

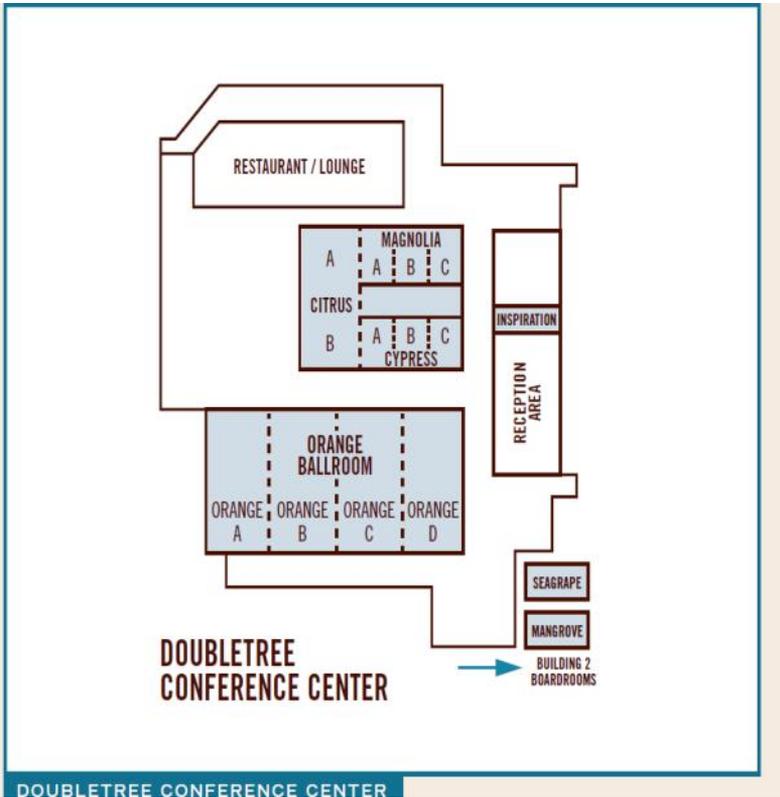


**“You can’t use up creativity...  
The more you use it, the more you have.”  
Maya Angelou**

**Featuring Keynote Speaker  
Virginia Luther**

**Florida Kindergarten Council  
Annual Convention  
Saturday, February 10, 2018  
The Doubletree Hotel  
10100 International Drive  
Orlando, FL**

## Doubletree Map



**Don't forget to attend the  
General Meeting &  
Visit Vendors  
8:00 –8:30 a.m.**

## Welcome

Dear FKC Colleagues,

The Florida Kindergarten Council's Board of Directors warmly welcomes each of you to this year's convention, ***Giggles and Grit!*** We will be happy to see many of you who have joined us in the past, and eager to meet all of our newly accredited schools' finest educators!

A big 'thank you' is extended to each of this year's presenters! As a volunteer presenter, the Board deeply appreciates the amount of time and expertise you are giving to help each of us grow professionally. We have no doubt that everyone will walk away with innovative ideas that can be implemented back in your classrooms and schools. As accredited Florida Kindergarten Council schools, we are proud that your classrooms reflect developmentally appropriate practice and apply the notion of preserving childhood. In doing so, there is no doubt that those same classrooms have happy children who are full of ***giggles and grit!***

We hope that last evening's *Meet and Greet* was enjoyable and you were able to meet new colleagues, including our Board of Trustees. Our Board continuously seeks opportunities to serve you and your school's needs, so please be sure to bring any questions, concern or idea to any of our Board members.

The Florida Kindergarten Council invites you to immerse yourselves in and call upon your commitment to promoting fun and laughter while instilling the dispositions of perseverance and grit.

Sincerely,

Arvi Balseiro, Ana Ibanez, Suzanne Otero, Omar Chatila  
and Joy McIntosh  
FKC Convention Chairs

**Twitter Back Channel:** Throughout the day, participants are encouraged to tweet about what they are learning. People all over the world have already told us they are looking forward to following the back channel. Please use #FKCchat. If you want to learn More about Twitter, attend our session "Twitter for Teachers" so you can find out how to unleash this powerful, free professional development tool!

