

AZ AER 2020 Fall Conference

Schedule of Presenters

Saturday, October 17

9:00 AM PST/12:00 PM EST: **Sandra Stirnweis**, *Google Slides/Pear Deck Partnership*

10:30 AM PST/1:30 PM EST: **Jane Erin**, *Their Stories: Learning from Autobiographies of People Who Are Blind or Have Visual Impairment*

12:00 PM PST/3:00 PM EST: **Eric Bryant**, *Zero Reject: The Core Principle of IDEA*

1:30 PM PST/4:30 PM EST: **Kari Landis**, *Adapting Materials CVI Style*

3:00 PM PST/6:00 PM EST: **Rachel Feinberg, Peter Tucic, and Kevin Hughes**, *What's New with the BrailleNote Touch Plus – New Features, Practical Applications and Connected Students*

Saturday, October 24

9:00 AM PST/12:00 PM EST: **Sandra Stirnweis**, *Google Suite Add-Ons*

10:30 AM PST/1:30 PM EST: **Dorinda Rife**, *Build a New England Wall: Leadership Stories for Educators and Administrators*

12:00 PM PST/3:00 PM EST: **Brian McCollum, Rosa Henderson, and Jeanette Contant-Galitello**, *Classroom Success with eSight: Empowering Students with Visual Impairment*

1:30 PM PST/4:30 PM EST: **Megan Mogan**, *5 Literacy Activities for Blind/VI Students Who are Emergent Readers and Writers*

3:00 PM PST/6:00 PM EST: **Joe Hodge, Jim Sullivan, and Rachel Feinberg**, *Making the Grade with APH's Mantis Q40 and Chameleon 20*

Google Slides/Pear Deck Partnership
Sandra Stirnweis

Orientation and Mobility Instructor, Washington Elementary School District

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2020

Time: 9:00-10:00 AM Arizona time (starting at 9:00 AM Pacific/10:00 AM Mountain/11:00 AM Central/12:00 PM Eastern/6:00 AM Hawaii/8:00 AM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_O-4q4ZtKQa6KVXw9PMX2og

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: In this session we will build a Google Slide interactive presentation from start to finish. Learn how to embed videos; create drag and drop; add audio; and create lessons that students can run on their own, or that you can direct. Then, take it to the next level by adding elements from the Pear Deck add-on for the google Suite. Each of the Pear Deck add-ons will be demonstrated in detail and you can learn how to use the accessible reader feature for students who cannot see the slides.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will understand how to create a basic Google Slide presentation
- Participants will learn how to embed interactive elements to make distance learning more meaningful
- Participants will learn how to use the features of Pear deck, including its accessibility features for students who cannot see the slides.

Sandra has been teaching for a really long time and is a bit of a computer geek. Online learning has opened new doors of creativity and she is having a lot of fun thinking up new lessons and ideas.



Their Stories: Learning from Autobiographies of People Who Are Blind or Have Visual Impairment

Jane Erin

Professor Emeritus, University of Arizona

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2020

Time: 10:30-11:30 AM Arizona time (starting at 10:30 AM Pacific/11:30 AM Mountain/12:30 PM Central/1:30 PM Eastern/7:30 AM Hawaii/9:30 AM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hoJyrubYSO6NP4RGMKlh6w

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: Throughout recorded history, people with visual impairments have often written personal stories to reflect their challenges, experiences, and accomplishments. These life stories can provide role models and examples of diverse experiences to others who have visual impairment. Autobiographies can also inform and motivate professionals whose contact with each student or client is often limited to a short period of time and who rarely have an opportunity to note changes over years or decades.

The presenter will describe the range of autobiographies written by people with visual impairments, beginning with the mid-1800's to present day. Contemporary books demonstrate more diverse life experiences and choices, including academic accomplishments, physical achievements, and family challenges. Participants will receive a listing of autobiographies, and they will be encouraged to consider visual impairment as one of many factors that influence life experiences.

Objectives:

1. Participants will identify factors that shaped the lived experiences of an individual whose autobiography they have read.
2. Participants will develop a plan to encourage a student or client to read an autobiography and to write about his or her own life experiences.

