



# Announcing the EEA 2026 Professional Development Seminar Series

*Sponsored by*

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

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## ◆ WHAT

16 seminars providing EEA members the opportunity to learn and collaborate with other members and community professionals with extensive expertise. (Select only the seminars you would like to attend.)

## ◆ WHEN

Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 15<sup>th</sup> through March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 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 prior to attending.

## ◆ WHERE

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

Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/2026SeminarSeries>

## ◆ CREDIT OPTIONS

### Option 1:

Optional 1 or 2 Pacific University graduate credits (\$200 per credit for Gen Ed Teachers 3+ years) or (\$150 per credit for New Teachers, 1-3 years or Licensed Guest Teachers)

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

Registration for Pacific University closes on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Late registrations will not be accepted. Vouchers may not be used for tuition reductions.

Bethel members can use PDC funds to pay for credit. Ask your building rep for details.

### Option 2:

**(4J only):** Earn 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: [4jMemberRegistration](#) will auto-log into the registration site. Once you are logged into the 4J Powerschool site, click on: *Professional Learning* ⇒ *Catalog* ⇒ *Course Catalog*, then Search for 2026 EEA/4J Seminar Series and from there you can choose which Seminars you wish to attend.

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

**Pre-registration is required.**

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

For more information, please contact: Brynne Eidlin at [eidlin\\_b@4j.lane.edu](mailto:eidlin_b@4j.lane.edu)

### **Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> Series Orientation**



***Brynne Eidlin, Eugene Education Association | Zoom***

This session is for EEA members to learn about earning one or two graduate level credits for attending. Attendance is required for participation in this credit earning opportunity.

### **Jan 15<sup>th</sup> TAG: Closing Adult Belief Gaps / Opening Minds So Students Can Thrive**



***Jocelyn Mendelssohn, 4J SD Special Education TOSA | Zoom***

Let's rethink what TAG truly is. Stereotypes, myths, and personal biases regarding TAG can potentially block a student from equitable access to the opportunity to experience a full year of growth. Thankfully, hope lives in the willingness of the adults to be open to new learning. With collected guidance from leading experts in Gifted Education, participants will gain a clear understanding of the most current research and practices in 2025, including TAG student profiles not previously considered. No shame, no blame. We start right where we are and move forward with informed purpose and renewed inspiration—so TAG students can grow each year and truly thrive.

### **Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> Integrating Art into the Class Routine**



***Will Paradis, Art Teacher, Lane Arts Council | Zoom***

Most teachers realize that Art is important for a child's development but feel unable to offer as much creative time as they'd like. In this presentation, Will offers some ideas on how to integrate Art with most subjects, as well as some suggestions for various accessible Art activities.

### **Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> Our Changing Planet (K-5) Lead with Hope, Determination and Solutionary Thinking!**



***Tana Shepard, 4J SD Energy Conservation TOSA | Zoom***

With the passing of HB3365 last June, climate change is now mandated across science, social studies and health in the state of Oregon. Join this seminar to learn more about how to talk about climate change in an age-appropriate way, key resources and connections for integration into existing curriculum, and action/justice project ideas to engage our youngest learners in understanding our changing planet while protecting their fragile little hearts.

### **Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> Community Service at Food for Lane County**



***Dan Budd, Volunteer Coordinator, Food for Lane County***

***Food for Lane County Commercial Kitchen (770 Bailey Hill Road)***

Join us in supporting the essential work happening at Food for Lane County. We will spend the evening helping to portion, package and label donated prepared and perishable food in the Food for Lane County commercial kitchen located off Bailey Hill Road. (Due to space constraints, we are only able to accommodate 15 volunteers.) *Participants enter the kitchen up the NE ramp and check in with Graham.*

### **Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> Get outside!**



***Tana Shepard, 4J SD Energy Conservation TOSA & Maggie Frassetto-Cline, 4J SD Elementary Science TOSA & Outdoor School Coordinator | Kennedy Middle School, Room A-1***

Learn tips and tricks for getting students outside regularly with activities to integrate sit spots, wonder wanders, nature journaling, art, and other place-based activities with purpose!

**Pre-registration is required**

For more information, please contact Brynne Eidlin at [eidlin\\_b@4j.lane.edu](mailto:eidlin_b@4j.lane.edu)

### **Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> Physical Education for All Students!**



**Michelle Dunn, 4J SD Motor Team Adaptive Physical Education | Edison Elementary School, Gym**  
This engaging and interactive session explores how to make physical education inclusive and accessible for all learners. Participants will gain practical strategies grounded in Universal Design for Learning, differentiated instruction, and inclusive assessment—while also taking part in low- to moderate-intensity physical activities to experience these strategies firsthand. The session blends presentation and movement-based participation to model how equity, access, and belonging can come alive in every PE setting.