# Schedule

## **Friday, February 9, 2018**

6:30-8:00 p.m. Meet and Greet

Complimentary Beverages and Hors D'oeuvres

## **Saturday, February 10, 2018**

7:30 a.m. Registration, Exhibits and  
Continental Breakfast

8:00-8:30 a.m. General Meeting

8:30-9:00 a.m. Full Breakfast

9:15-10:00 a.m. Keynote-Virginia Luther

10:15-11:05 a.m. Session I

11:15-12:05 a.m. Session II

12:15-1:05 a.m. Session III

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER VIRGINIA LUTHER**

Ginny Luther, a dynamic international speaker for parents and educational professionals, pulls from her vast life experience presenting with charisma, enthusiasm, and compassion. Her tremendous knowledge provides creative solutions to many difficult issues facing schools and families today, giving audiences the tools necessary to succeed.

Since 1998, as a Loving Guidance Associate and Certified Conscious Discipline® Instructor, Ginny brings to life the principles of Dr. Becky Bailey's Conscious Discipline to schools, early childhood centers, parents and in mentorship. Both national and internationally Ginny has mentored those who aspire this transformational journey, to unite in building Conscious Discipline communities. Using her expertise and commitment to empower adult-child relationships she uses conflict as an opportunity for growth during her enthusiastic workshops. Ginny also served an educational consultant, Parent/Teacher Coach, and a support group leader for school districts, parents, communities, corporate organizations, associations, clubs, and summer camps.

Ginny holds an M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology from Ithaca College in 1979. Before working with Loving Guidance, her educational roles included therapist, Pre-K teacher of children with varying exceptionalities, Martin County Interdisciplinary team evaluator, assistant administrator, and early childhood program coordinator.

Ginny's real passion for discipline started as a parent with her youngest child who did not respond effectively to the traditional methods of discipline. She and her husband Jack, have raised a blended family since 1990. She has successfully managed her Peaceful Parenting LLC business since 1994.

## Session I: 10:15 - 11:05 a.m.

### Magnolia A

#### **Snapshot of a Day: Documenting the Children's Experiences**

Learn about how to visually document each child's day at school shared via a digital portfolio on Google Sites, individual picture books, and a Shutterfly class site. These various avenues document developmental and curricular areas as the children participate in a variety of activities throughout the day. Learn how these different modes of sharing documentation are created, and see how the children engaged in activities in a developmentally appropriate classroom that incorporates Reggio Emilia beliefs. The digital portfolios are designed categorically by High/Scope's key experiences.

**Presenter: Dr. Cindy Haralson, The Cushman School**

### Magnolia B

#### **Serving on an FCIS or FKC Evaluation Team**

Have you ever wanted to serve on an evaluation team? Have you served before, but need to learn about new FCIS/FKC evaluation and reporting processes? Join the FCIS Director of Accreditation to enhance your learning about being a team member. New team members may sign up during the session and join the team member pool.

**Presenter: Melissa Alton, Julie Johnson, FCIS/FKC**

### Magnolia C

#### **We Got the Grit - Character in the Classroom**

Learn how a series of books utilizing a classroom character, created by students, develops positive character traits with the help of a classroom helper. Students were engaged and excited about sharing with other students to increase character development, passion, and perseverance throughout the school. The students take great pride in their participation in creation of the books, becoming better individuals, and assisting fellow students.

**Presenter: Dr. Tonja Cantu & Nichole Deese  
Torah Academy of Jacksonville**

### Cypress A

#### **Inside An Outside Classroom**

A hands-on learning experience that will take you outside of your classroom with a fun introduction to outdoor experiential education. Join us for an interactive session where you will learn many ideas to take back to your no walls classroom.

**Presenters: Christy Kian & Tammie Gelfand  
North Broward Preparatory School**

## Session I: 10:015 – 11:05 a.m.

### Cypress B

#### **Early Childhood...It's HABIT Forming!**

Presenters will demonstrate how seamlessly the Habits of Mind can be weaved into the early childhood curriculum in fun and creative ways. Attendees will walk away with a toolkit of ideas to use throughout the year and will be ready to teach these all-important life-skills to their students!

**Presenters: Laura Fitzpatrick & Jess Boston  
North Broward Preparatory School**

### Cypress C

#### **Sight Word Bonanza**

Join Peggy in this exciting workshop to learn why sight words are an essential component of reading and writing, where to get sight words and more. Learn ideas for quick retrieval of sight words, theme words, words for writing, wandering word walls, highlighting and displaying words and an action-packed game your students will love to play to reinforce all your words

**Presenter: Peggy Campbell-Rush, The Bolles School**

### Citrus B

#### **Learning about India - the Montessori way!**

Do you like to learn or teach using hands-on materials? Do you have Kinesthetic learners in the class that are constantly on the move? Have you wondered how to lay a foundation of unity, diversity, and pluralism at such a young age? If yes, then come to this exciting workshop to learn about India, the Montessori way! You will have a chance to explore several materials in Language, Math, Practical Life and other areas, and see some artifacts and clothing as well!

