

<b>Back To School Conference</b> <b>Day 1: August 8th, 2024</b>		
<b>9:00 - 9:45 a.m.</b>	Welcome Play - Part One	INDIGO Education Team Dr. Erin Lavery and Abby Refsland
<b>9:45-10:00 a.m. Break</b>		
<b>10:00 - 11:30 a.m.</b>	Impact of Anxiety and Trauma on Learning	Dr. Rachelle Hansen and Dr. Renee von Weiss Clinical psychologists and Neurodevelopmental Specialists
<b>11:45 am-12:40 p.m. Lunch</b>		
<b>12:40 - 1:40 p.m.</b>	School Climate & Culture (including behavior support and trauma considerations)	Mahdi Warsama Chief Executive Officer Somali Parents Autism Network (SPAN)
<b>1:40 - 1:50 p.m. Break</b>		
<b>1:50 - 2:50 p.m.</b>	The Year in Review - School Law Cases You Want to Know About	Laura Booth, Christian Shafer, Attorneys Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney
<b>1:50 - 3:00 p.m. Break</b>		
<b>3:00 - 4:00 p.m.</b>	Digging in the DIRT™- A Structured Process for Planning Effective Behavioral Interventions	Becky Knutsen M.Ed Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education Founder of Student-Centered Services



### **Impact of Anxiety and Trauma on Learning**

Dr. Rachelle Hansen and Dr. Renee von Weiss - Clinical psychologists and Neurodevelopmental Specialists

In today's educational landscape, the impact of anxiety and trauma on learning has become increasingly apparent. Recognizing how anxiety and trauma show up in the classroom, including Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) in the neurodevelopmental population, is essential for educators to create supportive learning environments.

Clinical psychologists and Neurodevelopmental Specialists, Dr. Rachelle Hansen and Dr. Renee von Weiss, will provide practical strategies and tools to address these challenges effectively. Through real-life case studies and extensive clinical experience, they will equip educators with the knowledge and skills to support all students, regardless of their neurodivergence.

### **The Year in Review - School Law Cases You Want to Know About**

Laura Tubbs Booth and Christian Shafer - Attorneys

In this session, two experienced school law attorneys will discuss recent cases and their practical applications for your work. Our outcomes include understanding recent court cases and some practical tips for your practice.

### **School Climate & Culture (including behavior support and trauma considerations)**

Mahdi Warsama - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) the Somali Parents Autism Network (SPAN)

The cultural barrier and challenges facing the special needs students of Somali and East African descent in Minnesota schools. Perspectives and resources are helpful when working with other families and students with similar immigration experiences. As a parent of a child with autism, Mahdi is strong advocate for children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

### **Digging in the DIRT™- A Structured Process for Planning Effective Behavioral Interventions**

Becky Knutsen, M.Ed, founder of Student-Centered Services

In this workshop, educators and school staff will explore a practical process for understanding and addressing challenging student behaviors. While briefly touching on the neuroscience behind behavior, the primary focus will be on equipping participants with tools and strategies to gather and make sense of data, identify underlying causes of behaviors, and create sustainable intervention plans.

Objectives:

- Brief Neuroscience Overview: Gain a foundational understanding of how the brain influences behavior.
- Identify Underlying Causes: Explore a structured process to gather information and identify what might be beneath challenging behaviors.
- Develop and Implement Sustainable Interventions: Create practical, sustainable intervention plans that integrate seamlessly into daily routines.

By the end of the workshop, participants will have a foundational understanding of the neuroscience behind student behavior and be equipped with a practical, step-by-step process to address challenging behaviors effectively.