

Shannon G. Kuschel, PhD, LPC  
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College of Health & Behavioral Sciences  
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(757) 352-4073

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Work utilizes an inter-disciplinary approach, integrating experience as educational psychologist, mental health clinician, educator, special education interventionist, and researcher. Experience teaching graduate and undergraduate level courses in both on-line and on-campus formats for Regent University School of Psychology & Counseling. Primary experience in educational and clinical settings in direct service and administrative positions from early childhood to higher education. Research interests include neuropsychological functioning across the life span, ADHD, literacy, cognitive and learning development, learning differences such as dyslexia and dyscalculia, as well as cognitive and learning interventions with diverse populations. Current research interests also include investigating the effects of lifestyle factors on the neuropsychological functioning of older adults with and without Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

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## Education

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<b>Post-Doctoral Training</b> in Neuropsychology, Regent University & Hampton Roads Neuropsychology	8/2022-6/2023
<b>Ph.D.</b> , Educational Psychology & Special Education School of Education, Regent University	2022
<b>Master of Science</b> , Counseling Psychology School of Education & Counseling, Palm Beach Atlantic University	1997
<b>Bachelor of Science</b> , Psychology Palm Beach Atlantic University	1992

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## Professional Licensure & Certification

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Licensed Professional Counselor, Commonwealth of Virginia (current)  
Professionally Certified Educational Therapist, National Institute for Learning Development

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## Professional Organization Memberships

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American Psychological Association	Current
International Dyslexia Association	Current

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## Honors and Awards

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The Deborah Zimmerman Award for Innovation in Research and Development in Education National Institute of Learning Development	2013
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## Appointments

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Board Member for the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Counseling	December 2024 – present
Regent University Faculty Senate	2023 – present
Board Member for the Virginia Branch of the International Dyslexia Association Strategic Planning Committee Chair	2021 - 2023

## Work History

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<b>Regent University School of Psychology &amp; Counseling</b> Assistant Professor, External Practica Coordinator, Co-Director for the Center for Research in Clinical Neuropsychology & Core Faculty for PsyD program Lecturer	August 20223 – present  August 2022 – present
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### Graduate courses taught:

PSY 725 Intelligence Testing & Psychometrics  
PSY 715 Biological Bases of Behavior  
PSY 739 Advanced Practica  
PSY 741 Advanced Practica II  
GPSY 515 Biological Bases of Behavior  
GPSY 540 Life Span Psychology

<b>Regent University School of Psychology &amp; Counseling</b> Adjunct Professor	August 2014 – July 2022
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### Graduate courses taught:

COUN 545 Concepts of Family Systems  
COUN 532 Assessment Techniques in Counseling  
COUN 670 Multicultural Issues in Counseling  
COUN 594 Internship in School Counseling  
HSC 525 Advanced Counseling Skills  
HSC 572 Addiction Intervention  
HSC 577 Survey of Christianity  
MHPS 616 Research Methods

### Undergraduate courses taught:

PSYCH 412 Multicultural Issues in Counseling

<b>National Institute for Learning Development</b> Research & Development Coordinator; Discovery Program Director	August 2017 – April 2020
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- Collaborated with the Executive Director to develop, implement, and market research and development strategic initiatives.
- Coordinated NILD research projects and acted as primary liaison with principal investigators, data analysts, research implementers, and data collection/entry personnel.
- Developed and maintained relationships within the educational research community by collaborating with researchers, physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, principals, teachers and other related professionals.

- Developed and maintained on-line data input and tracking system for international pool of educational therapists.
- Reviewed and/or conducted statistical analyses for data received and presented findings in various venues.
- Provided in-services, workshops, webinars, and course trainings.
- Developed new services and materials including staff training and products for classroom teachers, educational therapists, and parents.
- Oversaw community-based educational therapy services in public and private school settings and clinic settings. Responsible for budget monitoring, staff supervision, parent meetings and communication, test interpretation, oversight of student interventions, student recruitment, and coordination of services with schools and clinics.
- Secured a contract with the Children's Services Act as a provider for at-risk youth and their families to increase accessibility of services through a multi-million-dollar pool of state funds.

**National Institute for Learning Development**

July 2013 – April 2020

Member of Instructional Team

- Level One and Two Educational Therapy Instructor for graduate credit. This program utilizes a Structured Literacy approach integrated with targeted cognition components and is accredited by the International Dyslexia Association as meeting the knowledge and standards of practice for teaching reading.

**Norfolk Christian School**

July 2012 – April 2020

Director of Counseling &amp; Academic Support

- Member of School Leadership and Development Team, school population approximately 700.
- Assisted in maintenance of accreditation process for the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS).
- Provided consultation, counseling, crisis intervention, assessment and referral services to students and families.
- Identified students in need of academic support through testing/assessment, review of records, and interaction with students, parents, and teachers.
- Developed and supervised effective academic support services for identified students.
- Provided parent and student education opportunities, as well as professional development for faculty.
- Developed and disseminated Student Intervention Plans for students, families, and faculty.
- Provided on-going training, supervision and support to faculty regarding Student Intervention Plan implementation and research-informed classroom practices.

**Westwood Hills Christian School**

August 2010 – July 2012

Head of School

- Responsible for the overall operation of the school, as well as school development.
- Supervised faculty and staff, as well as maintained relationships with students, families and the community at large.
- Built an inclusive school environment dedicated to meeting the needs of a diverse population of students. Student population of approximately 350, with a wide range of learner profile, socio-economic status, racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. (Pre-K through high school)

- Initiatives completed during this administration included the development of a virtual lab with access to over 150 courses including AP and Honors courses, the development of a school library, fund raisers to upgrade science labs, implementation of a school-wide anti-bullying campaign, staff development and implementation of the Conscious Discipline program, a trauma-informed, brain smart, evidence-based social emotional learning curriculum for classroom and home management. Also wrote a script and oversaw production for a television advertisement for the school with the result of double student enrollment from the previous year.

**University of Florida, Department of Clinical & Health Psychology  
(Neuropsychology)**

October 2009 –August 2010

Volunteer Research Assistant

- Assisted in recruitment of study participants, screening, testing and assessment, fMRI and EEG administration, maintenance of research databases and data entry.

**Private Practice - Gainesville, FL**

July 2009 – August 2010

Private Practice Therapist

- Provided educational assessments and intervention to students with a variety of diagnosed learning disabilities, as well as instructed 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students with dyslexia in Language Arts/Reading at Westwood Hills Christian School and The Einstein Montessori, a charter school exclusively for students with dyslexia.
- Coordinated services with parents, local schools, and pediatricians as needed.

**Family & Pediatric Clinic**

September 2006 – December 2008

Private Practice Therapist

- Provided individual, group and family therapy, as well as mental health and educational assessments.
- Provided educational community presentations on topics such as dyslexia, ADHD, learning strategies, child abuse, and parenting classes.
- Court testimony provided in cases of child abuse, neglect, or custody upon request.

**Pillar Institute**

August 2007 – July 2008

Director of Exceptional Education Services

Chair of Guidance and Exceptional Education Department

- Member of School Leadership and Development Team.
- Developed and supervised Exceptional Education Services (educational therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy).
- Coordinated efforts with Brevard County Public School System related to Individual Education Plans and additional services.
- Provided counseling and psycho-educational assessments to students.
- Provided teacher training and supervision of curriculum delivery for students with learning disabilities, as well as parent education using the Conscious Discipline curriculum.

**Partners in Education & Research for Kindergarten Success**

May 2006 – October 2006

Child Assessor

- Completed pre and post assessments to determine professional development program effectiveness in selected Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Classrooms. Collaborative project between the Children's Forum, University of North Florida, University of Central Florida, and funded by the U. S. Department of Education.

**Adoption Placement, Inc.**

October 2005 – August 2007

Director of International Relations &amp; Foreign Relief

- Initiated and developed collaborative relationships with foreign governmental entities with the goal of providing education and relief efforts to children and communities in need.
- Coordinated projects in Russia and Ukraine.
- Met with the National Director of Mexico's Department of the Integral Development of the Family in January 2006 at the request of the Mexican government.

**Merritt Island Christian School**

January 2000 – October 2005

Director of Exceptional Education &amp; Counseling Services

- Member of the School Leadership and Development Team, school population of approximately 700.
- Group leader for successful SAACS accreditation process and maintenance of ACSI accreditation.
- Provided counseling and psycho-educational assessments for students, pre-K through high school.
- Developed and supervised Exceptional Education Services (educational therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, etc.).
- Implemented and supervised state-funded John McKay Scholarship program.
- Managed department and state-generated scholarship funds.
- Provided teacher training and supervision of staff.
- Provided parent education and counseling.
- Implemented and instructed dual-enrollment General Psychology course in conjunction with Eastern Florida State College.

**Family & Pediatric Clinic**

January 1998 – January 2000

Private Practice Therapist

- Responsibilities same as listed above.
- Deemed an expert witness for the Brevard County court system for cases related to child abuse or neglect. Testimony provided upon request.

**Parent Child Center**

January 1996 – January 1998

Group Therapist &amp; Clinical On-Site Worker

- Provided individual, group, and family therapy for children with severe emotional difficulties.
- Provided diagnostic, assessment, treatment planning, and case management services.
- Planned and implemented therapeutic and recreational activities.
- Provided in-home and school-based therapeutic services.

**Drug Abuse Foundation**

August 1993 – January 1996

Prevention Counselor – Boca Raton Middle School

- Provided individual, group, and family counseling for students determined to be at high risk for academic, emotional, and behavioral difficulties.
- Worked closely with teachers and school faculty in overseeing students' academic progress.
- Assisted in peer mediation, conflict resolution, and crisis intervention.
- Facilitated parenting classes utilizing Systematic Training for Effective Parenting curriculum.

**Invited Presentations**

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**Kuschel, S.G., Page, C., Ord, A. S., Coddington, K.S., Oliver, M., Rose, R., Geerdes, K., & Bonn, A.** (2025, April 5). *The Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Clinical Psychology Practice: Examples of Multi-level Interventions and Action Responses* [Conference presentation]. Virginia Association of Clinical Psychologists 2025 Spring Conference. Williamsburg, VA, United States.

**Ord, A. S., Kuschel, S. G., Coddington, K. S., Netz, D., Holland, J., Long, T., Dumas, C., Cooper, A., Higgins, K., Israel, J., & Swiatek, S. R.** (2025, April 4). *Integrating Clinical Neuropsychology into Disease Management: The Role of Lifestyle Factors in Promoting Healthy Cognitive and Psychological Functioning* [Conference presentation]. Virginia Association of Clinical Psychologists 2025 Spring Conference. Williamsburg, VA, United States.

**Coddington, K. S., Kuschel, S. G., Ord, A. S., Swiatek, S. R., Purcell, E., Greven, N., Israel, J., Netz, D., & Oliver, M.** (2025, April 4). *The Intersection Between Psychology, Neurology, and Gerontology: Older Adult Clinical Neuropsychology for the General Practitioner* [Conference presentation]. Virginia Association of Clinical Psychologists 2025 Spring Conference. Williamsburg, VA, United States.

**Barbour, K. & Kuschel, S. G.** (2024, November 1). *Enhancing Cognition: Optimizing Learning and Processing Speed* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Suffolk, VA, United States.

**Coddington, K. S., Washburn, D. J., Cooper, A. J., Eldridge, A. H., Ord, A. S., Maksad, G. P., Kuschel, S. G., Braud, S., Magnante, A. T., Purcell, E., Israel, J., Sautter, S. W.** (2024, April 2-6). *Mental health and cognitive functioning in older adults with chronic pain: The role of pain management in promoting healthy aging* [Conference presentation]. Southern Gerontological Society 2024 Annual Meeting and Conference. Greenville, SC. United States.

**Kuschel, S. G., Oliver, M., Dawson, N., Swiatek, S., Harris, J., Ord, A. S. & Arroyo, A.** (2023, August 4). *The Cognitive Correlates and Predictors of Growth in Reading for Struggling Readers.* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association, Division 40, Washington, DC, United States.

**Ord, A. S., Holland, J., Kuschel, S. G., Long, T., Dumas, C., Eldridge, A., Schools, M., Netz, D., Jones, H., Stephens, R., & Sautter, S. W.** (2023, April). *Physical activity and neuropsychological functioning in older adults.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Norfolk, Virginia.

- Barbour, K. & Kuschel, S.G.** (2022, November 22). *Implementation Fidelity: Science, Practice, and Disposition* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Virginia Beach, VA, United States.
- Kuschel, S.G.** (2021, January 15). *Creating Trauma-Invested Learning Environments & Practices to Foster Resilient Learners* [Conference session]. Therapeutic Milestones, Washington, DC, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, November 13 – 16). *The Role of Cognition in Reading Acquisition and Literacy Skills: Research Findings & Practical Application* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Virginia Beach, VA, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, November 13 – 16). *NILD Research Update: Pathways & Projections* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Virginia Beach, VA, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, May 8 – 10). *Promoting & Coaching Executive Functioning in the Classroom* [Conference session]. General & Special Education Conference, San Diego, CA, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, May 8 – 10). *Mind the Gap! Neuroscience & Education...Can We Make the Connection?* [Conference session]. General & Special Education Conference, San Diego, CA, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, March 5 - 7). *Promoting & Coaching Executive Functioning in the Classroom* [Conference session]. General & Special Education Conference, Seattle, WA, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, March 5 - 7). *Mind the Gap! Neuroscience & Education...Can We Make the Connection?* [Conference session]. General & Special Education Conference, Seattle, WA, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, February 18 - 21). *Impact of National Institute for Learning Development (NILD) Educational Therapy on Student Intellect and Achievement* [Poster presentation]. Learning Disabilities Association of America, Fort Worth, TX, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2019, February 18 – 21). *Promoting and Coaching Executive Functioning in the Classroom* [Conference session]. Learning Disabilities Association of America, Fort Worth, TX, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2018, March 26 - 28). *Promoting & Coaching Executive Functioning in the Classroom* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Northeast Regional Conference, Newark, DE, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2018, February 16 - 18). *Neuro-education & NILD Practice: Brain Targeted Instruction* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Southeast Regional Conference, Winterpark, FL, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2018, February 16 - 18). *Neuro-educational Translation: Research Impacting NILD Practice* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Southeast Regional Conference, Winterpark, FL, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2018, January 25 - 27). *Neuroeducation & NILD Practice: Brain Targeted Instruction* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Midwest Regional Conference, Kansas City, MO, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2018, January 25 - 27). *Neuro-educational Translation: Research Impacting NILD Practice* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Midwest Regional Conference, Kansas City, MO, United States.

- Kuschel, S. G.** (2017). *Neuro-educational Translation: Research Impacting NILD Practice* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Mideastern Regional Conference, Suffolk, VA, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2015). *In Through the Eye, Out Through the Hand: The Development of Visual-Motor Integration Skills – Challenges, Interventions and Best Practices* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2015). *Feeling, Thinking & Learning: Understanding the Connection between the Limbic System and Efficient Cognitive Functioning* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, United States.
- Kuschel, S. G.** (2014). *Mind the Gap! Education and Neuroscience...Can We Make the Connection?* [Conference session]. The National Institute for Learning Development Annual Conference, Virginia Beach, VA, United States.

## Publications

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- Ord, A. S., Coddington, K., Maksad, G., Swiatek, S., Saunders, J., Netz, D., Washburn, D., Braud, S., Eldridge, A., Kuschel, S., Magnante, A., Holland, J., & Sautter, S. (2025). Neuropsychological symptoms and functional capacity in older adults with chronic pain. *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23337214241307537>
- Ord, A. S., Eldridge, A. H., Netz, D., Kuschel, S., Holland, J., Long, T., Dumas, C., Glover, C., Schools, M., Stephens, R., Magnante, A. T., & Sautter, S. (2024). Physical activity and neuropsychological functioning in older adults. *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine*. Advance online publication <https://doi.org/10.1177/23337214241262924>
- Magnante, A. T., Ord, A. S., Kuschel, S. & Shura, R. D. (2024). An evaluation of the relationships between objective and subjective measures of attention. *Psychology & Neuroscience*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pne0000333>
- Artis, C., Guilfoyle, J., Kuschel, S., & Garzon, F. (2022). Youth mental health: What can we do as Christian leaders? *Impact Magazine*.

## Peer-Reviewed Publications in Review

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- Garzon, F. L., Haught, S., Israel, J., Coddington, K., Kuschel, S. G., Netz, D. R., Coile, D., Villate, F., Glover, C., Khanal, S., Bradley, K., Marchant, H., Tan, J., Tan, J., Waters, P. (Under Review). Christian meditation for flourishing in neurodiverse Christian clients. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*.
- Allen, K., Pitzer, A., Kuschel, S., Ma, L., Slaten, C., Counted, V. (Under Review). A scoping review of social belonging interventions in higher education. *Review of Educational Research*.



## Grant Activity

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Coddington, K., Ord, A. S., & **Kuschel, S. G.** (Principal Investigators). (October 2024 – June 2025). *Lifestyle Factors and Cognitive Functioning in Older Adults* [Grant]. Regent University Faculty Research Grant. Amount: \$5,000.00 (funded).

Ord, A. S. & **Kuschel, S.G.** (Principal Investigators). (October 2023 – June 2024). *Lifestyle Factors and Cognitive Functioning in Older Adults* [Grant]. Regent University Faculty Research Grant. Amount: \$5,000.00 (funded).

**Kuschel, S. G.** (Principal Investigator). (2018-2019). *The National Institute for Learning Development & Park Place Middle School Initiative: 2018 Community Leadership Partners* [Grant]. Hampton Roads Community Foundation. Amount: \$10,000.00 (funded).

