



**2024  
SPEAKER  
SERIES**

HOSTED BY NORTHWEST MHTTC  
CO-SPONSORED BY UW SMART CENTER

**VIRTUAL | LEARNING**  
**PROMOTING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE FOR STUDENT  
MENTAL HEALTH: EFFECTIVE DATA, SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES**

**OCTOBER 9 ▶ NOVEMBER 29 ▶ JANUARY 17 ▶ MARCH 20 ▶ APRIL 17**

10AM - 11:15AM AKT    11AM - 12:15PM PT    12PM - 1:15PM MT



**The Northwest Mental Health Technology Transfer Center** and the **UW SMART Center** are pleased to present the *2024 Virtual Speaker Series* to the school mental health workforce. The six-session series features discussions on ways to create a positive school climate for students and staff. Through this series, we are spotlighting evidence-based strategies to address universal screening, staff retention, and bullying and its intersection with youth mental health and violence.

**Please feel free to share the series flyer with your colleagues!**

**Please Note:** Certificate of Attendance and Washington state clock hours will be available for attendees of the live session.

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# School Mental Health through a Multi-tiered System Framework

## Description:

This session will provide participants with an overview of the Interconnected Systems Framework and how it supports the implementation of School Mental Health.

## Objective:

Participants will develop an understanding of the Interconnected Systems Framework and the importance of a single system of delivery.

## Presentation Materials

## Recording Available Here!

## About the Presenter:



### **Clynita Grafenreed, Ph.D.**

*Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator at the Northwest MHTTC/ UW SMART Center*

Clynita Grafenreed, Ph.D., is a Licensed Psychologist (LP) and a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (LSSP). She earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology (1993) and Ph.D. in Psychology (1998) from Texas A&M University in College Station. While she is a LP, Clynita considers herself first as an educator, having spent 24 years in education as a School Psychologist. For 12 years, Clynita worked as a LSSP in several Houston area school districts and then 12 years as an Education Specialist at Region 4 Education Service Center (Region 4) in the Department of Special Education Solutions. While at Region 4, the largest Education Service Center in Texas, Clynita led the Texas Behavior Support Network, a Texas Education Agency sponsored statewide network designed to build capacity in Texas schools through the provision of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to all students for ten years. Clynita has expertise in the areas of equity, school discipline, mental health, and behavioral supports and interventions.

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## Comprehensive Universal Screening: A Statewide Approach

When: Wednesday, November 29th

Time: 10AM - 11:15AM AKT | 11AM - 12:15PM PT | 12PM - 1:15PM MT

### Description:

Enhance your screening system by hearing from experts from the field. A new version of the Washington OSPI Model School District Screening Plan for recognition, initial screening, and response to emotional or behavioral distress in students will be discussed and shared. A Washington School District will provide examples of universal Social Emotional Behavioral screening efforts, policies, and systems.

### Objectives:

- Review systematic screening, including a brief intro on what it is and why it's important.
- Review systematic screening through the implementation cascade, including state-level supports and resources to share with your organizations.
- Learn from an exemplar district and reflect on key steps to help install systematic screening tools

### Presentation Materials

**Recording Available Here!**

### About the Presenter:



## **Rayann Silva, M.Ed.**

*Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator and Training Unit Coordinator*

Rayann Silva, MEd, Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator and Training Unit Coordinator supports program development, and training and technical assistance for the SAMHSA funded School Mental Health supplement that is part of the Northwest Mental Health Technology Transfer Center covering the Region 10 states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. In addition, she supports the Technical Assistance Core (TACore) at the UW SMART Center providing systems-change training and technical assistance to state, local agencies, and districts across the Northwest. Rayann may be one of the newest additions to the UW Smart Center, but her professional career spans across many years, roles, and agencies. While Rayann began her professional journey as an ABA Therapist for children with Autism, she eventually grew an interest in prevention and became a teacher. In her previous role, she served as a district administrator in Tacoma Public Schools leading the development and implementation of district-wide social emotional learning for in and out of school time. She has also supported district MTSS implementation through professional development, coaching, and program evaluation across many districts across Washington State.



