



Educators'
Conference

Theme:

**Wellness: Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing
In A Robust Academic Environment**



 **Thursday 20th September, 2018**

 **7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

 **Ghana International School,
Accra, Ghana**

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Ghana International School (GIS) is proud to announce its 3rd TIME Conference.

This is an exciting time for GIS as we continue to grow, adapt and play a responsive role in supporting the professional development needs of educators within our school and our community.

This year, our theme is Wellness: Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing in a Robust Academic Environment.

Undoubtedly, Educators have an important role to play in shaping future generations. We believe that academic development and performance are closely linked with many other aspects of a student's development that must be nurtured. We acknowledge the need to educate the whole child; attending to the cognitive, emotional, mental, physical and social development of students from widely diverse backgrounds.

Therefore, in order for Educators to meet the needs of our 21st Century learners, we must be knowledgeable and creative, but we must also empathise, mentor and communicate on a daily basis with learners. We have a responsibility for teaching, inspiring and motivating educators. (TIME)

The TIME Conference is therefore committed to providing opportunities for educators to come together to develop new perspectives and useful skills through collaboration. Our conference presenters, who come from a diverse community of Educators, provide a wealth of knowledge and experience.

We invite you to come and be a part of this conference as we strive to bring change to our schools and communities. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our students.

Welcome to the 3rd TIME Conference!



Welcome
Message by

Dr. Mrs. Mary Ashun

Principal, Ghana International School

The TIME given us!

Transforming by inspiring, motivating and educating...on behalf of the Management Team of Ghana International School, I welcome you all to the third edition of the TIME Conference!

Our logo says it all. A clock, A ticking hand and A feedback arrow in different colours that represent the colours of Africa. It is indeed time that we took the time to reflect on our practice, learn from one another and go back to our home schools, transformed. It's time we acknowledged how worthy our profession is, how critical, how necessary, and how indispensable the teaching profession is, to the growth of the nation. And it's time that all of these things came out of Africa...to the world.

What have you done with the time given you? Have you filled it with learning much, loving much, laughing much and changing much? To leave a legacy, there must be some change wherever we find ourselves; and it is no secret that that kind of change requires courage. Courage that starts by knowing ourselves so that we can become effective agents of change. Maya Angelou in "A Brave And Startling Truth" shared something so profound for us today:

*When we come to it
We, this people, on this
wayward, floating body
Created on this earth, of this earth
Have the power to fashion for this earth
A climate where every
man and every woman
Can live freely without
sanctimonious piety
Without crippling fear*

*When we come to it
We must confess that
we are the possible
We are the miraculous,
the true wonder of this world
That is when, and only when
We come to it.*

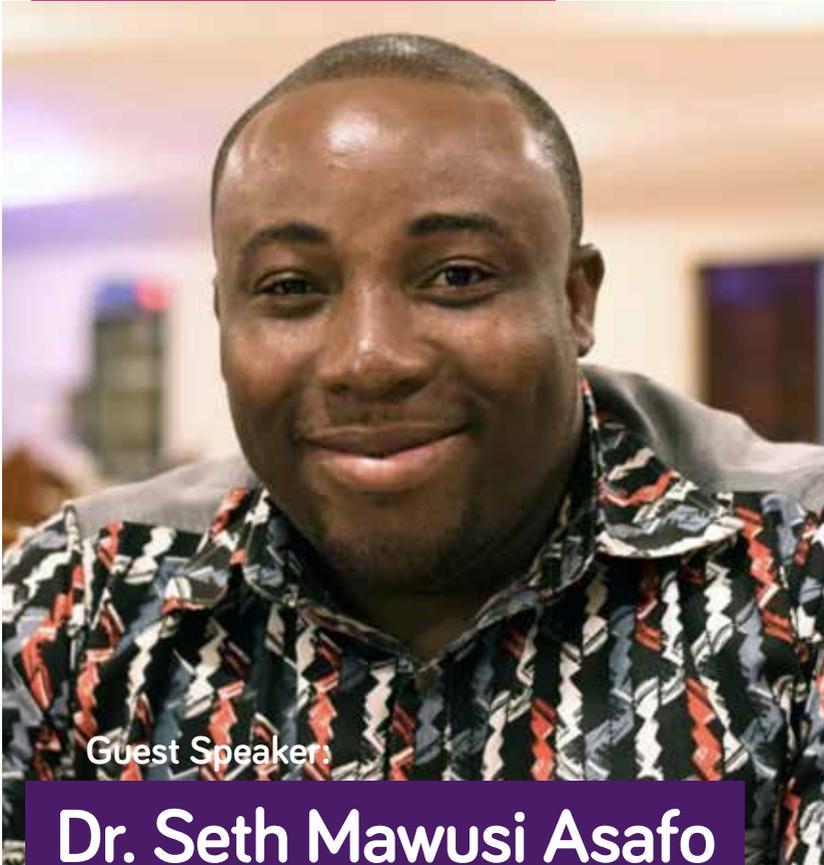
Today you're going to hear from the Third Conference Cohort; a group of dedicated teachers who love what they do and even better, they love sharing so that others can grow in this most noble profession. As in previous years, we are pleased to have presenters from other schools and excited that this collaboration is going to lead to even greater things!

We continue to be immensely grateful to our Conference Coordinator, Beatrice Owusu-Boateng, and her Conference Committee. Year in and year out, this fantastic team has planned and produced an event that enlightens us all. To the support crew from the Marketing and Communications, Human Resources, Finance, Security, IT, and Development Departments, we are truly grateful because your presence here means we are not alone - we are surrounded by caring supportive individuals who although not teachers, support us tirelessly so that we can deliver effectively.

To all our GIS Staff, we say a big Ayekoo! A special thank you to Dr. Seth Mawusi Asafo, who though new to GIS, has already made his mark and our own Dr. K.B. Tandoh, last year's Guest Speaker and now the Deputy Director General of the Ghana Education Service; we thank you both for availing yourselves of this opportunity to help us grow.

Ex Africa semper aliquid novi...Out of Africa, Always Something New...

