

CESA #4's Fourth Annual

**NOW  
VIRTUAL!**

# Paraprofessional Summit

Timely training targeting paraprofessionals who serve  
CESA #4 schools

## August 20-21, 2020

### Day 1

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Welcome and Keynote  
Breakout Session  
Lunch  
Breakout Session  
Breakout Session

### Day 2

8:30 am - 2:45 pm

Breakout Session  
Breakout Session  
Lunch  
Breakout Session  
Closing Keynote

Each Breakout Session has 3 options to choose from!

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### Need More Information?

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# CESA #4 Paraprofessional Summit

## Keynote Speakers

**Day 1 - Thursday, August 20, 2020**

### "The Power of PATH" Tasha Schuh



The race of life can often be riddled with obstacles, challenges and difficulties. As a quadriplegic Tasha knows this firsthand. In this message she will share her story of having a life-changing accident at the age of 16, and how she learned the importance of resilience. The experience she shares will encourage listeners to press through difficult times and to have hope for the future.

Listeners will take away the following:

- The importance of teamwork and surrounding yourself with the right people
- Defining purpose and how to make an impact where you are at
- Finding resilience in PATH - Purpose, Attitude, Team, and Hope
- Knowing what true success is and crossing your finish lines to live a fulfilling life

**Day 2 - Friday, August 21, 2020**

### "My Story about Growing Up with Autism and the Unusual Passion that Changed My Life" Jesse Horn



Motivational Speaker, AAU Junior Olympic Gold Stacking Champion and author of Stacked Against the Odds! My Story about Growing up with Autism and the Unusual Passion that Changed my Life, Jesse Horn shares his story about growing up with Autism and the passion that changed his life.

Jesse has been a member of The WSSA Team USA since 2011, AAU Junior Olympic Gold medalist, Winner of the 2014 Joel Ferrell award, and a guest star on "The Doctors" and "Access Live". Jesse now travels across the country sharing his story in hopes of making a difference in the lives of kids diagnosed on the spectrum.



# CESA #4 Paraprofessional Summit Session Schedule & Descriptions

**Day I - Thursday, August 20, 2020**

**8:30 am - 3:00 pm**



**Welcome/Keynote: Tasha Schuh: 8:30 am - 9:45 am**

**Breakout Session 1: 10:00 am - 11:15 am**

## **Harnessing the Power of PATH in Your School**

**Tasha Schuh**

If you enjoyed Tasha's keynote, you will love her breakout session! This session will be interactive, powerful and attendees will not want to miss it! Tasha will share more about her passion of reaching children and youth with a message of resiliency and hope, how it applies to each staff member, and how they can implement mental health and suicide awareness within their school. There will also be a time of Q & A at the end.

## **Everything is Back to 'Normal', but is it really? Providing Essential Support During the Transition**

**Erin Hansen and Kelly Demers**

When students are able to return to the school building, staff will face a daunting task to help students get back on track, academically, socially, and emotionally. The adults that work with students are going to have to be prepared to support students in brand new ways. This session will address some of the challenges, as well as highlights, students have faced during the mandatory school closure and ways to support students upon return.

## **The Importance of Maintaining Confidentiality**

**Tracy Hogden**

Maintaining student confidentiality is not only a moral responsibility but also a legal one. Come to this session to increase your understanding of the importance of maintaining student confidentiality.

**Breakout Session 2: 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm**

## **How to Support Students who are At-Risk**

**Sara Anderson and Kirk Lebakken**

Sara and Kirk are career alternative teachers with a combined 20 years working with at-risk students. In the past they have presented at the state and national level on alternative curriculum as well as fulfilling the potential of an at-risk student. In this session, they will focus on support strategies including: the importance of building relationships, blending social and emotional needs of students with their academics, and engaging the at-risk student within the classroom and individual settings. Through years of first-hand experience based on at-risk specific studies and best practice, Sara and Kirk will provide tools and tips to make a difference with your students who need it the most.

## **Bad Apps, Good Kids: Keeping Kids Safe Online**

**Kaye Henrickson**

Anyone born after 1995 only knows life with an Internet. While we often believe our digital age generation is adept and agile with all things technology, there are situations where this couldn't be further from the truth. Like everything, online life can boost productivity or find answers at the speed of a click, it can also have a dark side. This session will explore apps that safety officials consider "risk" or "danger" apps. We'll also examine what we can do to help keep our kids safe online.

## **Supporting Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

**Sam Bingen**

Supporting students with Intellectual Disabilities can be challenging due to the range of academic, social, and functional abilities demonstrated by students. These varying needs require ID paraprofessionals to have a large "toolbox" to pull from on a daily basis. This session will focus on strategies to effectively work with ID students in a variety of settings.

