

*The Goodness of God*



**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
SUMMIT 2024**

**Hosted by**

**THE HOPE ALLEN CENTER  
FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN**

*A Division of*

**TABERNACLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

1225 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drive NE  
Hickory, North Carolina 28601  
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# **MASTER SCHEDULE**

**Thursday, June 27, 2024**

## **4:30- Dinner and Check-In**

Tabernacle Christian School Gymnasium

## **5:30- General Session**

**Pastor Bobby McCoy**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

"In a Quarter of a Second"

*The goodness of God is often relegated to circumstantial matters in life. God's goodness cannot be measured simply by good days or bad days. Instead, the goodness of God must be seen in good days AND bad days as God gives sufficient grace for the events of life. Pastor Bobby McCoy will share his personal testimony of the goodness of God through difficult circumstances.*

## **7:00-7:50 PM-Session A**

**Pastor Scott Hooks**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

"Fostering an Exceptional Vision"

*This session will focus on the need for an expanded vision in the church and Christian school to include those who are often overlooked and underserved, exceptional children, adults, and their families. Practical suggestions will be given to encourage those who have the burden for those with exceptional needs share it with their church leaders and the congregation at large.*

**Jessica Valente**

**Room 102**

"Ditching the Drama with Data: Unveiling the Power of Data in Special Education Behavior Management"

*Understanding and managing behaviors may initially appear unpredictable, but there are tools that allow for systematic tracking and strategic planning. While we may not have direct control over behavior, we can influence it by shaping the conditions in which it occurs. This aspect is particularly crucial in Special Education, where data plays a pivotal role. Discover the significance of data and gain insights into how to effectively leverage it in shaping tailored strategies for behavior management.*

**Meagan Hildebran**

**Room 101**

"Uncovering the Roof: Launching a Support Group for Parents"

*Raising a child with special needs can be isolating for many parents, especially for those who have limited social opportunities due to lack of childcare, time, or even energy. In this session, find out how you can utilize a parent support group to "uncover the roof" to bring the broken and hurting to Jesus. We will explore the vital role of support groups and will provide practical tips on how to get started.*

## **8:00-8:50 PM-Session B**

**Cheryl Boehme**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

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"A Very Special Transition"

*It is common for students to prepare for the transition to adulthood and life after high school. However, a special needs student's transition MUST look different, and we, as parents and educators, must be key supporters for a successful transition. This session will uncover some practical and tested ideas to help our students while promoting their self-respect.*

**Amy Wall & Samantha Thomas**

**Room 101**

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"Bridging Communication: Enhancing Speech and Language Development in Children with Autism"

*This presentation focuses on empowering parents and educators with strategies to enhance speech and language development in children with Autism, with discussion about the exploring the Gestalt Language Learning model. Attendees will learn the differences between clinical and educational speech therapy, with practical tips for supporting language growth in various settings. Emphasis is placed on collaborative approaches for consistent communication development, equipping attendees with tools and insights for effective support across home and educational environments.*

**Curtis and Jennifer Tomlin**

**Room 102**

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"Gateways through Sight and Sound"

*How do I get my students to benefit from experiencing and learning music and speech? What strategies can I use in the classroom to help them? But, wait! Can my treasured students really learn music? Can they be positively be affected through emotional understanding, empathy, communication, and empowerment? Music and speech can impact a student's life in other areas of their education that goes beyond the classroom and into their social and emotional development. Gather with us as we share ideas on how our special kids can grasp, attain, and conquer in this world of music and speech.*

**HACEC classrooms will be open from 8:50-9:30 PM.**

## **Friday, June 28, 2024**

HACEC classrooms will be open from 8:00-8:25.

### **8:30 AM- General Assembly**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

### **9:00-9:50 AM-Session C**

**Scott Ellis**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

"Shepherds College"

*In this session you will learn all about Shepherds College. A college designed for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Amongst the topics covered will include our classes, majors, and student life.*

**Curtis and Jennifer Tomlin**

**Room 102**

"Creating Art to Reach the Mind"

*Whoa! Art for special needs kids? Art is one of the ancient forms of expression. There are lots of doable art projects that can be done, so why should you be intimidated by the way that God has created them. God has created them to be independent and do things on their own. Why not enjoy their spirits to create? Concentrate on what the students CAN do not on what they cannot. Be the teacher that accepts our treasured friends at face value. Let's work together to help our students learn that art is a powerful tool to making sense of the world. Let's build their fine-motor and problem-solving skills, enhance their communication and expression, and promote self-esteem and motivation to succeed.*