Welcome to TIME!
Dr. Mrs. Mary Ashun
Principal, GIS



Guest Speaker:

Dr. Seth Mawusi Asafo

Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, University of Ghana, School of Medicine and Dentistry

Seth Mawusi Asafo, is a Co-Founder and Lead Psychologist of the Kalm Centre and Emerald Serenity Global, both psychological consulting firms. He has worked in the field of mental health for over a decade. He is a Clinical Psychologist by profession. He is registered and licensed to provide psychological services in Ghana.

He is a Fellow of AFFIRM and was awarded a scholarship at the Centre for Public Mental Health (joint program between Stellenbosch University and the University of Cape Town in South Africa). He holds degrees in Psychology, Clinical Psychology and Public Mental Health.

Dr. Asafo is also a lecturer at the Department of Psychiatry and the Speech and Language Therapy Department of the University of Ghana, School of Medicine and Dentistry. He lectures at the Accra College of Medicine and is an Adjunct lecturer at the School of Pharmacy of Central University. He has worked in the capacity of counselor at the Academic City College, Central University and the University of Ghana. He is a facilitator for the West African College of Physicians on their Medical Ethics program. He is also a facilitator of the PSYCH CORPS program which is a joint initiative of the University of Ghana and Yale University. He has coordinated the DrinkIQ program which is a Guinness Ghana Breweries initiative. Dr. Asafo is passionate about drug rehabilitation programs.

He has worked with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Academy for Educational Development (AED) currently Family Health International 360 on a number of educational projects in the field of monitoring and evaluation. He has served as a Member of the Admissions Board of the University of Ghana School of Medicine and the Accra College of Medicine. He has been involved in several media outreaches on several topics in mental health. He has many affiliations to associations on mental health in Ghana, the United States and South Africa. He is Associate Clinical Psychologist to institutions such as Focos Orthopedic Hospital, Medicas Hospital, Mediprime Healthcare etc Dr. Asafo volunteers to educate on mental health issues and provides psychological services to the mentally challenged in some faith based centres. He is a member of the Good Fellows Foundation, Ghana. He is an advocate for change, he is an advocate for mental health.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Heidi Owu is the Vice Principal of the Infant School. Her message to the upcoming generation of teachers is to develop not just proficiency in IT, but adaptability, collaboration, flexibility, a sense of awe and wonder...and a willingness to leap into the astonishing future we are all heading towards!



Nadia Bruce-Muller is the Vice Principal of the Junior school at Ghana International School. She is passionate about creating and maintaining a nurturing environment where students can learn, make mistakes and take risks. As someone with a growth mindset, she strongly believes in cultivating a growth mindset in her students.



Ida Abbeyquaye is currently the Vice Principal of Ghana International School (GIS) in charge of the Lower Secondary Section. She believes in educating the "whole child", which addresses students' comprehensive needs, knowing that every student can succeed with the development of a "Growth Mindset" to become a "lifelong Learner".



Frank D. Amponsah-Mensah is currently the Vice Principal of the Upper Secondary School. Frank believes that 21st century educators and schools must provide the guidance, leadership, safe environment and role modeling that truly prepares students for life in the ever changing global world.



Sheila Sonekan is currently the IT Systems Manager at Ghana International School. Sheila believes that the teacher must necessarily acquire and use their ICT skills to design and deliver interesting and engaging lessons to this generation of 'techy' students.



Beatrice Owusu-Boateng is the Standards & Educational Programmes and TIME Conference Coordinator. She is passionate about adapting learning models and strategies that inspire each individual child to become inquisitive, reflective learners who are able to extend what has been learned in one context to new contexts.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Donna Gordon-Apeageyi teaches at Ghana International School where she has served as an Assistant Vice Principal in the Infant School on a two year tenure. She has a particular passion for promoting Early Years good practice and for supporting educators to identify their strengths and unique teaching signature.



Nadine Rocks is in her third year at Ghana International School teaching Nursery, having previously taught in Qatar and Scotland. As a teacher, she believes in assisting each child in developing their own potential and learning styles.



Dr. Wilson Andoh currently teaches Advanced Level Biology at Ghana International School. He has a passion for educational research with special interest in Curriculum Design and Instructional Practice.



Vanessa Staver is currently the Infant School Art teacher. She taught art for two years at DemoDeaf in the Eastern Region. She has studied and is passionate about culturally relevant pedagogy.



Sarah Wilson is a licensed Creative Arts Therapist from Brooklyn, New York. Currently, she is working as an art educator at Ashanti School for the Deaf in Ghana through the American Peace Corps.



Anthony Karlton Twumasi is currently the Head of Basic School at Corricreche and Crimson Dawn Schools at Akosombo, a position he has held for four years. He also teaches English language and literature in Classes Three, Four and Five.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Shawn Schuman has been teaching Physics in the lower secondary level of Ghana International School (GIS) for 2 years. He believes that as long as we continue to learn as students, we can become better teachers. This includes always employing new teaching styles to engage a diverse student population.



Francis Ameko is a Principal Biology Teacher at Ghana International School and is an advocate of the use of Technology in the delivery of lessons to improve student readiness, interest and engagement in and out of the classroom.



Ekua Sagoe is the Head of the English Language Department and an ESL teacher at Ghana International School; Secondary Section. As an educator she has a strong belief in the motto “sharing is caring”, since everybody has good practices to share which can influence both teachers and students positively.



Gertrude Amoyaw-Sekyi is the Secondary ESL Coordinator and has over 15 years of teaching in international education. She believes that every child is unique and should be valued and treated with respect. She strives to foster skills in her students that will empower them to positively influence our world.



Jonathan K. Anebo is a Chemistry Teacher with Ghana International School. Currently, Jonathan teaches and prepares students for the IGCSE and GCE A-Level examinations in Chemistry. Working with students of age 11 to 18, Jonathan is open to sharing strategies that effectively engage ALL students!