**Presenter: Rozina Mardhani, Palm Harbor Montessori Academy**

## Session II: 11:15 – 12:05 a.m.

### Magnolia A

#### Innovation and Integration of Technology

Want to create innovative lessons your students will remember for years? With the use of simple tools such as Ozobot Robots and Osmo you can innovate your classroom. Using Osmo helps Kindergarten students struggling with numbers or cvc words. Code the map of Florida and travel to cities using Ozobot!

**Presenter: Jennifer Stephenson, Canterbury School Fort Myers**

### Magnolia B

#### FCIS/FKC Standards for Accreditation: An Overview

All-new standards for accreditation came into effect July 1, 2017. Join the FCIS Director of Accreditation as she highlights some of the major differences and similarities between the current standards and the new standards. Time will be set aside to discuss the impact these changes will have on self-study processes and upcoming evaluations.

**Presenter: Melissa Alton, Director of Accreditation, FCIS**

### Cypress A

#### Ditch the Textbook and Connect with Your Students!

This session will explore the possibility of setting aside teacher manuals and use the Balanced Literacy Approach, teacher expertise, and 21st-century tools to create differentiated instruction in the elementary classroom. Learn how this helps students develop autonomy and grit. Special guests Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Shirley will share their own classroom experiences as well as give tips for implementation.

**Presenters: Mercedes Gonzalez, Shirley Gonzalez & Jenny Diaz  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School**

### Cypress B

#### Feeling Stressed? Building Resilience One Mindful Minute at a Time!

Are you feeling stressed? Are your students exhibiting signs of anxiety? Together we will talk about the factors that increase student stress and anxiety and some strategies to help decrease the stress levels of our youngest students. Through breathing, yoga poses and mindful minutes we will work towards building resilience and changing lives, one mindful minute at a time!

**Presenter: Suzanne Otero, The Pine School**

## **Session II: 11:15 - 12:05 p.m.**

### **Cypress C**

#### **Tricks of the Trade: Ideas to Manage, Help and Create in the Classroom**

- \*New twists to old tricks, like tattling, lying, walking from place to place and more
- \*How to cut down on time spent creating new materials
- \*How to communicate with parents
- \*How to get parents on “your side” right from the start
- \*How to create classroom community
- \*Ideas galore to take back to your classroom right away

**Presenter: Peggy Campbell-Rush, The Bolles School**

### **Citrus B**

#### **I Love You Rituals: Building the Bonds that Create a School Family**

Come play and connect discovering Dr. Becky’s **I Love You Rituals** that help wire students’ brains for success and most of all bring lots of giggles that build positive relationships between children.

**Presenter: Virginia Luther**

## Session III: 12:15 - 12:05 p.m.

### Magnolia A

#### **"PE and Recess Games that do not Exclude and Keep Kids Moving/ Having Fun!"**

This session is designed for PE teachers and classroom teachers looking for activities to keep kids moving, have fun, and keep their students from "sitting out" of elimination games. Come dressed to play! Sneakers strongly suggested for this participation session!

**Presenters: Mary Aparicio & Steve Hoffman  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School**

### Magnolia B

#### **Inspire! Connecting Art to Letters**

Learning about artists that connect to the letter of the week can lead to an array of creativity and insight. Literature, visual displays, poetry, film and art projects all come together to inspire and ignite curiosity. Children have the opportunity to widen their views on a variety of art styles, relate to the artists and understand the many of ways that one can express themselves....all while reinforcing the letter name and sound.

**Presenter: Lang Hudepohl, The Cushman School**

### Magnolia C

#### **Learning in the Sand Kitchen**

Learn about how we came up with the idea for our Sand Kitchen. Find out how we use it to play and learn. Our emphasis will be on ways to incorporate science and math. We'll also share the project of envisioning, creating and paying for the structure itself.

**Presenter: Shonna Brady, Community Day School**

### Cypress A

#### **STEAM: Design and Implement an Engaging Program for Young Learners**

See examples of scheduling and logistics of implementing STEAM in your classroom, participate in hands-on collaborative planning and hear real-world classroom challenges/successes. You will also leave with program models, lesson guides, and resources

**Presenters: Katherine Mohr, Delia Zepeda & Robbin Simons  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School**

## Session III: 12:15 - 1:05 p.m.

### Cypress B

#### Healthy Eating Initiative in Kindergarten

Learn how the Kindergarten team will make an intentional effort to educate your students about the relationship between what we eat and how their bodies function. We plan to grow produce plants to show students the process of plant growth and ultimately to get to eat the “fruits” of their labor (Does growing food affect our desire to eat it?). We will provide fun food-preparation activities to encourage students to try new foods by replacing “junk food” treats for natural healthy snacks. We plan to document the process by creating a digital "classbook" to share our findings with students, families, and other educators.

