports in general education? Start your conference out with this thought provoking session and take away strategies for developing confident and successful learners come Monday morning.

10:30-11:00 am  ............  Break, Silent Auction, & Exhibit Time
10:30 am-5:30 pm  ........  Exhibit Marketplace Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
10:30 am-5:30 pm  ........  Silent Auction Bidding Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
11:00 am-12:30 pm  .......  Morning Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #1-5, which run simultaneously

**Breakout 1: Visible Learning for Literacy,**  
*Presented by Doug Fisher*

*Room: Colorado Ballroom A*

Join this innovative educator to learn what works, what doesn’t work, and what can’t hurt students at different phases of learning. Though there have been thousands of books, research articles, and websites about better ways to ensure that students develop knowledge and skills, the truth is, not everything works. Only a few things work at ensuring that students gain a full year’s worth of growth for a year of enrollment in school. In Visible Learning, a researcher (Hattie, 2009) finds that students must first develop surface-level learning if they are ever going to go deep. We know that deep learning facilitates transfer of information. Come learn specific approaches that work at the surface level of learning and see how they are different from strategies that work at the deep and transfer levels.

**Breakout 2: The Endrew F. Case and the Legal Implications,**  
*Presented by Alison Butler and Jennifer Levin*

*Room: Colorado Ballroom B*

In this session, Alison and Jennifer, attorneys from Disability Law Colorado, Colorado’s Protection and Advocacy System, will provide an overview of the Supreme Court case of Endrew F v. Douglas County School District and its impact on special education law. Be informed about the new standard for a free appropriate public education, areas in which there may be disagreement between schools and parents, and legal implications for everyone following this ruling.

**Breakout 3: Creating Solutions for Reading and Writing,**  
*Presented by Therese Willkomm*

*Room: Telluride*

Therese Willkomm, the MacGyver of assistive technology is back again! You will be treated to an interactive session where Therese will demonstrate intriguing solutions that can be quickly made to assist students with disabilities to read and write. Each attendee will have the opportunity to fabricate a multi-use device for reading and writing. **Session takeaways:** 1) Make and take home a multi-use device that can be used in 10 different ways, 2) Identify at least 10 new apps and devices that teens are using, and 3) Identify at least 5 new strategies and resources for communication, reading, and writing.

**Breakout 4: Restorative Practices for Families and Teachers,**  
*Presented by Dominique Smith*

*Room: Big Thompson*

This session will focus on how to create positive student-teacher relationships which have a positive effect on a student’s growth and achievement. Simply stated, students do not learn from adults they don’t care about. The focus of restorative practices is to move away from punitive practices, and to refocus by using conversation and understanding to help restore situations. Dominique will share his experience of working at Health Sciences High and Middle College in San Diego, and how they used restorative practices to regain a balance in their classroom management by working on their relationships with students.

(continued next page)
Breakout 5: The Heart of the IEP Meeting: Connection and Communication, Presented by Jacey Tramutt
Room: Platte River
At the heart of any IEP meeting are many connections: connection-to-connection between the family and the school as well as a connection to the needs of the student. This session will explore how the way you communicate impacts an IEP meeting. We will discuss communication styles that foster connection with others as well as communication styles that shut down connections. In addition, participants will learn a practical process for resolving conflict.

Thursday Afternoon
12:30-1:15 pm .......... Lunch, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
1:15-2:30 pm .......... Keynote Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D

Keynote Presentation: A Path to Pride and Success
Presented by LeDerick Horne
In this engaging presentation, the dynamic spoken-word poet, LeDerick Horne, will share his experience as a student with a learning disability who was able to attend college and earn a BA in mathematics. Learn how to help students develop positive identities as people with disabilities; discover strategies for helping them reach their transition goals; and understand ways to assist students in developing positive relationships in school and the adult world.