Martin Adofo has been teaching for the past thirteen years. He is currently teaching Chemistry at the Secondary Section of Ghana International School. He is interested in how to use technology to effectively engage ALL students.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Dzifa Toppar Dzata is very passionate about sharing knowledge. She is a senior teacher and has been teaching in the Infant Section of Ghana International School for the past 9 years. Dzifa believes that learning is from the cradle to the grave and as such, one must be ready at all times to teach or to learn.



Yvonne Frimpong has had some experience teaching students in the English language, English as a Second Language (ESL), and Special Educational Needs (SEN) departments at Ghana International School. She enjoys motivating language learners and seeing students put their plans into action.



Eric Ofori-Kwakye is a Senior Sociology Teacher at Ghana International School and an Assistant Examiner/Assessment Specialist for Cambridge International Examinations (CIE). He has a passion for social and educational research with special interest in Assessment strategies.



Kwame Mensah is a class six Teacher at Ghana International School and has taught all classes in Key Stage Two. He is an Assessment Specialist in Cambridge Primary English for Cambridge International Examinations (CIE). His passion is to create a safe learning environment for all students through fun and interactive lessons.



Jennifer Blankson teaches Year 3 and is currently the Curriculum coordinator for the Junior School. She was the Year 3 Coordinator for two years. Jennifer believes that the interactive whiteboard when used effectively, provides the opportunity for educators to reach all types of learners in the classroom.



Afua Okyere Sefa is the Primary Science Coordinator teaching class 4 and 5 Science in Ghana International School. She believes every child can learn and is passionate about using technology in teaching and learning.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Ellis Dzandu is an alumnus of GIS who currently teaches Primary School Science. He is a technology addict cum teacher who revels in using tech and digital resources to share his love of science to the many students he encounters.



Paul Baffoe is a Senior Sociology Teacher at Ghana International School. He is also an Assistant Examiner and Assessment Specialist for University of Cambridge International Examination (CIE). He has a special interest in social research with a focus on research methodology and ethics.



Alex Benjamin Crentsil is a science teacher who teaches year 4 and 6 at Ghana International School. His interest is in the use of simple related experiments and technology in the teaching and learning process, especially in science.



Akorfa Laryea teaches Years 7-12 Spanish. Currently the Head of Department for Modern Languages, she believes that a good teacher is formed in the mind and a great teacher, in the heart. The teacher who is interested in constantly improving him or herself makes a huge difference.



Thelma Ward is a principal teacher at GIS, where she has taught for the past 13 years. She is passionate about fostering creativity in children and in guiding them to develop a life-long love of learning.



Grace Nana Hanson is an English teacher in the Lower Secondary section of GIS and has been teaching for over ten years. She believes she is in the classroom to make a difference in the life of every child.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Aaron Borquaye is currently the Head of the Social Studies Department. He believes that no student is unteachable and every student can succeed. This is attainable if the teacher serves as a bridge over which he invites his students to cross to their academic destinations.



Carol Odamtten has over 20 years teaching experience in the Literature Department. She has taught both Lower and Upper secondary students. She believes students should be empowered to take ownership of their learning, set targets for themselves and work hard towards achieving their lifelong goals.



Petulia Joseph teaches Literature at the Secondary School section of Ghana International School. She believes that every learner is valuable to her and experiments with a variety of creative teaching practices in the classroom to engage all types of learners.



Juliette Vanderpuye is an educator with over 20 years experience in teaching English Literature across the various levels in the Secondary School. Her hope is to leave the world a better place knowing that even one life has breathed easier because she has lived her interpretation of success.



Love Joyce Quaiocoe is a Geography teacher in GIS and has been teaching for over 20 years. She wholeheartedly welcomes collaboration and sharing of new trends in education with fellow educators.



Somah Frempong is a Year 5 Teacher at Ghana International School, Junior School Section. As a classroom teacher, she is passionate about building the knowledge base of students in order to give them a firm foundation for future learning experiences.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Rianatu Omotayo Mensah is a Careers and College Counsellor at Ghana International School who enjoys promoting educational counselling. She has keen interest in individual differences, empathetic listening and grading policies. Rianatu enjoys supporting students to achieve success.



Ngozi Orevaoghene is a passionate mathematics educator and teacher trainer with several years teaching experience in the British National Numeracy Curriculum, Cambridge IGCSE and the WAEC syllabus. Ngozi believes that mathematics is fun and everyone can do it. However, students' response and success is dependent on the teacher's approach and enthusiasm.



Sampson Gyamfi has been teaching for 4 years and has been with G.I.S for the past 3 years. He was a Teaching Assistant in U.C.C where he discovered many ways of using Technology in teaching Maths.



Francis Narh has been teaching Mathematics at G.I.S for the past 11 years. He has taught almost all levels of education from primary school through Secondary level to the teacher education level. He is passionate about using technology in the Maths classroom.



Evelyn Setordji is the Secondary School Nurse. She is passionate about the health and wellbeing of all staff and students at Ghana International School. She also enjoys grooming students to ensure they grow up to be responsible global citizens.



Doris Asimeng is the Special Educational Needs Coordinator at the Junior School at Ghana International School. Her passion to see all children succeed in the classroom informs her philosophy of teaching. She believes strongly that even the 'dull and ignorant' too have their story and they must be heard.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Ida Marie Brandt-Asare has been the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) at the Infant school at Ghana International School since January 2017. Ida strongly believes that quality inclusive education not only benefits students with special educational needs, but benefits all students.



Alberta Mante has been a Teaching Assistant with the Primary School since 2002. She loves working with children, helping them to succeed in their learning and also loves watching them grow to become responsible citizens of world.



Rosemond Onumah Appiah has over 20 years of experience as a teacher from primary to secondary levels. She believes that the young child must be trained and nurtured well to become a responsible young adult in order to make right choices in life.



Sophia Amarteifo, has several years of teaching experience and has taught in various capacities in the Junior Section of Ghana International School. She has also held the position of Assistant Vice Principal of the Junior School. She is passionate about seeing children grow and blossom.