**Presenters: Claudia Romero & Nicholas Turco**

**The Master’s Academy**

### Cypress C

#### Engaging Young Writers: An Integrated Curriculum Approach

How do we do it all, when there is so much to do? This session explores how a kindergarten teacher and instructional coach partner together to create integrated learning experiences that are engaging and meaningful for children while still making sure that kids are prepared for the expectations to come.

**Presenters: Diane Hollowell & Jen McDonough, The Pine School**

### Citrus A

#### Learning to THINK...Thinking to LEARN!

This interactive session demonstrates how schools are utilizing visual tools to teach critical THINKING and WRITING to ALL students. By understanding how the brain is wired for pattern seeking this applied knowledge has a dramatic impact on the teaching of critical THINKING and communication. Lots of student examples will be shared.

**Presenter: James Dean, Thinking Maps, Inc.**

**Thank You to our Vendors!**

**Lakeshore Learning**

**Peggy Campbell-Rush**

**Melissa Dean Purses  
& Accessories**

**Breakfast: 8:30-9:00 a.m.**

**Seasonal Cut Melons and Citrus Selections**

**Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs**

**Orange Pecan French Toast  
with Maple Syrup and Fruit Toppings**

**Crisp Bacon & Sausage Links**

**Rosemary Potatoes**

**Sweet Butter and Fruit Preserves**

**Bakery Basket Assortment**

**Hot Tea \* Juice\* Coffee**

FKC Colleagues,

\*We sincerely hope you've enjoyed your day with us! Please remember to:

\*Fill out your evaluation form. It will provide us with candid feedback to improve next year's conference.

\*Turn in your badge holder to the FKC registration table.

\*Consider a presentation that you or a colleague might share at next year's conference.

\* Share what you've learned with others.

\* Tell everyone what a great time you had today!!

Thank you,

The Florida Kindergarten Council Board of Directors

## FKC Board of Directors

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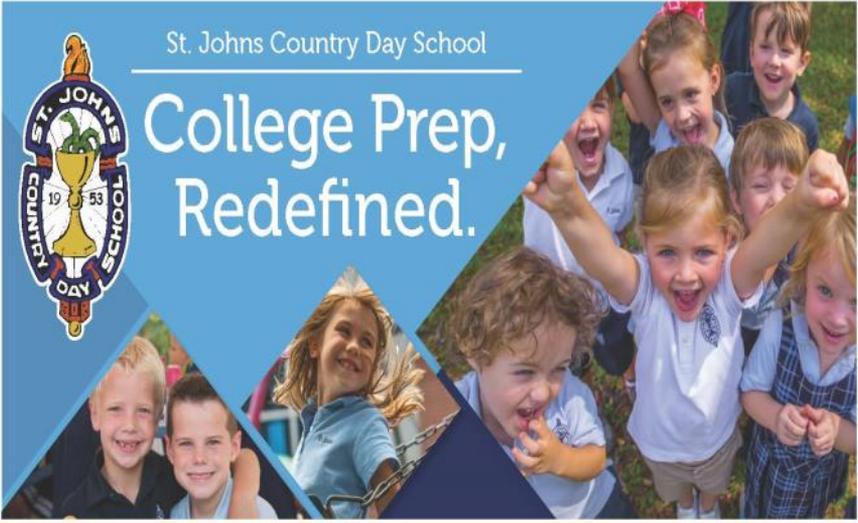
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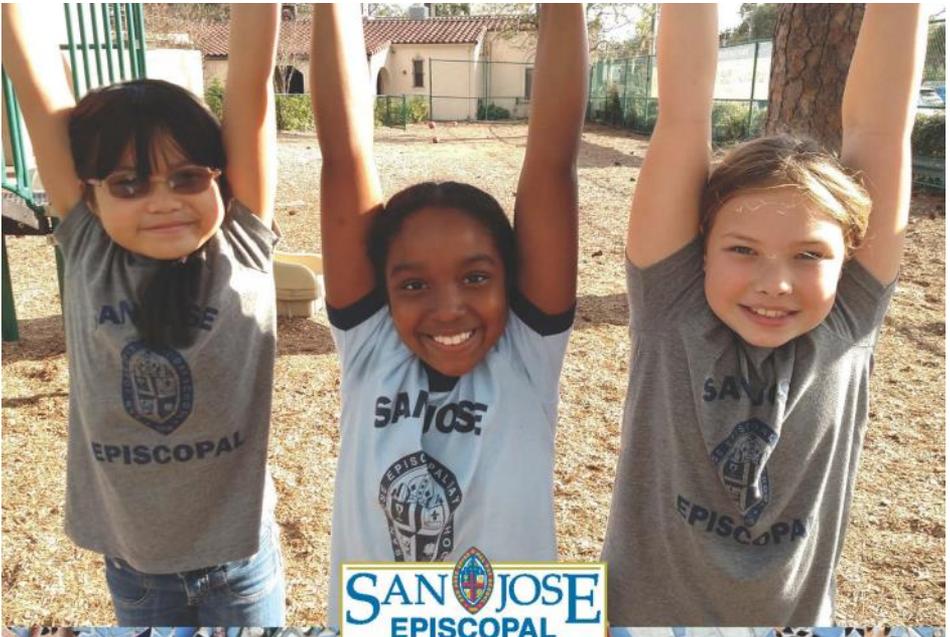