2:30-3:00 pm .......... Break, Silent Auction, & Exhibit Time (Sweet Treat Served in Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level)
3:00-4:30 pm .......... Afternoon Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #6-10, which run simultaneously

Breakout 6: Better Learning for Students Through Structured Teaching, Presented by Doug Fisher
Room: Colorado Ballroom A
Building student competence requires intentional and targeted teaching, not prescriptive methods for engaging students. In this session, Doug will focus on the powerful concept of Gradual Release of Responsibility in teaching, and discuss the implementation of an instructional framework that ensures student success. The steps in instruction include establishing the purpose for the skill or lesson with students, modeling thinking approaches, guiding instruction for the skill or lesson using productive group work, and finally, structuring independent learning tasks. Participants will learn the results of this high quality instruction including increases in student achievement and decreases in attendance problems.

Breakout 7: Strategies for Accessing Curriculum, Presented by Jennifer Kurth
Room: Colorado Ballroom B
In this session Jennifer will explore how inclusive education is possible and effective. Participants will learn strategies that are proven to work for all students to access the general education curriculum. Be prepared to walk away with practical tips and strategies that can immediately be put into practice. Session takeaways: Participants will learn 1) That inclusive education is possible and effective, 2) That inclusive education brings benefits to all, and 3) That supporting all learners in an inclusive manner is a research-based strategy.

Breakout 8: Supporting and Measuring Growth for Students with Learning Differences, Presented by Lee Ann Jung
Room: Telluride
Teachers face unprecedented challenges in providing students with learning differences access to the general curriculum. At this session learn about an intervention planning and progress-monitoring tool that teams can use with students who have learning differences (including students receiving tiered intervention in an RTI/MTSS model). Session takeaways: 1) Write an individualized goal that is meaningful and measurable, 2) Develop a growth plan for use in general education classes, and 3) Use growth plans to design intervention and support that is effective and a natural part of everyday classroom routines.
Thursday Evening

4:30-5:30 pm........ Silent Auction Final Bidding & Networking Hour with Live Music!
Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level

7:00-9:00 pm........ Sneak Preview of “Intelligent Lives”
by Dan Habib
(your conference badge is your ticket.)
Ballrooms C & D

9:00-11:00 pm...... Karaoke Extravaganza, Ballrooms A & B

Sneak Preview of Dan Habib’s “Intelligent Lives”
Join us for an evening with award winning filmmaker Dan Habib as he shares a sneak preview of his upcoming documentary “Intelligent Lives” that examines society’s narrow perceptions of intelligence. 7-7:30 pm Live Music, Munchies and Cash Bar 7:30-9:00 pm viewing of the film and Q & A. Sponsored by Arcs across the state of Colorado and NuMotion.

Karaoke Extravaganza...get ready to party during this fun-filled evening of karaoke, an inclusion conference tradition! This event is open to everyone so please bring your family (kids are welcome too) and friends to enjoy the great selection of songs, singing, dancing and cash bar! Be a part of the vibrant, inclusive community that is formed each year at the conference and get ready to bring down the house!

Stay up to Date
Join our mail list at www.peakparent.org and connect with PEAK Parent Center on Facebook and Twitter!
Friday Morning

8:00 am-5:30 pm .......... Registration Headquarters Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
7:30-8:30 am ............ Coffee, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
8:00 am-5:15 pm ........ Exhibit Marketplace Open, Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level
8:15-9:30 am ............ Keynote Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D


*Presented by Shelley Moore*

Start your morning with award-winning storyteller, Shelley Moore! Shelley will examine common misunderstandings and myths, and share her insights as to what inclusive education means in today's classrooms and communities. Whether you are a teacher, parent, administrator, paraprofessional or related service provider, you will leave feeling energized and equipped with ideas and possibilities of inclusive learning communities and all who benefit.

9:30-10:00 am .......... Break & Exhibit Time
10:00-11:30 am .......... Morning 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from #1-5, which run simultaneously

Breakout 1: Inclusive Education: Designing Supports to Meet the Needs of ALL Learners from a Strength-based Perspective, Presented by Shelley Moore

*Room: Colorado Ballroom A*

In this session Shelley will look at how teaching plans can be responsive to the needs of a group of learners that include a variety of abilities. Participants will explore ways to design supports to complement the curriculum, and brainstorm strategies for how all kids can achieve success through strategic planning of goals and designing of supports.