Selase Dzakamani teaches Literature at the Secondary school section of Ghana International School where he is also a co-director for the annual school musical. He believes that every classroom is a dynamic learning environment brought alive by a set of unique learners whose individuality must be explored.



David Ako has taught for a cumulative period of 22 years. He has since 2014 been an Assistant Examiner for the University of Cambridge IGCSE and Advanced Level Economics. Mr. Ako believes in a participatory learning environment where each learner is actively involved in all learning activities.

TIME CONFERENCE PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES



Nii Nai Adjei-Mensah is a TA with the English Language and Literature section of the secondary school's SEN department and helps to coordinate the activities of the reading and writing club. He has worked as a research, tutorial, and writing lab assistant and enjoys working with young students.



Eugene Boateng teaches Biology in the Lower and Upper Secondary at Ghana International School and has been teaching for over 15 years. He believes that communication is an integral part of 21st Century Education and messages sent to Learners consciously or unconsciously can make or unmake them.



Francis Hukpati has several years experience as a principal Mathematics tutor at Ghana International School where he has served as an Assistant Vice Principal in the Upper Secondary Section of the School on a two year tenure.



Derick Kwarteng is a senior Mathematics tutor at Ghana International School. He has over eight years experience in teaching mathematics in both public and international schools. Derick is passionate about developing the latent potential of students and influencing them to be outstanding individuals.



Dora Baah has been teaching English in Ghana International School for the past 22 years and has recently been given additional responsibilities as Assistant Vice-Principal of the Junior School. Her continuous love for learning and her desire to inspire learners of the 21st Century energized her on a daily basis.

3RD TIME CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THEME: Wellness: Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing In A Robust Academic Environment

Registration	7:30am - 8:20am
OPENING SESSION (WELCOME ADDRESS)	
Dr. Mary Ashun - Principal, Ghana International School	8:25am - 8:35am
Keynote Address by Guest Speaker Dr. Seth Mawusi Asafo Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, University of Ghana, School of Medicine and Dentistry	8:35am - 8:50am
Introduction of Presenters	8:50am - 9:00am
SESSION 1 - SEMINARS	9:05am - 10:05am
Coffee break	10:10am - 10:30am
SESSION 2 - SEMINARS	10:35am - 11:35am
Mid Plenary Session (Motivating Educators) Dr. Seth Mawusi Asafo Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, University of Ghana, School of Medicine and Dentistry	11:40am - 12:15pm
Lunch	12:20pm - 1:20pm
SESSION 3 - Workshops	1:20pm - 3: 20pm
Motivating Educators to Transform (Hands - on)	
CLOSING PLENARY	3:20pm - 3:30pm
Beatrice Owusu-Boateng, TIME Coordinator	
Group Photographs/ Certificate Collection	3:30pm - 4:00pm

The 3rd TIME Conference offers the following:

1. SESSION 1:

Seminar (A lecture that applies predominantly to all year groups)

Duration: 1 hour

2. SESSION 2:

Seminar (A lecture that applies predominantly to all year groups)

Duration: 1 hour

3. SESSION 3:

Workshop in the afternoon. (Hands on activities-with year groups Specified)

Duration:2 hours

This chart will guide Participants in determining the year group which the workshop has been designed for

Descriptor:	Early Years /Foundation Stage
Age:	3yrs -5yrs
Year Group / Class:	Nursery, Reception, KG1, KG2
Descriptor:	Lower Primary
Age:	6yrs-8yrs
Year Group / Class:	Classes 1, 2, 3
Descriptor:	Upper Primary
Age:	9yrs-11yrs
Year Group / Class:	Classes 4, 5, 6
Descriptor:	Lower Secondary
Age:	12yrs-14yrs
Year Group / Class:	JHS1-3, Forms 1-3
Descriptor:	Upper Secondary
Age:	15yrs-18yrs
Year Group / Class:	SHS 1-3, Forms 4 – 6th form

SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS (SEM)

SESSION 1 SEMINARS (One hour)

SEM 1A - TOPIC: MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID - EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD (REPEATED IN SESSION 2)

**Presenters : Ida Abbeyquaye (Vice Principal, Lower Secondary) and
Dr. Seth Mawusi Asafo (Clinical Psychologist)**

Synopsis: With a huge amount of time spent in the classrooms, schools provide the ideal environment for promoting emotional wellbeing, social skills and knowledge that helps students to build resilience if they feel healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged.

Childhood mental health problems can affect academic development, which can have long term consequences.

This seminar will focus on early identification and intervention of mental health problems, particularly symptoms of depression in students and how to provide immediate support “First Aid” using a case study.

It would also delve into what attributes, attitudes and skills we would want our students to have @ 25, giving insight into developing the “whole child” in our schools.

SEM 1B - TOPIC: MANAGING STUDENTS WITH HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES IN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT. (REPEATED IN SESSION 2)

Presenters : Evelyn Setordji and Somah Frempong

Synopsis: Wellness is defined as “a balanced state of emotional, intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual well-being that enables students to reach their full potential in the school community. Personal wellness occurs with commitment to lifestyle choices based on healthy attitudes and actions”.

This seminar will provide teachers with skills necessary for supporting students’ well-being. Teachers will be equipped to look out for and handle students with challenges that affect them emotionally and physically.

SEM 1C- TOPIC: THE POWER OF FULL ENGAGEMENT

Presenter: Heidi Owu (Vice-Principal, Infant School)

Synopsis: Are you perpetually exhausted? Do you collapse in a heap when you get home from work, finding it difficult to fully engage with your loved ones? Are you frazzled, 'running on empty', working longer and longer hours trying to fit everything in?

Attend 'The Power of Full Engagement' seminar and discover how energy renewal (and not just better time management) is the key to enhancing your performance and leading a healthier, more balanced, more productive life.