**Breakout Session 3: 1:45 pm - 3:00 pm**

## **I've Been Tasked to Read with a Group of Students. Now What?**

**Jen Rasmussen**

Reading with students is one of the most common tasks paraprofessionals do in order to support learners K-12. This session will provide participants strategies for promoting independence, ensuring learning and focusing on learner engagement. This session will give participants ideas for everyday approaches to supporting readers.

## **Supporting Non-Verbal Students**

**Sam Bingen**

Communication is defined as a means of sending or receiving information. Nonverbal students communicate their message through means that are unique to each individual. This session will focus on strategies to develop and support communication skills, create visual supports, structure tasks, teach social skills, build relationships, and foster independence with nonverbal students.

## **Simple Survivor Signs in the Classroom**

**Robin Lilleskov**

Join me in learning basic ASL signs and phrases to communicate with students in the classroom. No experience needed. This is an effective, easy way to converse with students using a visual language. You will have the ability to sign your message without disrupting teachers and fellow students.



# CESA #4 Paraprofessional Summit Session Schedule & Descriptions

**Day 2 - Friday, August 21, 2020**

**8:30 am - 2:45 pm**

**Breakout Session 4: 8:30 am - 9:45 am**

## Mindfulness and Self-Care Practices

Greg Lovell

Mindfulness meditation is an ancient practice that helps people calm their minds, gain insight, and improve well-being. Modern day researchers have uncovered a host of mental, emotional, and physical benefits. This session will introduce the concept of self-care and explore how it works together with mindfulness. Participants will learn several exercises and experience guided meditations designed to enhance emotional well-being. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a device or pen and paper to write on. Participants are encouraged to bring a mat and/or pillow as well, though this is optional.

## Math - How to Support Math Independence in the Role as a Para

Kari Johnson

Kari will address how paraprofessionals can help build student independence, remove math fear and anxiety barriers, and help students approach math tasks in the classroom setting, pull-out, or additional support settings.

## Title I and SPED Basics

Erin Hansen and  
Laura Veglahn

This session will focus on special education and Title I basics, such as identification areas, IEP information a paraprofessional needs to know, working with teachers in different support models, parents, and students in the classroom.

**Breakout Session 5: 10:00 am - 11:15 am**

## On the Spot Behavior Management to Never Break a Sweat

Chris Peterson

I know relationships are key! I get that misbehavior shouldn't be taken personally! But what do I do in the heat of the moment when a student flips out? We'll take a look at some of the most effective strategies that can get us through the toughest of situations while maintaining everyone's dignity. Be prepared to ask "Yah, but you haven't seen..."

## Para Moves with Student Needs at the Center

Lynn Goss

Student needs must be at the center of what we do. How do we know student needs are to be met? We will explore what our role is when fulfilling learner needs. To be effective we must work collaboratively with our cooperating teacher and other staff. This session will focus on how we can effectively support (without enabling) our students and exploring effective tools and tips on effective techniques.

## Fun and Games with Sign Language

Robin Lilleskov

"Signs are to eyes what words are to ears." Have you ever tried to communicate without talking? What is it like to work with a student with a hearing loss? This is a fun way to learn about deaf culture and learn a new language.

**Breakout Session 6: 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm**

## Love and Logic 101 for a Stress Free Day

Chris Peterson

Who should be tired at the end of the day? The kids! Is that usually the case? A large percentage of our time is not spent in instruction. Using a discipline model that allows the student to be accountable is critical. Love and Logic is a philosophy of teaching children which allows adults to be happier, empowered, and more skilled in the interactions with children. Love allows children to grow through their mistakes. Logic allows children to live with the consequences of their choices. Love and Logic is a way of working with children that puts teachers back in control, teaches children to be responsible, and prepares young people to live in the real world, with its many choices and consequences. Chris takes teachers through an interactive high energy thrill ride teaching about the techniques and importance of being an empathetic and effective teacher.

## It's Not What You Say, It's How You Say It

Lynn Goss

Knowing how to de-escalate a situation is vital in our profession. Dealing with an agitated, potentially dangerous situation does not always come naturally. We must learn and practice these skills for them to be highly effective in our schools. This session will focus on techniques that will help and improve a verbally aggressive situation and what we need to do after everyone is calm.

## Autism Basics

Lily Rider

Have you ever asked yourself, how do I support a student who has autism? Many paras and teachers struggle with this question. Come together with fellow paras to learn the unique characteristics of individuals with autism. You will discover myths related to autism, learn the dos and don'ts for supporting students with autism as well as evidenced-based strategies/interventions to add to your toolbox to start the new year.



**Keynote/Closing: Jesse Horn: 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm**