



Announcing the EEA 2025 Professional Development Seminar Series

Sponsored by

**Eugene Education Association Instruction Committee
and the Eugene 4J School District**

◆ WHAT

15 Seminars for the opportunity to meet remotely with EEA members and community members who have extensive professional expertise.

◆ CHOICE

Select only the seminar sessions you wish to attend.

◆ WHEN

Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 9th through March 13, 2025, 4:30pm to 6:15pm. [Additional sessions for credit participants.](#)

◆ COST

Free for EEA/OEA Active Members, 4J Administrators, and all practicum students. Pre-registration is required. Please register prior to attending.

◆ WHERE

All seminars will take place via Zoom or as listed in the description.

Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/SeminarSeries2025>

◆ CREDIT OPTIONS

Option 1: Optional 1 or 2 Pacific University graduate credits (\$150.00 per credit)

Registration for PU credit closes on January 20th. Late registrations will not be accepted. Vouchers may not be used for tuition reductions.

Credit Participants must attend 5 seminars (1 credit) or 10 seminars (2 credits), plus the Orientation session and completed coursework.

Bethel members have an added bonus of being able to use PDC funds to pay for credit. Ask your building rep for details.

Option 2 (4J only): Optional 1 or 2 4J District credits toward advancement on the district salary schedule. Participants must attend 5 seminars (1 credit) or 10 seminars (2 credits),

◆ REGISTRATION

If 4J members have their District email open, this link will auto-log into the registration site: [4jMemberRegistration](#)

Bethel members - Please use the following link to find the guest registration directions: [GuestRegistration](#)

For more information, please contact:
Tina Leaton
at leaton@4j.lane.edu

Pre-registration is required.

EEA/OEA Active Membership is required to attend these seminars.

Jan. 9th



Orientation Session for Credit Participants

Tina Leaton, Eugene Education Association, Zoom

The application for Pacific Credit will be completed online. The link to the credit application will be given out at this virtual orientation. Pacific University will send you a bill for the course and you can pay via a check or credit card.

Jan 14th



Small Moves, Big Impact

Bobbie Willis, Zoom

Everything in a classroom is more manageable and engaging when routines, community and student-leadership are strong. Building these up does not have to be "another thing," or a huge burden. Rather, small, consistent moves and routines over time will build up community and reveal student leaders in your midst; all of this can lead to a classroom of students who feel connected to each other, and this connectedness can relieve some of a teacher's overwhelm. This seminar is for both the new or new-ish educator looking to add to your repertoire, and for the returning educator with strategies and tips to share.

Jan. 16th



Improving Student Engagement with Productive Discourse Strategies in STEM Classes

Sarah Ruggiero and Virginia Seefeld, Zoom

In the spirit of Ambitious math and science teaching, we will explore ways to engage students in productive discourse, using strategies that build on their individual ideas, embrace rough-draft thinking and leverage collaborative reasoning. "A discussion-rich learning environment can provide students with agency over their own learning." (Cirillo)

Jan. 21st



Connect with the 4J School Board

4J School Board, Zoom

Use this opportunity to touch base and engage in an authentic conversation about our concerns, questions, and celebrations. We will allow for our Board members present to introduce themselves and share their favorite 4j moment and their pressing focus for the year. Based on the size of our group, we will then split into smaller groups for greater interaction. Finally, we will rejoin as a whole group and share out a recap of our small groups and allow for the group to respond or add information as needed. Members from both 4j and Bethel are encouraged to attend.

Jan. 23rd



AI in the Classroom: From Hesitation to Innovation

Jesse Merz, Zoom

Step into the future. In this bold, hands-on workshop, you'll break through the fear and hype surrounding AI. From ChatGPT to Claude, we'll strip AI down to its core, showing you raw, real-world applications that can transform your classroom. You'll try, test, and share. Walk away skeptical or excited, but never unaware. AI is here—are you ready to unlock its potential? (and AI wrote this - let's talk about this!)

Jan. 28th



Let's put the A in STEAM!

Maggie Cline and Tana Shepard, Kennedy Middle School

In this make and take session, we will create art that visually models weather (like rainfall, temperature, etc.) and climate pattern data points over time bringing them to life. This will be an in-person session held at Kennedy Middle School room A-1 in the west end of the building. You can come directly to the room without going through the office. See map

Jan. 30th



Conscious Discipline: Creating a Brain Smart Classroom

Kerri Sage, Zoom

In this session we will look at ways to incorporate practices to create a classroom family where all students feel safe and connected. Elements of a brain smart start include an activity to unite, an activity to connect, an activity to disengage stress, and an activity to commit.

Feb. 4th



Let's Volunteer At Food For Lane County

Dan Budd, Food For Lane County, 770 Bailey Hill Rd. Eugene, OR 97402

Last year we learned a lot about how we can connect our students and families to FFLC. Let's take this a step farther and share our time to benefit others. We will be meeting at their Bailey Hill location to help in the warehouse by sorting and packing goods for distribution. This opportunity is uniquely open for you to bring along family and friends that would like to join in the effort. All ages are welcome. (Participants are advised to wear closed-toe shoes)

Feb. 6th



Connecting Your Curriculum To The Real World

Amanda Zacharek, Zoom

This session offers practical strategies to make learning meaningful and relevant for all K-12 students. Learn how to engage students through guest speakers, hands-on projects like cooking, everyday resources, and community-based field trips. Walk away with actionable ideas to connect classroom learning to real-world experiences that inspire and empower learners.

Feb. 11th



Tribal History/Shared History

Nicole Butler, Zoom

Join this session to dig deeper into SB 13. You will learn about supports created for you to support this learning for your students and hear perspectives that will support your instruction. This session will support all grade levels.

Feb. 13th



No Session Scheduled

Feb. 18th



Instructional Coaching: Is It For Me?

Nan Petersen, Zoom

Have you heard of Instructional Coaches in your district? Have you decided that coaching isn't for you? Do you have at least three colleagues in mind who you think could benefit from coaching? Or, worse, been assigned to a coach and felt some stigma around that? Come to this seminar to learn how an effective, student-focused coaching model might benefit every teacher, regardless of their years of experience or expertise. During the seminar, we will take time to unpack our own level of competence, look at the latest research-based practices for coaching, discuss the coaching model available in your own school and district, and make a plan for next steps.

Feb. 20th



Ways to Support Children Impacted by Foster Care - Every Child Lane County

Linsey Bjorklund, Zoom

Learn how we can better support our students and families in the foster care system. Mission Statement: Every Child Lane County mobilizes our community to support kids and families impacted by foster care. ECLC actively recruits, equips, and supports resource (foster) parents; meets tangible needs of kids in crisis; and creates redemptive childhood memories. We believe everyone can do something to positively impact a child in foster care.

Feb. 25th

A Focus on Diversity and Equity



Nicole Butler and Nick Cervantes, Zoom

As educators, let's focus our efforts on an authentic conversation on diversity and equity in our school communities. Please come prepared to listen, share, and learn.

Feb. 27th

Authenticity and Priority



Ruth Samartha, Zoom

Unlock your full potential as an educator by embracing your authentic self. Prioritize what truly matters to you to create a more enriching and effective learning environment. Join us as we explore strategies to align your teaching practices with your personal values and inspire genuine connections with your students.

Mar. 4th

The Evolution of Inclusion



Kara Whipple and Liz Johnson, Zoom

Join in on this opportunity to engage in supporting inclusion at all levels for all students. Walk away with new perspectives and strategies to engage learners.

Mar. 6th

Tips-N-Tricks



Elementary Team - Kathleen Brandt, Kathi Holvey, Rhian Arp, and Amy Petty, Zoom

Have you just wanted a moment to step into our colleague's classrooms and see the organizational strategies, classroom motivators, and all the tips and tricks that we do to enhance or simplify this overwhelming career? That's the idea around this seminar. Our elementary team is ready to share a few things from their own classroom and we'd ask you to come with one small idea of your own to also share adding to our collective experience and wealth of take-a-ways. While the team is elementary focused, many of the strategies will apply to any age classroom and all educators are welcome.

Mar. 11th

Supporting Students On The Autism Spectrum During Whole Class Instruction



Toby Rickard, Zoom

Participants will share strategies and explore scenarios, learn more about potential interventions and accommodations focusing on student-centered best practices and universal design for learning.

Mar. 13th

Credit Wrap-up



Tina Leaton, Eugene Education Association, Zoom

This optional Zoom is meant to support our credit earners with any questions or concerns. It will be open from 4:30 - 5:30.

Pre-registration is required

For more information, please contact Tina Leaton at leaton@4j.lane.edu

4J - [4jMemberRegistration](#)

Bethel - [GuestRegistration](#)

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