In the supportive environment of this seminar, you will:

- Learn about the four dimensions of energy and specific practices to replenish energy in each dimension
- Learn how to balance energy expenditure with intermittent energy renewal to stay on top of your commitments
- Take an energy audit and discover your greatest energy deficits
- Create a personal energy management plan

SEM 1D - TOPIC: MANAGING CHANGE

Presenters: Shawn Schuman and Francis Ameko

Synopsis: Students are always dealing with the challenges of change, whether it be making new friends, moving to a new country or learning new topics in so many classes. Throw in the 21st century technology and students of today have a lot of stress to deal with! However, there are ways to handle the stress.

This seminar will give an insight into some techniques on how to manage change:

- Changes in our homes
- Changes in our classes

SEM 1E - TOPIC: BEING A REFLECTIVE TEACHER

Presenters: Francis Hukpati and Francis Narh

Synopsis: Today the teacher's role is widely discussed in educational literature. It is characterised to be more complex than it was in the past and teachers are tasked with forming the citizens of tomorrow (Jennings & Greenberg, 2009; Vloet & Van Swet, 2010).

It is necessary that teachers continually develop professionally not only with knowledge in their disciplines but also with the ability to assume multiple roles in a multi-cultural society in order to become good teachers

Reflective practice is part of the competence required to be a good teacher. The reflective practice approach is helpful for teachers in identifying weaknesses and strengths and improving their practice (Ahmed & Al-Khalili, 2013).

So, the objective of reflective practice in teaching is to ensure a more precise and meaningful understanding of a situation and to provide effective, applicable actions for strengthening performance.

This seminar will therefore explore and discuss various ways of becoming a reflective teacher.

SEM 1F - TOPIC: SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING IN SCHOOL: PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES

Presenter: Andoh Wilson

Synopsis: It is common knowledge in the field of education that more children with strong social and emotional skills perform better in school, have more positive relationships with peers and adults, and have more positive emotional adjustment and mental health. But Social and Emotional learning (SEL) programs are rarely integrated into classrooms and schools in ways that are meaningful, sustained, and embedded in the day-to-day interactions of students, educators, and school staff.

Even more than academic skills, social and emotional learning skills must develop in the context of daily life as social challenges and other teaching opportunities arise.

After this seminar, educators will be able to:

- i. Design basic SEL program for a classroom or a school
- ii. Identify strategies for effective implementation of an integrated SEL program in classrooms and schools.

SEM 1G- TOPIC: HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM: EQUIPPING OUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Presenter: Paul Baffoe and Eric Ofori-Kwakye

Synopsis: Are you a teacher, a writer, a publisher, an administrator? Do you make reference to other people's information or materials? Are your students aware of the need to duly acknowledge sources and avoid Plagiarism? What about their projects, are they properly referenced? Have you been caught in the web of academic crime (Plagiarism)?

Whether deliberate or accidental, plagiarism is a serious and punishable offence in the academic field which many people are still committing. Plagiarism (from the Latin word "kidnapper") is the presentation of someone else's ideas or words as your own (Aaron, 1998).

To avoid all the stress of being caught in this web, this workshop is organized to walk participants through the fundamentals of 'how to avoid Plagiarism' in our various roles as teachers, writers and administrators. Participants will be well equipped to also go and create the awareness about this academic crime and teach their students how to avoid it as they progress up the academic ladder.

SESSION 2 SEMINARS (ONE HOUR)

SEM 2A - TOPIC: MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID - EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD

Presenters: Ida Abbeyquaye (Vice Principal, Lower Secondary) and Dr. Seth Mawusi Asafo (Clinical Psychologist)

Synopsis: With a huge amount of time spent in the classrooms, schools provide the ideal environment for promoting emotional wellbeing, social skills and knowledge that helps students to build resilience if they feel healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged.

Childhood mental health problems can affect academic development, which can have long term consequences.

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It would also delve into what attributes, attitudes and skills we would want our students to have @ 25, giving insight into developing the “whole child” in our schools.

SEM 2B - TOPIC: MANAGING STUDENTS WITH HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES IN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.

Presenters : Evelyn Setordji and Somah Frempong

Synopsis: Wellness is defined as “a balanced state of emotional, intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual well-being that enables students to reach their full potential in the school community. Personal wellness occurs with commitment to lifestyle choices based on healthy attitudes and actions”.

This seminar will provide teachers with skills necessary for supporting students’ well-being. Teachers will be equipped to look out for and handle students with challenges that affect them emotionally and physically.

SEM 2C - TOPIC: EVERY STUDENT COUNTS

Presenter: Nadia Bruce Muller (Vice-Principal, Junior School)

Synopsis: To ensure all students are engaged and successful learners, teachers need to provide opportunities for every student to succeed. Indeed very able students can disengage when material is so easy that it fails to challenge them – just as students can become disengaged when given difficult material on which they have little chance of success. The solution is to meet all students at their points of need with personalised, targeted teaching.

As Educators, we all agree that every student counts!

This seminar will explore ways in which we can address the learning needs of all our students in order that they can develop the attitudes, skills, knowledge and values required for life-long learning.

SEM 2D - 'ALL ABOARD, MANY VOICES, ONE GREAT SCHOOL'

Presenters : Frank Amponsah Mensah (Vice Principal, Upper Secondary)

Synopsis: One of the best ways to achieve inclusion is to ensure that everybody's voice is heard since a complete School produces a complete nation'. In many human endeavours, success or failure is a result of the collective effort of the whole group. Where the differing energies, strengths and voices of the individual members are not fully harnessed, the group or organisation fails to realise its full potential. This is equally true in the case of a school.

The challenge therefore is how to identify the various constituents of the school and map out a continuing strategy that ensures that the many voices are all taken aboard to ensure one great school!

SEM 2E- TOPIC: MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING IN THE SCHOOL SETTING: THE STARTING POINT - THE TEACHER

Presenter: Ngozi OrevuOghene (Educational Consultant)

Synopsis: In order to foster mental and emotional wellbeing in our students, the mental and emotional state of the teacher must be well above average. As the popular saying goes; "YOU CAN'T GIVE WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE".

Together, let's learn how to even out the pressures of life within and outside the workplace, be effective in our primary classroom duties as teachers as we mould the lives of our future leaders.

