



Welcome to the Curriculum and Instructional Leaders Retreat
Measuring Curriculum Effectiveness in Documents and in Instructional Practice
July 20-21, 2026
Old Kinderhook Lodge, Camdenton, Missouri

Audience: This annual event is designed for those that are directly involved or interested in the Curriculum writing and review process. We welcome any teacher leader, instructional coach or administrator that wants to learn more about how a well written curriculum can directly impact quality instruction and student success.

Day One: Monday, April 20th:

Morning Overview: Quality Curriculum and Instruction: How to Measure Academic Success

In this opening session, we will focus on the main thing – instruction guided by a strong, quality curriculum. This process will require more attention than ever before. Now that A.I. could have a significant impact on how we approach instruction, we need to be aware of what will be needed to create and adjust to ensure that our approach to teaching and learning does not waiver from the ultimate goal – to prepare our students for life beyond high school. Be prepared to list and discuss issues related to your current status of curriculum and instruction.

Facilitator: **Dr. Janie Pyle, Program Director, SMCAA**

Session 1: Crucial Components of a Quality Curriculum: First Things First

Writing and maintaining a quality curriculum still requires lots of brainwork! We still have overall components that must be included for a curriculum to *promote powerful teaching*. Specific documents should be ready for teachers to start effective teaching on day one. We will list these documents, what they should contain, and *how they promote strong teaching practices*.

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Session 2: Curriculum Must Haves: Let's Identify and Organize Our Stuff!

In this session we will complete a quick audit of specific documents necessary to begin focused and effective teaching while still creating a complete curriculum. If you have limited time, are just beginning your writing or re-writing phase, or working on implementation of new resources, these documents will keep instruction focused as you work on a complete quality curriculum. Then we will add the rest!

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Session 3: A.I. as a Thought Partner: Transforming Curriculum Processes with Smart Tools

As curriculum leaders navigate increasing demands for coherence, efficiency, and responsiveness, artificial intelligence (A.I.) offers powerful opportunities to streamline and strengthen curriculum processes. This session explores how A.I. tools can serve as a strategic thought partner-supporting curriculum design, audit, alignment, and continuous improvement. Make sure to have a few of your curriculum documents handy as work product.



Facilitator: **Dr. Mollie Bolton; Chief of Teaching, Learning & Accountability Special School District of St. Louis County; Past Board President of SMCAA**

Session 4: DESE Speaker TBA

Day Two: Tuesday, July 21st:

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Session 5: Working Session on Curriculum Audit and Review:

This extended session will focus on a complete process you can use to audit and/or review your current curriculum. No matter where you are in your curriculum writing journey, these steps will allow you to start or continue your work with a better understanding of what you have, and what it should contain. We will provide questions to focus your review and discuss what evidence would be needed to evaluate effectiveness. Participants should bring their curriculum documents and/or be able to access their curriculum online. The work will be completed using a series of questions, rubrics and A.I. procedures.

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Save the Dates! Fall Summits in Jefferson City:

October 2 and November 9, 2026

Two full days of best practices in specific skills in assessment of Tier One instruction and how to support it through specific observation and feedback!