Breakout 2: What About Evidence That Supports Inclusive Education?, Presented by Jennifer Kurth

*Room: Colorado Ballroom B*

Over the past 30 years, a large bank of evidence supporting inclusive education has been accumulated. These research results will be examined in this session along with trends and strategies for improving access for all students to effective, inclusive education. **Session takeaways:**

Participants will learn: 1) That inclusive education is possible and effective, 2) That inclusive education confers benefits to all students, and 3) That supporting all learners in an inclusive manner is a sound, research-based strategy.

Breakout 3: Including Families and Students as Partners in the IEP and Transition Planning, Presented by Dan Habib

*Room: Telluride*

In this interactive session, filmmaker and parent advocate Dan Habib will discuss detailed tips and strategies for fostering collaboration between families and schools throughout the IEP process and transition planning. Habib will share how he and his wife have worked to support Samuel’s self-advocacy through student-led IEPs, person centered planning, open team communication and extensive family engagement in writing the IEP itself.

Breakout 4: Beyond ‘Behavior’: Supporting Competence, Confidence, and a Sense of Well-Being (Part I), Presented by David Pitonyak

*Room: Big Thompson*

In this session David explores the idea that difficult behaviors result from unmet needs. The presence of a difficult behavior often means that something important is missing in a person’s life and/or the lives of his/her supporters. **Session takeaways:**

1) An understanding of the importance of relationships in our lives and how we help each other to become contributing members of our community and 2) An understanding of the role anxiety plays in people’s lives and how we can help people to feel more self-confident. The goal is to build support plans that help the person and his/her supporters to develop a sense of competence, confidence, and well-being. (Note: Parts I and II build on each other but it is not essential to attend both.)

Breakout 5: Inclusion from the Start: Building the Foundation for an Inclusive Life by Penny Dell

*Room: Platte River*

Learn about the importance of inclusive practices beginning from the time a baby, toddler, or preschooler is identified as having a disability. The foundations of inclusion are not just practices and strategies, but they are based largely on attitudes and beliefs. Participants will explore the important

(continued next page)
Friday Morning continued

role attitudes and beliefs take in creating a foundation of inclusion and in developing policy, guidance, and implementing practices and strategies. Current national resources will be shared in order to look at strategies for change and opening doors for children and families. **Session takeaways:** 1) Importance of attitudes and beliefs regarding inclusion, 2) Familiarity with local recommendations and current national resources for improving high-quality inclusive programs based on the Federal Policy Statement, and 3) Myths about inclusion.

Friday Afternoon

11:30-12:15 pm ..........Lunch, Colorado Ballrooms C & D
12:15-1:30 pm ..........Keynote Session, Colorado Ballrooms C & D

**Keynote Presentation: Disabling Segregation**
**Presented by Dan Habib**
Dan Habib didn't give much thought to disability until his son Samuel was born with cerebral palsy. In this eye-opening presentation, the filmmaker and disability-rights advocate describes his family's fight to ensure an inclusive education for Samuel and makes a powerful case for ending the systemic segregation of students with disabilities. Habib shares how inclusive education is not only preparing Samuel (now 18) for his adult life in the community but also describes the powerful impact that inclusion has on students without disabilities. He will also show a new short ‘clip’ from his *Intelligent Lives* project.

1:30-2:00 pm ..........Break & Exhibit Time (Sweet Treat Served in Pre-Function Area, Banquet Level)
2:00-3:30 pm ..........Afternoon 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from #6-10, which run simultaneously

**Breakout 6: Planning and Setting Goals for Students with a Range of Ability from a Strength-based Perspective,**
**Presented by Shelley Moore**
**Room: Colorado Ballroom A**
Shelley will share how changing planning models to move away from deficit medical based frameworks and towards plans that look at the strengths and contributions of individuals can increase success for students. Participants will review examples and discuss strategies for how these strength-based perspectives can guide effective individualized program planning with a focus on balance and growth rather than retrofitting and standardization.

**Breakout 7: Systems Change: Creating a Culture of Inclusion,**
**Presented by Dan Habib**
**Room: Colorado Ballroom B**
What are the common practices and philosophies of national K-12 leaders of inclusive education? Filmmaker and parent-advocate Dan Habib has filmed in dozens of public schools across the country that are national models for inclusion. Habib will share and discuss several short films – including his new film, *Mr. Connolly Has ALS*, and recent films made for the SWIFT Education Center – that show groundbreaking leadership and systems change in action.