SEM 2F- TOPIC: BEHAVIOUR IS COMMUNICATION

Presenters: Beatrice Owusu-Boateng and Dora Baah

Synopsis: Students communicate in different ways in class. When they feel betrayed, humiliated, vulnerable, misunderstood, bored, stressed or shunned, they are inclined to act out. They sometimes fail to make the right choices in such situations and as a result they communicate the wrong message, but misbehavior in class is rarely without cause.

How can we as teachers interpret what students are trying to communicate in such situations?

As teachers, we may not always be right in our interpretation of misbehavior. If we are not always right, then some of what we do in response to that misbehavior might be wrong.

After this seminar educators should be able to:

- Identify and avoid issues that may cause students to misbehave in class
- Interpret misbehaviour and adapt effective strategies to support their students.

SEM 2G - TOPIC: USING MUSIC AND GAMES IN THE CLASSROOM

Presenters: Afua Okyere Sefa, Alex Crenstil and Ellis Dzandu

Synopsis: This seminar seeks to explore the effects of the use of music and games in the classroom setting to promote the mental and emotional wellbeing of our students. Teachers will explore how to use music and games to improve concentration, encourage creativity and fun in the learning environment.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH WORKSHOPS (ENG)

ENG1 - TOPIC: USING THE ARTS (MUSIC/POETRY/DRAMA/ART & CRAFT/DANCE) TO TEACH OTHER SUBJECTS.

Target group: Target Group: Upper Primary : 9 – 11 years (Classes 4 -6)

Presenter: Anthony Karlton Twumasi (CRIMSON DAWN SCHOOL) -AKOSOMBO

Synopsis: Motivating and sustaining learner interest during lessons and for their entire school life through the use of the arts (Music/Poetry/Drama/Art/Craft/Dance) underpins the performance of the learner and the choice of courses in later years.

This approach seeks to reach out to all learners with a variety of learning styles to promote a deeper and practical appreciation of the content of the subject being taught.

There are several simple ways of tapping into the natural flair of the learner to make learning fun and worthwhile.

We will examine this teaching approach together and tap into our repertoire of skills and experiences to develop strategies of how to use the arts to teach other subjects.

ENG2 - TOPIC: USING DRAMA, PROSE AND POETRY TO DESTRESS STUDENTS

Target group: Lower and Upper Secondary Teachers

Presenters: Juliette Vanderpuye , Carol Odamtten, Petulia Joseph

Synopsis: The healing power of Literature is frequently underestimated, but its therapeutic effect cuts across age, gender, tradition or culture. We reveal how Prose, Poetry and Drama uplifts the human spirit.

MATHEMATICS WORKSHOPS (MA)

MA1 - Topic: Application of vectors to relative velocity

Target group: Lower and Upper Secondary

Presenters: Francis Narh and Derick Kwarteng

Synopsis: The topic 'relative velocity' is in the Cambridge IGCSE Additional Mathematics syllabus under the application of Vectors. According to Robert Rosenthal (1976), many teachers have indicated that Relative Velocity is a challenging topic to teach. This attitude by teachers towards the topic could mislead students into thinking that the topic is difficult.

According to Usiskin (2001), a teacher needs to know more content knowledge than their students in order to teach it very well and confidently.

This workshop will explore into details the content knowledge of Relative Velocity and how to teach it.

MA2 - Topic: Creativity in the Mathematics Classroom

Target Group: Lower and Upper Primary

Presenter: Ngozi OrevaOghene (Educational Consultant)

Synopsis: Creativity in the Maths class allows you to dream and plan how you want to present each Maths lesson from start to finish.

Together we will explore ways of teaching various maths concepts such as: Place value, Measures, Fractions, Decimals, Percentages, Problem solving, Tips for Mental Maths and many more.

Come let's dream together and create fun in our Maths lessons.

Maths is Fun and everyone can do it!!!

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS (CLM)

CLM1 - Topic: Working With Disruptive Students

Target group: All Teachers

Presenters: : Aaron Borquaye and Love Joyce Quaicoe

Synopsis: This workshop offers 21st century educators the platform to share ideas, techniques and strategies in engaging the disruptive student. The presentation will focus on equipping educators with resources to inspire a positive attitude to work with difficult students.

CRITICAL THINKING WORKSHOPS (CRT)

CRT1 - Topic: How to Reap the Benefits of Art and Sign Language for Visual and Kinesthetic Learners in the Classroom

Target group: Primary School

Presenters: Vanessa Staver and Sarah Wilson

Synopsis: Come to our practical workshop that will help you to include GSL (Ghanaian Sign Language) and Art into your classrooms. Practice and gain confidence in techniques that will help your visual and kinesthetic learners and stimulate the minds of all your students. You will learn and practice basic GSL signs as well as easy and practical ways to incorporate art into your classroom.

This experiential workshop will assist you in engaging all learners by incorporating GSL (Ghanaian Sign Language) and art activities into your daily curriculum. Learn how to deeply stimulate visual and kinesthetic learners using basic GSL signs. Practice simple art therapy exercises that will unite your learners, aid in releasing stress and energy, and help both artists and non artists express themselves non verbally. Utilizing the skills taught in this session will give you the tools to create a therapeutic and inclusive classroom for your students.

TEACHING STRATEGIES WORKSHOPS (TSW)

TSW1 - Topic: Edutainment - Using The Smartboard

Target group: All Year Groups

Presenters: Jennifer Blankson and Kwame Mensah

Synopsis: SMART Boards provide new ways for teachers to teach and for students to learn. The interactive board turns a typical classroom into a fun learning environment. It enriches classrooms in several ways by providing hands-on collaboration and creating the perfect learning setting.

At this hands-on workshop, presenters will share how we can prepare exciting lessons that will provide students with different learning styles opportunities to access the curriculum. Images can be projected to aid understanding for visual learners; auditory learners will have opportunities to listen and engage in meaningful discussions. It also allows tactile and kinesthetic learners to move around, touch and interact with the Boards.