## **Mari Meador, M.Ed.**

*Implementation Coach*

Mari Meador, M.Ed., is an implementation coach at the University of Washington. She works in collaboration with Schools to support implementation efforts of proactive systems of support. Mari joins us from the University of Washington Tacoma where she worked in collaboration with Tacoma Public Schools to support implementation efforts of the Tacoma Whole Child Initiative. Mari has served as a PBIS State Facilitator and Assistant Coordinator for the Northwest PBIS

Network providing training and technical assistance, coaching, and ongoing supports to build local and district capacity to implement, sustain, and scale PBIS, and she began her career as a school support counselor and school-based mental health associate. Her professional interests include systems change, culturally responsive positive behavior support and social emotional learning, and fidelity of implementation. Her research interests include equitable and inclusive school discipline practices, implementation science, and effective teaming practices in schools.



### **Kristi Greenaway Cirignano**

*Whole Child Coordinator, Tacoma Public Schools*

Kristi started her career as a middle school science teacher, and still thinks middle school students are the best, and loves learning about earth science. She also served as a dean of students at the middle school level before starting with Tacoma Whole Child Initiative 7 years ago.

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## **Fostering Belonging in Staff Recruitment and Retention**

When: Wednesday, January 17th

Time: 10AM - 11:15AM AKT | 11AM - 12:15PM PT | 12PM - 1:15PM MT

### **Description:**

This session will provide participants with the opportunity to describe the concept of belonging in education. Belonging is the "north star" along the journey of equitable and inclusionary practices. While most of the focus on belonging in education has been on students, a necessary component is staff belonging.

### **Objectives:**

- Participants in the session will be provided with strategies and ideas to foster belonging for staff to enhance and support recruitment and retention efforts.

### **Presentation Materials**

**Recording Available Here!**

## **Becoming - The Journey of a Change Agent**

When: Thursday, February 8th

Time: 10AM - 11:15AM AKT | 11AM - 12:15PM PT | 12PM - 1:15PM MT

### **Description:**

In part II of the series, participants will describe the value of belonging in their own self-awareness journey to creating transformative educational systems. What role will they play in the work of creating belonging for every learner? How will they create spaces in their roles to disrupt disproportionate outcomes for students and improve school climate? Ultimately, how can we create and support change agents in education?

### **Objectives:**

This session will offer strategies and considerations for ensuring newly recruited and current staff have empowerment to shift their climates.

### **Presentation Materials**

**Recording Available Here!**

### **About the Presenter:**

#### **Nikole Y. Hollins-Sims, Ed.D.**

*Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Midwest PBIS Network*

Nikole Y. Hollins-Sims, Ed.D., is the senior educational consultant & strategist for Hollins-Sims Consultation. She formerly served as a technical assistance coordinator for the Midwest PBIS network and is a former Special Assistant to the Secretary of Education at the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Dr. Hollins-Sims has been awarded as a Moral and Courageous Leader for Education by Cabrini University in 2021, the 2021 American Psychology Association



(APA) Anti-Racism School Psychology Emerging Professional Award and was named the 2021 Pennsylvania School Psychologist of the Year. One of her career highlights is serving as the lead author of the book titled: Creating Equitable Practices in PBIS.

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## **Bullying Prevention in Elementary and Middle Schools: Foundations and Student Ownership**

When: Wednesday, March 20th

Time: 10AM - 11:15AM AKT | 11AM - 12:15PM PT | 12PM - 1:15PM MT

### **Description:**

Session attendants will learn about school readiness for bullying prevention, what staff and students can do to create a safe school climate, and how school members and students can teach and reinforce prosocial behaviors.

### **Objectives**

- Core features of bullying prevention
- Increasing student buy-in and ownership
- Examples of student ownership from exemplar districts

### **Presentation Materials**

**Recording Available Here!**

### **About the Presenter:**

#### **Rhonda Nese, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Special Education and Clinical Sciences  
Scientist, Prevention Science Institute Affiliate Faculty, Prevention Science Program





Rhonda Nese, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the Department of Special Education and Clinical Sciences at the University of Oregon and the Director of the Nese Lab. She is also a Scientist within the Prevention Science Institute, a multidisciplinary research institute at the University of Oregon. Dr. Nese's research involves equitable intervention delivery within a multi-tiered behavior support framework focused on preventative strategies for improving student outcomes. Dr. Nese currently serves as the director of an IES grant to refine and test an intervention to reduce

exclusionary discipline practices, improve student-teacher relationships, and increase instructional time for students in secondary settings, and co-principal investigator on additional federally-funded projects to identify factors that predict implementation and sustainability of evidence-based practices, to develop technology to improve online learning for educators, and to develop and validate an automated scoring system for oral reading fluency. Dr. Nese also provides technical assistance to state, district, and school level teams across the nation on preventative practices, including addressing implicit bias in school discipline, effective classroom behavior management strategies, bullying prevention, and alternatives to exclusionary discipline practices through the OSEP-funded National TA-Center on PBIS. Dr. Nese is the recipient of the 2022 Presidential Equity Award from the NorthWest PBIS Network and the 2022 Outstanding Early Career Award from the University of Oregon, the UO's highest award for early career faculty to recognize and celebrate an emerging and significant record of scholarship and research.

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## **Bullying Prevention in Elementary and Middle Schools: Leveraging Experts in Your Building**

When: Wednesday, April 17th

Time: 10AM - 11:15AM AKT | 11AM - 12:15PM PT | 12PM - 1:15PM MT

### **Description:**

Session attendants will learn about the types of bullying, strategies to disrupt bullying in schools, and focus specifically on how to leverage school resource officers, bus drivers, and other safety personnel in your bullying prevention efforts.

### **Objectives:**



- Participants will be able to describe at least four different types of bullying and their characteristics
- Participants will be able to identify a schoolwide strategy to disrupt bullying
- Participants will be able to train school resource officers, bus drivers, and other safety personnel in the schoolwide prevention strategy

## Presentation Materials

## Recording Available Here!

### About the Presenter:



#### **Sara McDaniel, Ph.D.**

*Professor of Special Education in the Department of Special Education and Multiple Abilities, and Director of the Center for Interconnected Behavioral and Mental Health Systems at the University of Alabama*

Dr. McDaniel is a professor of Special Education in the Department of Special Education and Multiple Abilities at the University of Alabama and is the Director of the Center for Interconnected Behavioral and Mental Health Systems (CIBMHS). The CIBMHS is a research center that engages in rigorous research in schools and focuses on supporting schools and districts in implementing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and school-based mental health services. Dr. McDaniel conducts research and teaches in the areas of: (a) PBIS, (b) classroom management assessment and coaching, (c) Tier 2 social, emotional, and behavioral supports, and (d) preventative treatments for diverse populations of students placed at high risk.

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Check out the history of this series!

**SMART Center 2023 Speaker Series**

**SMART Center 2022 Speaker Series**

**SMART Center 2021 Speaker Series**

Learn more about the UW SMART Center [here](#).

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**Want more information and school mental health resources?** Visit the Northwest MHTTC's **School Mental Health page** and **sign up for our newsletter** for regular updates about events, trainings, and resources available to the Northwest region.

#### CONTACT US

[networkoffice@mhttcnetwork.org](mailto:networkoffice@mhttcnetwork.org)

650-721-8692



#### ABOUT THE NETWORK

About the MHTTC Network

Technology Transfer and Dissemination and Implementation Science

Collaborators

#### COMMUNICATION

Recent News

MHTTC Pathways Newsletter

## PROJECTS

MHTTC Areas of Focus

School Mental Health

Workforce Development

## EDUCATION

[healthknowledge.org](http://healthknowledge.org)

Training and Events Calendar

## RESOURCES

Products & Resources Catalog

Spotlight on SAMHSA Resources

## GET HELP

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

Early Serious Mental Illness Treatment Locator

[findtreatment.gov](http://findtreatment.gov)

SAMHSA's National Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP (4357)

SAMHSA's Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990 or Text TALKWITHUS to 66746



**MHTTC**

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network

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