### **Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> Common IEP Eligibility Categories and Tools to Support All Learners**



**Kylie Roth, 4J SD Special Education, Zoom**  
Come and learn about some of the most common IEP eligibility categories, their qualifying criteria and what it may look like in a classroom setting. Leave with some tips and tricks that benefit all learners.

### **Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> Tools and Techniques for Reaching All Elementary Learners**



**Marisa Silver, 4J SD Classroom Teacher | Camas Ridge Elementary School, Room 203**  
Learn some new tools and techniques for helping your classroom management run more smoothly and efficiently. Learn several new tools that will help your learners to stay engaged in class, along with key "teacher moves" to make in your classroom to keep management on track. We will discuss time-efficient ways to connect meaningfully with families, from student surveys to the "6x5" routine. Leave this "make and take" session with several ideas you can put into place in your classroom this week.

### **Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> Tribal History/Shared History**



**Nicole Butler-Hooton, Bethel SD Equity TOSA | Zoom**  
Seminar participants will review the new K-12 lessons and learn more about the professional learning modules that the Office of Indian Ed has developed with Native educators from across the state. Participants will build the capacity to teach a THSH lesson this year and to gain more resources regarding Oregon's Nine Federally Recognized Tribes.

### **Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Be Sensitive, Be Brave: Mental Health**



**Daniel Gallo and Angie Elstone, Lane ESD Specialists, Social Emotional Learning, EEA Office (2815 Coburg Rd.), Large Conference Room**  
"Be Sensitive, Be Brave for Mental Health" is a program that teaches community members how to recognize mental health challenges and provide support to others. It combines sensitivity and courage, encouraging individuals to have conversations about mental health and to connect people in distress with resources, while also providing tools for maintaining one's own mental well-being. The program emphasizes cultural sensitivity and diversity throughout its foundational workshop on mental health.

### **Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> Stronger Together: Using Your Union to Support Student Success**



**Sabrina Gordon, Scholar Practitioner, UO Labor Education and Research Center Eugene Education Association Office (2815 Coburg Rd.), Large Conference Room**  
Educators always have students' best interests at heart, but current economic and political pressures can make our jobs feel exceptionally challenging. Learn how you can engage with your union to uplift and empower students with an amplified voice and the power of collective action.

For more information, please contact Brynne Eidlin at [eidlin\\_b@4j.lane.edu](mailto:eidlin_b@4j.lane.edu)

**Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> Let's Talk! Listening Session with the 4J School Board and Superintendent Miriam Mickelson**



**4J School Board Members: Tom Di Liberto, Ericka Thessen, Maya Rabasa, and Miriam Mickelson, 4J SD Superintendent | Zoom**

This session offers EEA members an important opportunity to engage in thoughtful conversation with School Board members and Dr Mickelson. Join us to ask your questions, share concerns, and provide valuable insight into your work experience with the district. Your voice matters!

**Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> Protecting Our Students: Early Intervention Strategies and Resources for Identifying Mental Health Risks in Kids and Teens**



**Christie Hoogendorn, 4J SD Health Ed Teacher | Zoom**

Our students need us now more than ever. In this session, we will be discussing how to recognize early warning signs of distress and harmful behaviors while exploring how best to respond and support students going forward. We will discuss practical ways that teachers can build compassionate and supportive classrooms for everyone while also exploring strategies and resources available to students and families in crisis. This approach emphasizes early intervention, communication, and fostering a culture of safety and care. Our students need to know that they are not alone and that help is available.

**Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> Skill Building to Support Emotions and Promote Focus in Elementary Students**



**Oregon Community Programs | Zoom**

In this session, we will focus on helping teachers recognize and regulate their own emotional responses so they can effectively support students experiencing stress. By using labeled praise, clear behavioral descriptions, and active modeling, teachers can promote the behaviors they want to see, strengthen student focus, and build frustration tolerance through calm, intentional interactions.

**Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> Initiating Social Justice Conversation with Picture Books**



**Judy Davies, 4J SD Classroom Teacher | McCornack Elementary School, Room 13**

In 21st century education, it is crucial for our students to be literate in equity, and we need to structure that by increasing relevance, and meaning for our students. Even our youngest students can learn perspective about complex topics using picture books. In this session learn how you as a teacher can begin to have essential conversations with students around race, gender and diversity. We can and should seize teachable moments in our classrooms to tell our students that each of us belongs and that we all make our world a better place because we are all in it.

**Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> Time Saving Tips and Tricks with Canva**



**Kellyclare Gardner, 4J SD MTSS Instructional Coach | Zoom**

Come discover time-saving tips and shortcuts in Canva to help you design classroom materials, presentations, newsletters and more. We will also share a number of additional tools and resources you can add to your bag of tricks for the classroom.

**Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> Credit Wrap-up**



**Brynne Eidlin, 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**

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