TSW2 - Achieving More With Limited School Time:

Efficient Use Of Contact Hours (Part II)

Target group: All Year Groups

Presenter: Wilson Andoh

The catch phrase for this workshop is “Hard on planning, easy on delivery”. This workshop, which is a follow up on last year’s, will among other things review briefly the learning theories shared in the previous workshop and go on to engage participants in the design of an instructional plan that improves students’ self-learning in ways that the students may find less burdensome and more engaging; using teaching methods that takes advantage of the students’ prior knowledge, expertise and motivational beliefs. Participants will then model delivery of this plan in a role play aimed at assimilating the acquired knowledge before the end of the workshop.

After this workshop, educators will be able to:

- i. Design lesson plans that reduce the load on students’ working memory (short term memory)

- ii. Deliver a lesson that gives students the mental room to organise newly received knowledge in ways that makes it easy to process, remember and apply.

TSW3 - Creating a Learning Environment that Inspires Accelerated Learning and Attainment. (The Environment as a Third Teacher)

Target group: Early Years / Lower Primary

Presenters: Donna Gordon-Apeagyei and Nadine Rocks

Research tells us that children thrive and develop best in an enriching environment that offers security, stokes curiosity and provides positive enabling relationships.

If we are to see children achieve their highest potential, then we have to creatively and strategically provide a learning environment that caters for the diverse learning needs that children have. We are mindful that excellence is born of habit, and innovation is born of novel situations that require new uses of what we already know. A learning environment that is deep, diverse and rich, that includes a community of learners and contributors, is a foundational starting point that we believe all children deserve.

What will I take away from this workshop?

In this workshop you will have the opportunity to:

- Develop your existing toolkit for creating an excellent learning environment.
- Understand the impact and importance of embedding 21st century skills in your practices.
- Gain practical hands on support and learn how to include natural resources and everyday items to accelerate the progress of your children.

By the end of the workshop you will be able to do an assessment of your current practices and find the area that you can work on to ensure that your learning environment is constantly progressing and adapting to meet the specific needs of your children.

TSW4 - Topic: Multiple Ways To Assess the Student

Target group: Lower Secondary

Presenters: Shawn Schuman and Francis Ameko

Synopsis: Students learn different ways and may be distressed as they are assessed right after a given lesson. It is important to remember that students can show that they have learned much about the topic at hand in ways other than answering traditional questions at the end of the lesson. This workshop will focus on alternative methods of assessing the students individually or as a class on a particular topic.

This workshop will provide teachers with other options of assessment that can include:

- Drawings
- Discussions
- Real world scenarios
- Cooperative learning styles
- Use of the 8 styles of learning (Gardner)

TSW5 Topic: Supporting Children With Sen In The Classroom

Target group: All Year Groups

Presenters: Doris Asimeng & Ida Brandt-Asare

Synopsis: How can teachers support students with special educational needs to excel in the classroom? Each child comes to school with strengths and weaknesses, and it is the responsibility of each teacher to know their children and cater well for their individual needs. Children with special educational needs (SEN) are particularly vulnerable in the classroom due to their personal challenges such as attention deficit disorders (ADD), processing difficulties or general developmental delays. These challenges may affect their mental and emotional wellbeing and their overall achievement.

This workshop aims to equip teachers with strategies to identify and support SEN children to become successful learners and participants in school. The highlights are:

- Developing self-esteem
- Focus on the holistic development of each child
- Using their strengths to support their weaknesses
- Practical examples and hands-on activities

This will be an opportunity for you to come and share your experiences and learn new strategies to support students with SEN.

TSW 6 Topic: THE 21ST CENTURY TEACHER

Target group: All Year Groups

Presenters: Rosemond Onumah Appiah, Alberta Mante, Sophia Amarteifio

Synopsis: The term “21st century learning” has been used to refer to abilities students must master, such as problem-solving skills, critical thinking skills, and digital literacy. Some refer to it as the ability to collaborate, communicate, and demonstrate skills that will ultimately help students navigate their way in the future.

This Seminar will focus on Twenty-first-century learning approaches to teaching that marries content to skill.

The Session will offer participants the opportunity to discuss the following:

- What is 21st century teaching?
- What strategies are required of a teacher to be 21st century compliant?
- Are these strategies available to a Ghanaian teacher? If not, how can we use resources available to us in Ghana?

TSW7 Topic: 'Building Digital Resources For Your Classroom'

Target group: All Year Groups

Presenters: Mrs Afua Okyere Sefa, Mr Alex Crenstil and Mr Ellis Dzandu

Synopsis: This workshop discusses learning how to use new digital resources for the classroom. The digital platform enables teachers reach learners with different learning styles. Digital resources help increase students engagement and motivation in learning.

By the end of the workshop, teachers will be able to:

- Source online digital resources
- Build confidence in using these resources
- Incorporate digital resource in their delivery of lessons

TSW8 Topic: USING DRAMA IN THE CLASSROOM

Target group: All Year Groups

Presenter: Selase Dzakamani

Synopsis: Drama by its very nature involves students in social contexts where they are required to think, talk, manipulate concrete materials, and share viewpoints in order to arrive at decisions (Siks, 1983). In this workshop we shall explore some fascinating and practical ways in which we can employ drama as an effective instructional tool in any lesson.

TSW9 Topic: Reliability Of Summative Assessment As A Predictor Of Externally Conducted Summative Assessment Outcomes

Target group: Secondary School Teachers

Presenters: David Ako and Sampson Gyamfi

Synopsis: The workshop will discuss the findings from a study of the reliability of summative assessment as a predictor of externally conducted summative assessment outcomes in Ghana International School.

TSW10 Topic: Managing Difficult Students In Your Classroom, And Using Technology For Effective Student Engagement.

Target group: All Year Groups

Presenters: Jonathan K. Anebo and Martin Obeng Adofo

Synopsis: It is the desire of most teachers, (if not all) to welcome to their classroom at the beginning of every school year students with temperaments that are easy to manage. However, due to the different temperaments, learning styles, religious beliefs and cultural predispositions of our students, the desire by teachers to have only ideal students in their classrooms is highly unlikely!

