Elementary Social Studies Summit Call for Presenters

"Connecting Classrooms, Shaping Citizens"

February 22, 2027

Effective elementary social studies instruction does more than teach history and geography—it builds critical thinkers, engaged citizens, and literate readers. High-quality Tier 1 instruction in the K–5 classroom relies on active, high-leverage strategies that spark curiosity and maximize instructional time.

SMCAA is seeking educational professionals, instructional coaches, and curriculum leaders to share practical, research-backed classroom strategies at the **2027 Elementary Social Studies Summit**.

Suggested Presentation Topics

We welcome proposals on a wide range of effective K–5 social studies instructional strategies. Session topics may include, but are not limited to:

- **Inquiry-Based Learning & The C3 Framework:** Practical applications of the Inquiry Arc (Developing Questions, Applying Disciplinary Concepts, Evaluating Sources, and Communicating Conclusions/Taking Informed Action) in K–2 and 3–5 classrooms.
- **Embedding Social Studies into ELA Instruction:** Strategies for integrating social studies trade books, primary sources, and content-area vocabulary into reading and writing blocks.
- **Active Classroom Engagement:** Practical routines, simulations, graphic organizers, and interactive learning structures tailored for young learners.

Session Specifications

- **Format:** 55–60 minute breakout sessions.
- **Target Audience:** K–5 Classroom Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Curriculum Directors, and Administrators.
- **Session Expectations:** Presentations must be active and practical, offering attendees step-by-step processes, classroom-ready samples, and actionable takeaways.

Submission Guidelines

Proposals should include the following details:

1. **Presenter Details:** Name, title, district/organization, email, and brief professional bio.
2. **Session Title:** A concise, engaging title.
3. **Session Abstract (150–200 words):** Summary of the presentation, high-leverage strategies covered, and participant engagement activities.
4. **Target Audience:** Specified grade band (K–2, 3–5, or K–5).
5. **Key Participant Takeaways:** 2–3 explicit skills, tools, or resources attendees will take back to their school or district.

Submission Deadline Date: December 1, 2026

Form Link: https://forms.gle/hREowSLUeydJNuWF9 **Questions?** Contact Dr. Mollie Bolton, drmbolton@smcaa.org

A.I. Summit Call for Presenters

“Inspire, Innovate, Empower: AI Solutions for Today's Educators”

February 23, 2027

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly reshaping education—opening new frontiers for student learning while offering powerful tools to streamline teacher workflows. High-quality instruction in today's digital landscape relies on practical, ethical, and high-leverage AI strategies that spark curiosity, enhance critical thinking, and maximize valuable instructional time.

SMCAA is seeking educational professionals, instructional coaches, and curriculum leaders to share practical, research-backed strategies at the 2027 A.I. Summit.

Suggested Presentation Topics

We welcome proposals on a wide range of effective AI integration strategies across all grade bands and subject areas. Session topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Leveraging AI with Students: Strategies for teaching critical thinking, prompt literacy, creative collaboration, research skills, and personalized learning using student-facing AI tools.
- AI to Support Teaching & Workflow: Practical applications for streamlining lesson preparation, crafting rubrics, creating differentiated materials, automating administrative tasks, and saving valuable time for educators.
- Ethical, Safe, & Responsible AI Integration: Best practices for digital citizenship, data privacy, maintaining academic integrity, and guiding students toward responsible AI usage.

Session Specifications

- Format: 55–60 minute sessions.
- Target Audience: K–12 Classroom Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Curriculum Directors, and Administrators.
- Session Expectations: Presentations must be active and practical, offering attendees step-by-step processes, classroom-ready samples, and actionable takeaways.

Submission Guidelines

Proposals should include the following details:

1. **Presenter Details**: Name, title, district/organization, email, and brief professional bio.
2. **Session Title**: A concise, engaging title.
3. **Session Abstract (150–200 words):** Summary of the presentation, high-leverage strategies covered, and participant engagement activities.
4. **Target Audience:** Specified grade band (e.g., K–5, 6–8, 9–12, or All Educators).
5. **Key Participant Takeaways:** 2–3 explicit skills, tools, or resources attendees will take back to their school or district.

Submission Deadline Date: December 1, 2026
Form Link: https://forms.gle/Z5QJzM8HqzZt8kqFA **Questions?** Contact Dr. Mollie Bolton, drmbolton@smcaa.org

Spring Symposium Call for Presenters

"Assessment Today: Brighter Tomorrow"

April 26 & 27, 2027

Effective assessment is more than just measuring student knowledge—it is the engine that drives continuous improvement across an entire school district. For the **Spring Symposium 2027**, we are seeking dynamic proposals from educators and administrative leaders who are successfully using assessment data to inform action, shape instruction, and elevate student achievement at every level of the educational system.

Whether you are a classroom teacher adjusting Tier 1 instruction in real time, a building leader guiding professional learning communities, or a district team using macro-level data for strategic alignment, we want to hear your story.

What We Are Looking For:

We invite proposal submissions that demonstrate **how data moves from collection to actionable decision-making**. Proposals should fit within one or more of the following system levels:

- **Classroom & Instructional Level:**
    - Leveraging formative assessment and questioning strategies to guide daily direct instruction and reteaching.
    - Using student performance data to differentiate Tier 1 instruction and target classroom interventions.
    - Empowering students through goal-setting, self-assessment, and mastery-based feedback loops.
- **Building & Team Level:**
    - Structuring high-functioning PLCs to analyze common formative assessments and close learning gaps.
    - Using building-wide data to drive instructional coaching, schedule support interventions, and allocate resources.
    - Establishing consistent grading, rubric, and assessment practices across grade levels or content areas.
- **District & Systemic Level:**
    - Connecting district-wide assessment systems (benchmarks, screener data, state standards) to curriculum revision and professional development plans.
    - Utilizing macro-level data to evaluate program effectiveness, drive strategic plans, and ensure equitable access to high-quality learning.
    - Building a district-wide culture where assessment data informs policy, leadership decisions, and community communication.

Session Formats & Expectations

Sessions will be **60 minutes** in length. Successful proposals will emphasize practical, transferable strategies and incorporate interactive elements for participants.

Every presentation should answer three core questions for attendees:

1. **What data was analyzed?** (Formative, benchmark, summative, qualitative, etc.)
2. **How was it translated into action?** (Changes in pedagogy, coaching, policy, or resource allocation)
3. **What was the impact?** (Measurable results in student growth, system efficiency, or instructional coherence)

Proposal Submission Requirements

When submitting your session proposal, please be prepared to provide:

1. **Session Title:** A clear, engaging title reflecting your focus area.
2. **Session Description (150–200 words):** A summary detailing what attendees will learn and how your session addresses data-driven decision-making.
3. **Target Audience Level:** Primary focus (Classroom/Teacher, Building Leadership/PLC, District Leadership, or All Levels).
4. **Learning Outcomes:** 2–3 concrete takeaways or strategies attendees can immediately implement in their own schools or districts.
5. **Interactive Strategy:** A brief description of how you will engage participants during the session (e.g., protocol demonstration, hands-on data workshop, round-table discussion).

Submission Deadline Date: January 4, 2027

Form Link: https://forms.gle/pgk23X6VFQzetS9u6

Questions? Contact Dr. Mollie Bolton, drmbolton@smcaa.org