Dr. Jane Erin is a professor emeritus at The University of Arizona, where she coordinated the program in Visual Impairment. In the College of Education she served as head of the department of DPS (formerly SERSP), Interim Associate Dean, and chair of the College Council. From 1984 to 1994 she was on the faculty at the University of Texas, and previously she was a teacher and supervisor at the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children. In 1996 Dr. Erin received the national Mary K. Bauman Award as the Outstanding Educator in Visual Impairment from the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually impaired. She served as Editor in Chief of the Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness from 1998-2001, and was formerly an Executive Editor of RE:view. She co-authored *Visual Impairments and Learning* with Dr. Natalie Barraga and co-edited *Diversity and Visual Impairment* with Dr. Madeline Milian; she has also authored several instructional guides for teachers of visually impaired students. Her research interests have included educational outcomes related to learning media used by visually impaired students, and braille instruction of young children.



Zero Reject: The Core Principle of IDEA
Eric Bryant
Staff Attorney, Arizona Court of Appeals

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2020

Time: 12:00-1:00 PM Arizona time (starting at 12:00 PM Pacific/1:00 PM Mountain/2:00 PM Central/3:00 PM Eastern/9:00 AM Hawaii/11:00 AM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G_HpmQo4TP-t56jafq6mYQ

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: The core principle of the IDEA is that all disabled children will be educated, if possible with their non-disabled peers. This is the principle of “zero reject.” Though it has been fleshed out over the decades, it remains the bedrock anchor point of the IDEA that will not bend or break. Court cases have championed this principle over the years, granting entitlement to education for disabled students.

After this session, participants will be able to:

- 1) Define the principle of zero reject;
- 2) Describe cases in which the principle has protected the education of disabled students;
- 3) Identify the origins of child find, stay put, the disciplinary process protections for disabled students, and unilateral parental placement;
- 4) Compare the rights of special education students with general education students.

As an Administrative Law Judge from 1997 to 2014, **Eric A. Bryant** heard and decided IDEA Due Process cases for the State of Arizona. Many of his decisions are posted on the Arizona Department of Education website. From 2014 to April 2019, Judge Bryant was an ALJ for the Arizona Board of Fingerprinting, reviewing criminal histories and conducting hearings to determine whether or not fingerprint clearance card applicants have been rehabilitated. He also teaches Special Education Law to teachers, school psychologists, and school administrators in graduate-level courses at Ottawa University – Phoenix Campus, and has been doing so since 2014. He currently works as a Staff Attorney for the Arizona Court of Appeals, advising and writing draft decisions for the court in the area of Worker’s Compensation Law.



Adapting Materials CVI Style
Kari Landis
Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments,
Low Incidence Consulting Services, LLC

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2020

Time: 1:30-2:30 PM Arizona time (starting at 1:30 PM Pacific/2:30 PM Mountain/3:30 PM Central/4:30 PM Eastern/10:30 AM Hawaii/12:30 PM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ETEKg_agTPqa0KmQdXHrPw

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: During this presentation you will learn how to adapt common children's books for students in all three phases using various forms of media and programs. This presentation will also discuss ways to communicate with the student's team on how to best accommodate and adapt materials for said student.

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Learn how to adapt books for students who are in the 3 phases of the CVI Range.
- 2) Learn how to easily inform the student's team about their CVI needs.
- 3) Learn to use different programs to promote reading for your student with CVI.

My name is **Kari Landis** and I am Teacher of the Visually Impaired in southwestern Wisconsin for Low Incidence Consulting Services, LLC. I attended Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois and graduated with my Bachelor's degree in May of 2016. I taught for one year in Illinois and this will be my third year teaching in Wisconsin. I have a personal interest and love for Cortical Visual Impairment.