Again, due to the increasing craze for, and use of technology by the 21st Century child, teachers at all levels are being encouraged to use technology as one of the effective ways of engaging their students. This is because when appropriately incorporated into the lesson, technology is attention-drawing! Technology does not only make it easier to conceptualize concepts and principles which otherwise would appear abstract, but comes handy in effective student management.

Who is a difficult student? Which strategies have been proven to be most effective in managing difficult students? Which responsibilities can you entrust with a student with a behavioural challenge (otherwise known as a difficult student) to get the best out of him/her? How can technology be used in effective student management?

Join us as we discuss and share feedback to these questions and many more.

TSW11 Topic: We All Matter - An ESL Point Of View

Target group: All Year Groups (Public Schools)

Presenters: Ekoa Sagoe and Trudy Amoyaw-Sekyi

Synopsis: In recent years, there have been various innovations aimed at addressing the needs of English as a Second Language (ESL) students. This process is crucial to the continuing success of our students. Consequently, the radical shift from “sage on the stage” to “guide on the side” has become imperative for teachers and administrators. Rather than having a one-size-fits-all approach, where a teacher simply stands to impart knowledge, it has become more beneficial for schools to focus more on differentiated teaching, which aims to address the individual needs of students.

How can you be an effective teacher to someone who barely understands you?

This workshop aims to enlighten mainstream teachers to effectively manage ESL students to produce excellent results.

TSW12 Topic: We All Matter - A SEN Point Of View

Target group: All Year Groups (Public Schools)

Presenters: Yvonne Frimpong and Nii Nai Adjei-Mensah

Synopsis: With the support of teachers, every child can succeed. However, the approach to learning needs to be adjusted to meet the needs of Special Educational Needs (SEN) students. It has therefore become more beneficial for schools to focus more on differentiated teaching, which aims to address the individual needs of students.

This workshop aims to enlighten mainstream teachers to effectively manage SEN students to enhance and develop their personal skills and abilities.

TSW13 Topic: Creating and Using Anchor Charts to Make Thinking More Visible in the Primary Classroom

Target group: Primary School Teachers

Presenters: Thelma Ward and Grace Hanson

Synopsis: Looking for a simple, inexpensive tool to support instruction in your classroom? Come let's brainstorm how to create anchor charts that capture the most important content in your lesson to make thinking more visible for your students.

Participants should come along with summaries of 2-3 topics they teach for this hands-on session.

TSW14 Topic: Micro Messaging

Target group: Lower and Upper Secondary

Presenters: Sheila Sonekan and Eugene Boateng

Synopsis: Micromessages are small, subtle, often unconscious messages we send while communicating with others, whether by voice, action, or body language. These messages, either positive or negative, stem from our implicit biases and affect relationships.

During the workshop, we will discuss the various types of micromessages and how those micromessages impact student decisions. We will also look at how to encourage persistence through the use of micro-affirmations.

This workshop is designed to allow educators immediate practical application for increasing personal awareness of how implicit bias manifests itself in the classroom and for creating equitable learning environments that support every student's potential.

TSW15 Topic: Preparing Students For Tertiary Education Using Identified Teachable Moments.

Target group: Upper Secondary

Presenter: Rianatu Omotayo Mensah

Synopsis: How do your students function alongside students from multicultural and multilingual backgrounds in university and beyond? How do you work with a student who was born to Chinese parents in Ireland, lived in Germany for 4 years, studied in 6 different international schools in Berlin, Accra, Toronto, Taipei, Sao Paulo and Lima and speaks Punjabi, Russian, French, Italian, Dutch, Ga and German? This student is a professional chef who owns a start up Thai restaurant in Accra.

The complexity of the modern students' demographics demands that students are well prepared for the opportunities and challenges of our global world. Their diverse backgrounds make the provision of guidance imperative in the attainment of future success.

This workshop invites educational professionals to be creative in harnessing students' backgrounds to address their needs and prepare them for life after high school.

During this workshop, educational professionals will:

- Explain what teachable moments are and how to identify them.
- Brainstorm on how to recognise and act on teachable moments and make the most of them.
- Determine the importance of key skills for college bound students required to make a meaningful connection with their world.
- Discuss guidance strategies for students.

TSW16 Topic: Writing A Research Proposal

Presenter: Eric Ofori-Kwakye

Synopsis: This workshop seeks to refresh the research skills of educators and is particularly aimed at teachers and managers engaged in one research activity or the other. Together we would commence with a brief exercise on how to use information in articles to write one's research introduction and background.

All participants are thus, guaranteed a practical and learner-friendly approach to educational research.

MAINTAINING GOOD WORK ETHICS AND VALUES (WEV)

WEV1 - Topic: The Teacher, Ethics and Values

Target Group: All Year Groups

Presenter: Dzifa Toppar Dzata

Synopsis: Every human being at some point in life, is learning one thing or the other, hence the saying, 'learning is from the cradle to the grave.' The 21st century teacher is a pace setter in the field of education and as such, the ethics and values emulated by a teacher remain strong values in a child's life. This workshop will provide teachers with the ethics and values needed to impact positively on their children and society as a whole.

The workshop will focus primarily on reviewing some values and ethical practices teachers must always exhibit as they interact with students daily. Participants will immerse in in-depth learning by delving into a case study on how to respond to specific scenarios in class.

The session will offer participants the opportunity to discuss the following:

- Leadership qualities
- Creativity and Innovations
- Time management
- Lifelong learning
- Social and mental wellbeing of a teacher.

WEV2 - Topic: Teacher Sanity - Finding The Work Life Balance

Target Group: All Year Groups

Presenter: Akorfa Norvor Laryea

Synopsis: 'I'm going to go crazy!'; 'I can't deal with this.' 'I have to do something about this.' "Why me?" Any of these sound familiar? Why you indeed! A teacher, an educator; is that all you are? Surely, you are and can be more.

Come let's find out how to revive, improve and perform. In a constantly changing field of education, with different demands and expectations, the teacher must stay sane!

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