

# **Professional Development**

## Presume Competence, Prioritize Peers & 10 Other Things Every Paraprofessional Needs to Know

Presented by: Paula Kluth, Ph.D. Hosted by: UF Health/Jacksonville CARD - UF Health FDLRS-MDC

### About the Presenter

**Dr. Paula Kluth** is a consultant, author, advocate, and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. Paula is a former special educator who has served as a classroom teacher and inclusion facilitator. Her professional interests include differentiating instruction and inclusive schooling. She is the author or co-author of more than 15 books and products, including: "*From Text Maps to Memory Caps*": 100 Ways to Differentiate Instruction in K-12 Inclusive Classrooms, "Don't We Already Do Inclusion?": 100 Ways to Improve Inclusive Schools, and Joyful Learning: Active and Collaborative Learning in the Inclusive Classroom. Paula is also the director of a documentary film titled "We Thought You'd Never Ask": Voices of People with Autism.

### **Training Description**

**Target Audience:** Teachers, school district personnel, parents, caregivers, community agencies & others who work with students with learning disabilities Paraprofessionals assigned to support students with disabilities in the general education classrooms are critical members of inclusive schooling teams. Many, however, feel they do not have adequate background knowledge about the "what," "why," and "how" of inclusive schools. This workshop is designed to support new and veteran paraprofessionals who work in inclusive classrooms and need skills to collaborate with colleagues and support diverse groups of learners. This strategy-packed session will provide paraprofessionals with a few "big ideas" about supporting students with disabilities (e.g. presuming competence, honoring the "least dangerous assumption," considering the dignity of risk, teaching up). It will also be filled with practical, easy-to-integrate techniques and strategies that can be used in K-12 inclusive classrooms (e.g. visual supports, indirect communication choices, natural supports).

## **Training Objectives**

Participants will be able to:

• Learn how to work effectively as a paraprofessional in an inclusive classroom environment.



#### Date:

August 6, 2019 9:30 am – 11:00 am

#### Location:

ONLINE - Link will be e-mailed to registered participants

#### **Registration Deadline:**

August 5, 2019 Limited to first 100 participants

#### **Register Online:**

http://doepartnership.fmhi.usf.ed u/trainings.html Registration is mandatory.

## For more information contact:

Autumn Mauch <u>autumn.mauch@jax.ufl.edu</u> or (904) 633-0801

Be sure to contact your ESE District Staff or Staff Development Contact to determine the process for receiving in-service.



Regional Trainings are hosted by the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, through the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA), a program funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, K-12 Public Schools, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B.

www.DOEpartnership.org