**Shelley Roberts**

**Room 101**

"It's Time to Intervene"

*Where do you begin helping struggling students enrolled in your general education population? Join us as we discuss the intervention process, along with tools to aid in planning meaningful intervention instruction.*

## 9:55-10:45 AM-Session D

**Lauren Hickman**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

"Unity in Diversity"

*In this practical session, we will dive into the essential first steps required to start a disabilities ministry within your local church. From recruiting volunteers to choosing curriculum, establishing an inclusive classroom setup, and creating effective schedules. We'll guide you through the foundational aspects of launching a successful ministry. We will also explore meaningful ways to connect with your community and serve alongside individuals living with disabilities. By starting a disabilities ministry, we are not merely going above and beyond the call of the Great Commission; we are fulfilling our duty to Christ. Join us in this exciting ride and what how God will meet and provide every need!*

**Jean Evans**

**Room 101**

"Have Ye Not Read?"

*Christian educators need to understand how to provide explicit instruction in the classroom that will promote both normalization of brain pathways for reading and continuity with clinical intervention when needed. Today, we can literally watch the brain reading, the exact pathways revealed. Not only science, but also history testifies of the high road to reading instruction – from Noah Webster to Samuel Orton to Stanislas DeHaene. In the Scripture, Jesus often asked, "Have ye not read?" Yet today only one third of students in our country are proficient readers. Why? Is it the students? The teachers? Both? In this workshop, we will explore the reading disorder often diagnosed as dyslexia – its prevalence, myths, identification, intervention, and comorbidities. Scriptural, evidence-based classroom instruction will be emphasized because the way we teach determines the brain pathway development in our students.*

**Dr. Robin Correll**

**Room 102**

"What's Next? Navigating the World of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities"

*Having a child with intellectual and developmental disabilities can be challenging. This session will focus on teaching parents and professionals how to be an advocate for their child and how to pursue resources to provide assistance in the home and educational settings. One of the challenges for parents is often identifying potential community resources and state funding programs that may provide some respite, medical and nursing support, as well as behavioral health support to families and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Families will learn how to connect with current resources and learn about future trends that are predicted to change the landscape of state funding and programs. The session will also discuss how to have a successful transition from school-age to adulthood.*

## 10:50-11:40 AM-Session E

**Sarah Kolkman**

**Room 102**

"Empowering Problem-Solving and Emotional Regulation Tools in the Classroom"

*Unlock the potential of problem-solving and emotional regulation tools in this interactive session. Explore practical techniques and resources implemented by Shepherds College to help students effectively manage their emotions and develop essential problem-solving skills. Discover how to implement these valuable tools in your classroom to foster emotional resilience and equip your students with the problem-solving skills needed for success in their educational journey and beyond.*

**Dwayne Hickman**

**Room 101**

"Navigating the Financial Logistics of a Disabilities Ministry"

*The financial investment required for a special needs ministry or program can be challenging or even seem prohibitive. While God expects all of our work to be accomplished through faith, there are many tangible resources available for ministries to utilize in serving the needs of families and individuals living with disabilities.*

**Renee Gamble**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

"Shepherding the Heart of Your Child with Special Needs"

*Scripture teaches parents to "...train up a child in the way he should go..." As parents of a child with special needs, we are responsible to teach the truth of God's Word. This includes training a child to respond in obedience to parents, to authority, and ultimately to God. This workshop will use biblical principles to give practical steps in the training and discipleship of children with special needs.*

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## 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM-Lunch

Tabernacle Christian School Gymnasium  
**HACEC classrooms will be open from 12:30-1:00.**

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## **1:10-2:00 PM-Session F**

**Krista Smith**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

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"Empowering Inclusive Learning: Strategies for Success in Diverse Classrooms"

*This workshop will provide an overview of curriculum materials that can be used for special education or cluster classrooms. The focus is on addressing the diverse learning needs of students with varying abilities and ensuring an inclusive and supportive educational environment. The workshop delves into the selection and organization of instructional materials and the unique requirements of special education settings.*

**Tim Missey**

**Room 102**

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"Cultivating Christ-Honoring Culture"

*School culture can be defined as the guiding beliefs and values evident in the way a school operates on a daily basis. All the attitudes, expected behaviors and values that impact the operation of the school can also be included. This session will focus on how maintaining the proper school culture can help to implement and develop a special education program. Also discussed will be practical examples of how school culture can be affected by all of your school's stakeholders: parents, students, faculty, and administrators.*

