



## **Week One: Spotlight on Early Childhood: *Back to Basics, Back to Better***

**When:** July 8th-10th

**Time:** 9AM-12:30PM- Keynote + Interactive Workshops  
2PM- Peer-led discussions

**Audience:** Pre-K- 2nd grade educators; Three-year-old and  
3rd grade teachers, and division leaders also welcome

*This three-day series will focus on foundational principles as a springboard for better teaching in both a remote and in-person setting. The workshops will be led by veteran teachers, authors, consultants and presenters Matt Glover, Kathy Collins and Kristi Mraz. Each day will consist of a 45-minute keynote presentation followed by interactive, one-hour workshops on reading, writing and play led by all three presenters, and ending with peer-led discussions.*

**July 8th, 9:00-9:45AM, Keynote: Nurturing and Nudging Engaged Learners Right from the Start** [Matt Glover](#)

Our interactions with children in the early days of school set the foundation for learning throughout the year. In this keynote, we will look at key principles that foster identity and engagement in all learners. Breakout sessions on the topic of writing will focus on making books in Pre-K classrooms, launching writing workshops and fostering relationships with young writers in kindergarten, and increasing writers' energy and engagement in grades 1-2.

**July 9th, 9:00-9:45AM, Keynote: Teaching Readers Involves Much More Than Skill and Strategy Instruction** [Kathy Collins](#)

In this session, Kathy will help teachers envision a year ahead that is characterized by well-rounded instruction so children acquire literacy skills and identities. The pre-K workshop will look at supporting pre-K children's reading identities, language skills and meaning-making skills in joyful and developmentally appropriate ways. In kindergarten, discussions will focus on supporting young readers as they explore books, expand their reading and grow their skills. First and second grade workshops will look at the well-rounded reader, presenting strategies to help first and second graders read carefully, think deeply, and talk enthusiastically about books.

**July 10th, 9:00-9:45AM, Keynote: Powerful Play: Building Independence, Agency and Joy .**  
[Kristi Mraz](#)

In this keynote, Kristi will explore some of the ways we can use play to build a sense of identity, community and empathy in our classrooms, whether live or virtual. During the daily interactive workshops, Kristi will facilitate conversations about supporting children in this unsettled and unsettling time. How do we help them feel powerful, joyful and capable in a world filled with so many unknowns and restrictions? These grade-specific sessions on play will revisit some of the most powerful research on the value of play in children's intellectual and social-emotional development. After anchoring ourselves in the research, we'll discuss the structures play can take in the Pre-K, kindergarten and first grade classrooms, including explorations and fantasy play in Pre-K and play workshops in kindergarten and first grade. Special consideration will be given to play as a way of thinking, not as a set of toys, as we problem-solve how play can lead our children's school experience in a socially-distanced or virtual school world. Threaded throughout we'll dig into questions of equity, inclusion and the celebration of each child's lived experience. Participants will leave with a bag full of strategies and a heart full of hope for the possibilities of the next school year.

**Mini "Master Classes":** All participants will be provided access to a library of recorded mini "Master Classes" on topics ranging from SEL priorities in remote learning to building digital classrooms for diversity and inclusion. **Note:** The series of recordings from Heart of Character on SEL priorities, community-building, academic integrity and intrinsic motivation are only available to participants who register for Weeks Two and Three or for the "All-In" package.

**Cost:** \$395 per teacher per school.

[\*\*Click Here to Register!\*\*](#)

Interested in registering for Weeks One, Two and Three? Choose the **"All-In" Package-** \$620 per teacher per school. Please register separately for Week One and then register here for Weeks Two and Three.

**Maximum Cost:** \$1,500 - Schools will be charged the individual per teacher fee up until \$1,500. If multiple teachers from the same school register and their collective fees exceed \$1,500, the amount owed will be capped at \$1,500. Invoices issued at the conclusion of the series.

*This event is for AISGW members only.*