**Breakout 8: Improving IEP Teams: Resolve Conflicts Using Strategic Questions To Unearth Underlying Interests,**
**Presented by Missy Sieders**
**Room: Telluride**
This session will focus on team members using dynamic facilitative skills in Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings to move beyond conflict. Because parents and educators may not share identical perceptions of the child or goals for the student, and because their roles in the child’s life are dissimilar, disputes are normal and inevitable. Facilitative skills are useful every day, at every meeting (not just IEP meetings!), and before disagreements become disputes. In addition, guest presenter, Mary Anne Fleury, from the Colorado Department of Education, will share exciting updates about Colorado’s statewide IEP Facilitators, and how to request one for IEP meetings that need a neutral third party to pave the way.

(continued next page)
Friday Afternoon continued

Breakout 9: Beyond ‘Behavior:’ Supporting Competence, Confidence, and a Sense of Well-Being (Part II), Presented by David Pitonyak
Room: Big Thompson
In this session David continues to explore the idea that difficult behaviors result from unmet needs. The presence of a difficult behavior often means that something important is missing in a person’s life and/or the lives of his/her supporters. David gives insight into the importance of relationships in the equation, and dissects the role anxiety plays. The ultimate goal is to build support plans that help the person and his/her supporters to develop a sense of competence, confidence, and well-being. (Note: Parts I and II build on each other but it is not essential to attend both.)

Room: Platte River
This interactive session will explore key elements in the transition planning and services process. Multiple universal design for learning strategies will be used for attendee participation. Session takeaways: 1) Understanding of key elements and guiding principles of the transition planning/services process, 2) Application of best transition practices based upon 40 years of practice and research experiences, and 3) Reflection upon emerging practices within the context of WIOA and emerging legislative trends. These best practices will be examined related to student-focused planning, student development, family involvement, program structure, and interagency coordination, and recent legislative changes.

Closing Activities
3:30-4:00 pm .......... Break & Exhibit Time
4:00-5:00 pm .......... Closing Keynote Session: Keynote & Participant Prize Drawing, Colorado Ballrooms C & D

Keynote Presentation: The Unintentional Humor of Life with Autism
Presented by Brent Anderson
Close the conference with this interactive and fun session with Brent. You will gain insight on how to persevere through communication challenges with positivity and a sense of humor. Brent will share strategies for teaching humor, and how he found success through self-employment. This keynote will offer encouragement and hope by reminding us that all of us are more alike than different, and that we are connected through the universal human bond – humor.

5:00 pm .................. Close of Conference

Participant Prize Drawing
Thank you for attending our 2018 Conference. To show our appreciation, we have prizes! Drop your name into the baskets provided as you enter the closing keynote, and you could win an awesome prize including two 2019 Conference on Inclusive Education registrations, and more! You MUST be present at the drawing in order to win!

Thank You for Attending
We hope this conference has empowered you and equipped you with practical strategies you can use right away to support access, equity, and opportunity for ALL students! Best of luck as you work to create change and support the full inclusion of students with disabilities in education and beyond!

2018 Conference Presenters and Materials
Check out the password protected online Dropbox folder of conference materials and handouts in addition to a listing of the 2018 conference presenters and their contact information. Visit bit.ly/PEAK2018ConfHandouts and when prompted enter the password PEAKInclusion2018 (note the password is case sensitive).
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Taylor Heisler
Jamie Moyes

*Indicates parent of a child with a disability or self-advocate.

Save the Date:
PEAK’s 2019 Conference on Inclusive Education
February 14 and 15, 2019

Love this conference?
Support the Heart of PEAK—DONATE!

If you enjoyed the 2018 Conference on Inclusive Education and want to see it continue in the future, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to PEAK Parent Center, a 501(c)3 nonprofit that works every day to ensure that all people with disabilities are fully included in their neighborhood schools, communities, employment, and all walks of life! Stop by the “Donation Station” to donate on-site, or visit www.peakparent.org and click on Donate to make a secure one-time or monthly donation online.

Thank you for your support of this important conference and of PEAK!

Please excuse any omissions due to printing deadlines.

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