## Special Projects

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Assisted the Newsome Bailey Project, a non-profit holistic intervention program for at-risk elementary school students. Activities include assistance with program and intervention development, staff training, parent education, student activities, collaboration with school administration, grant writing, and fund raising. Interventions used targeted reading utilizing a Structured Literacy approach, language development, mathematics, and cognition. This program is implemented at Newsome Park Elementary, a Title I school with 98% of the student body meeting the criteria for free and reduced lunch.	2017 – 2020
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Organized, implemented, and oversaw a nation-wide re-norming project for the Search Scan, an early identification instrument that provides a profile of strengths and weaknesses in neuropsychological skills basic to reading and the language arts. The goal of this instrument is to identify vulnerable 5 and 6-year-olds before learning failure has occurred and provide a recommended structure to guide appropriate intervention. Accumulated approximately 1300 respondents, conducted the necessary statistical analyses, and provided updated norms for the ongoing use and training of the Search & Teach program.	2020
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Conducted a comprehensive school-wide Dual Language Program Evaluation, preschool – high school, for a bilingual school with approximately one-third of the student population diagnosed with learning disabilities. School utilizes a variety of cognitive intervention services within the context of an overall goal of developing English language proficiency. Provided a two-year strategic planning report with collaboratively developed goals, objectives, and recommendations. Colegio El Roble, Mexico City, Mexico.	2017
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Assisted Dr. Linda Lombardino, Professor, School of Special Education, School Psychology and Early Childhood Studies, University of Florida, with NIH grant application, study recruitment and assembly of assessors for research project, “Development of Kindergarten Cognitive and Reading Assessment Tool for iPad (K-CRATI)”.	2012
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Selected to participate in multi-disciplinary grand round sessions utilizing SPECT imaging in clinical mental health practice and supportive educational interventions. LifeBridge Diagnostics, Viera, Florida, United States.	2008
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Acted as Internship Supervisor/Mentor for graduate level Exceptional Education students for the University of Central Florida Department of Education, Orlando, FL, United States. 2008

Chosen as one of fifteen participants from the international pool of educational therapists to participate in the Group Educational Therapy pilot training and research program. The National Institute of Learning Development, Norfolk, VA, United States. 2007

### **School Professional Developments Provided**

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*Assessment of Cognitive Deficits in Specific Learning Disorders.* Center for Research in Clinical Neuropsychology, Regent University, Virginia Beach, VA, United States. 2023

*Assessing ADHD.* Center for Research in Clinical Neuropsychology, Regent University, Virginia Beach, VA, United States. 2022

*Promoting and Coaching Executive Functioning in the Classroom.* Spring Hill Elementary School, Huntington, WV, United States. 2018

*The Power of Oral Language.* Spring Hill Elementary School, Huntington, WV, United States. 2018

*Those Inner Voices.* Spring Hill Elementary School, Huntington, WV, United States. 2018

*Feeling, Thinking & Learning: Understanding the Connection between the Limbic System and Efficient Cognitive Functioning.* Spring Hill Elementary School, Huntington, WV, United States. 2018

*Tips for Teachers: Helping Grieving & Traumatized Students at School.* Spring Hill Elementary School, Huntington, WV, United States. 2018

*Differentiating Instruction for Students with Learning Needs.* Rapid City Christian School, Rapid City, SD, United States. 2017

*Moving Beyond Memorization.* Rapid City Christian School, Rapid City, SD, United States. 2017

*The Intelligence Dilemma: Developing Thinkers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.* Rapid City Christian School, Rapid City, SD, United States. 2017

*Childhood and Adolescent Anxiety & Its Impact on Learning.* Norfolk Christian School, Norfolk, VA, United States. 2016

*Tips for Teachers: Helping Grieving & Traumatized Students at School.* Norfolk Christian School, Norfolk, VA, United States. 2015

*Feeling, Thinking & Learning: Understanding the Connection between the Limbic System and Efficient Cognitive Functioning.* Norfolk Christian School, Norfolk, VA, United States. 2015

*Promoting Emotional Health & Resilience in Children.* Norfolk Christian School, Norfolk, VA, United States. 2013

*Identification of Learning Disabilities & Appropriate Intervention.* Merritt Island Christian School, Merritt Island, FL, United States. 2004

*Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Diagnosis & Treatment.* Merritt Island Christian School,  
Merritt Island, FL, United States.

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2003