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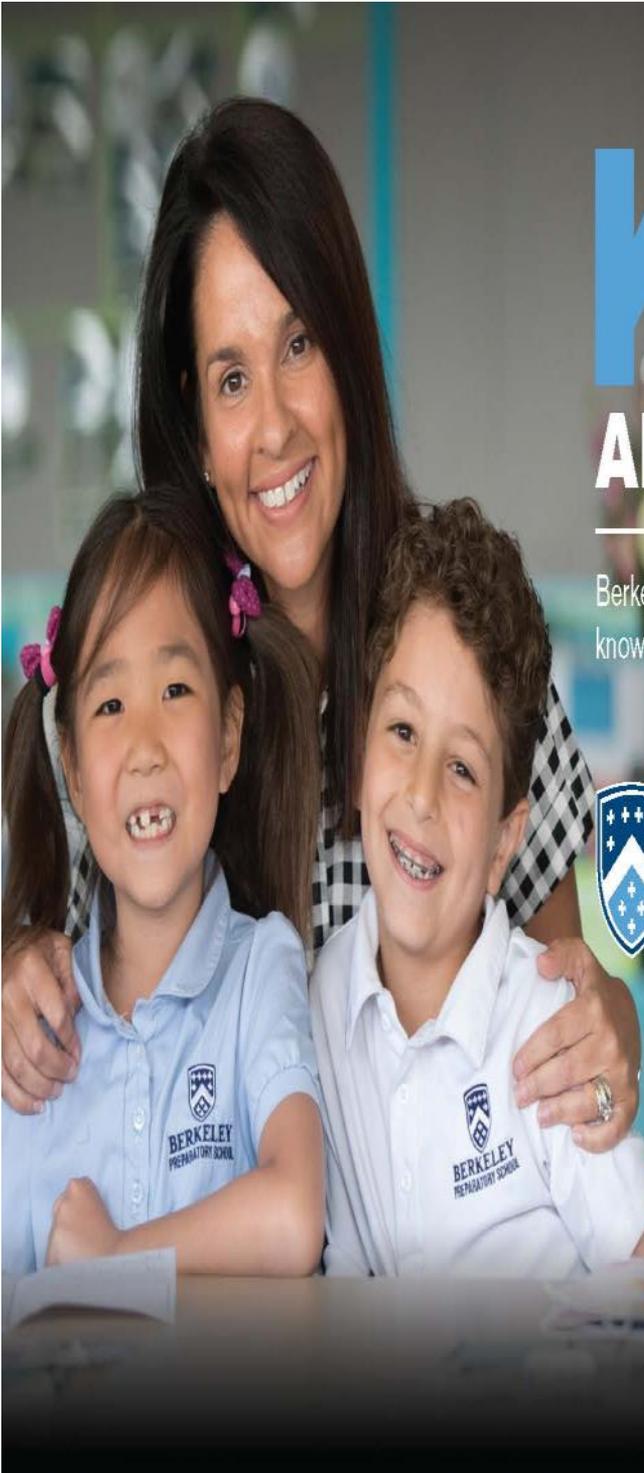
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# **Upcoming FCIS Events**

May 6-8, 2018

Business Officers' Conference

June 11-13, 2018

Heads' Retreat

July 26-28, 2018

New Heads' Institute

July 29-July 31, 2018

Administrators' Retreat

September 30-October 1, 2018

Leadership Partners through Principles of Good  
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November 15-16, 2018

FCIS Convention