**Dr. AnnMarie Rill**

**Room 101**

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"Autism at Home: The Musical"

*At the age of eleven, when our daughter received diagnoses of high-functioning autism, giftedness, visual processing disorder, and developmental coordination disorder, the dynamics of the Rill household underwent a significant transformation. Analogous to crafting a narrative for the theater accompanied by musical compositions, our family has dedicated the past year to shaping melodies, harmonies, rhythms, and structures, weaving in expressive elements to create a unique and evolving story.*

## 2:05-2:55 PM-Session G

**Charity Campbell**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

"Balancing Brilliance: Bridging Emotional Regulation with Beneficial Heavy Work"

*We will be discussing proven techniques for emotional regulation through use of the Zones of Regulation, non-verbal and verbal pathways for communicating feelings, visual schedules and their impact with behavior throughout the school day, and the use of heavy work both in and out of the classroom as a means of emotional regulation, sensory breaks, and impulse control.*

**Dr. Julian Evans**

**Room 101**

"Is Providing Educational Care for Exceptional Children Really a Choice?"

*Join us as we pursue answers to common questions relating to Christian special education practices. Is there a biblical mandate for the church to provide education to exceptional children? How is Jesus Christ's understanding of compassion different than ours? What role do parents, ministry leaders, and the community play in this process? What are some practical ways for ministers of the Gospel, parents and educators to navigate the exercise of securing evaluations and services for children living with disability? Let's seek the Lord for understanding as we ask, "Is providing educational care for exceptional children really a choice?"*

**Amy Wall and Samantha Thomas**

**Room 102**

"Educational Goal Writing for Special Needs"

*This session offers an engaging, hands-on experience for educators and parents. Starting with an introduction to the importance of goal setting in special education and an overview of IDEA, it progresses to understanding student needs through assessing individual profiles and using data. The focus then shifts to the practical aspects of goal development, including aligning goals with student needs, advocacy for measurable goals and writing measurable goals. Participants will actively engage in exercises to practice goal writing for case studies and hypothetical students.*



## **3:00-3:50 PM-Session H**

**Amy Wall and Samantha Thomas**

**Room 102**

"Launching Inclusivity: Starting a Specialized Literacy Program for Diverse Abilities in Christian Private Schools"

*This presentation is designed to guide Christian private school administrators and educators in taking the crucial step towards inclusive education by launching a specialized literacy program. Participants will leave with a clear understanding of the process, resources, and benefits associated with developing a specialized literacy program, fostering a more inclusive and supportive educational environment for students of diverse abilities and learning differences.*

**Isaac Young**

**Room 101**

"Glass Children: From Invisible to Invaluable"

*Commonly called "glass children," siblings of those with special needs are often overlooked and undervalued. Not only do these siblings have unusual needs which must be met, they can be a unique means for meeting needs. In this session, your perspective will be challenged to view these glass children as invaluable, rather than invisible.*

**Dr. Lisa Joyner**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

"Beyond One Size Fits All: The Art of Differentiated Teaching"

*This workshop is designed to empower teachers with a diverse set of strategies that go beyond traditional methods, catering to the unique needs and learning styles of every student in their classroom. Participants will explore the philosophy and principles of differentiation, gaining practical insights into tailoring lesson plans, assessments, and classroom activities to meet the varied needs of learners. Through interactive discussions, hands-on activities, and real-world examples, educators will leave with a toolkit of effective strategies, ensuring they can create inclusive and dynamic learning environments that inspire academic success for all students. Embrace the art of differentiated teaching and transform your classroom into a space where every learner can thrive.*

## **4:00-4:30 PM-Closing Assembly**

**Testimony from Sunshine Meister**

**Tabernacle Baptist Church Auditorium**

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"Continue (May we speak about this?)"

*I am prayerfully planning to share Nahum's story by sharing how God smiled on our family and gave us the gift of traumatic brain injury and suffering as a platform for Him to show His sufficiency and sustaining grace. As we are entering year three of this journey, I want to encourage others with the same encouragement that God has given to me to continue in His grace on this path. Moreover, I want to encourage others to endure the hardness of long suffering. Though continuing and enduring are admirable and necessary characteristics, we who sorrow in Christ have the inestimable opportunity to do more than continue and endure: through the help of the Holy Spirit, we can abide in Christ and find the "treasures of darkness and the hidden riches of secret places" (Isaiah 45:3) that we and others may know the Lord more deeply and fully.*

**HACEC classrooms will be open from 4:30-5:00.**



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