**What's New with The BrailleNote Touch Plus –
New Features, Practical Applications and Connected Students**
Rachel Feinberg, Peter Tucic, and Kevin Hughes
Humanware

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2020

Time: 3:00-4:00 PM Arizona time (starting at 3:00 PM Pacific/4:00 PM Mountain/5:00 PM Central/6:00 PM Eastern/12:00 PM Hawaii/2:00 PM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Qo6cJibvRXyg4MrDFEsQsg

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: HumanWare has been busy adding important functionality to the BrailleNote Touch Plus over the last six months. The new features include the implementation of one hand mode, Braille learning tables, addition of the Nemeth Code Scientific Calculator and PDF support. Our webinar will look closely at how the braille learning tables are established and serve as a key piece of braille literacy for a second or third grade student. We will look at how a student takes advantage of the new improvements to the Calculator application as well as how to switch seamlessly through applications. The BrailleNote becomes an essential tool with at home and on campus learning expectations. The BrailleNote Touch keeps your students connected. We will demonstrate the ability to download and edit PDF files from cloud-based applications such as Classroom, Canvas and Schoology.

Objectives:

- 1) Participants will learn how to set up a Braille learning Table on the BrailleNote Touch Plus
- 2) Participants will learn the process of opening up a PDF (text based) file on the BrailleNote
- 3) Participants will be shown the basics of navigating and accessing the Google Classroom application

Rachel has worked in the Access Technology field for 10 years. She graduated with a counseling degree from Bob Jones University in South Carolina. She joined Humanware as the Blindness Product Specialist covering the West Coast region. In this position, she travels and trains individuals on the use of the BrailleNote Touch and other blindness-specific products. Through the method of in-person workshops, presentations at rehabilitation and education conferences, phone support, and training via the Zoom platform, Rachel interacts with many teachers and students and is able to show them the advantages of using braille and Humanware technologies. Prior to joining Humanware, Rachel worked in the San Francisco Bay Area at the Hatlen Center for the Blind as a braille and technology instructor. In this role, she supported clients as they worked to enhance their technological skills. Rachel is passionate about the advancement of technology, as it fosters communication and a sense of enrichment for everyone.

Peter Tucic graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. Peter is currently the Brand Ambassador of Blindness Products for HumanWare. He travels throughout the US, supporting teachers and students and presenting at state and national conferences. Prior to working for HumanWare Peter ran the National Assistive Technology Helpdesk at the Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind where he worked with blind and visually impaired individuals from across the country who were in need of assistance interacting with both their mainstream, and blindness specific assistive technology. Peter has presented at such conferences as the National ACB and NFB, in addition to the CSUN and ATIA conferences. Peter has also been published in Closing the Gap magazine.

Kevin is the West Region Manager for HumanWare and has over 19 years' experience with blindness and low vision assistive technology both as a consultant and trainer.



Google Suite Add-Ons
Sandra Stirnweis

Orientation and Mobility Instructor, Washington Elementary School District

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020

Time: 9:00-10:00 AM Arizona time (starting at 9:00 AM Pacific/10:00 AM Mountain/11:00 AM Central/12:00 PM Eastern/6:00 AM Hawaii/8:00 AM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dmHFGc1cTAaQ16r5vRwmqA

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: Even after everyone returns to in-person learning, using the Google suite and its add-ons can help you create interactive lessons for use any time. Learn which add-ons are free, worth paying for, or not really accessible for our students. Each Add-on will be demonstrated with examples for their use shown.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Participants will learn how Add-ons can make their presentation easier and more interactive
- 2) Participants will learn how to determine which Add-ons are available to them
- 3) Participants will learn how to evaluate web-based applications and Add-ons for applicability with their students.

Sandra has been teaching for a really long time and is a bit of a computer geek. Online learning has opened new doors of creativity and she is having a lot of fun thinking up new lessons and ideas.



Build a New England Wall: Leadership Stones for Educators and Administrators
Dorinda Rife
Low Vision Specialist, Arizona Schools for the Deaf and Blind

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020

Time: 10:30-11:30 AM Arizona time (starting at 10:30 AM Pacific/11:30 AM Mountain/12:30 PM Central/1:30 PM Eastern/7:30 AM Hawaii/9:30 AM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_C4B9gNNWSMKknSAgXUX9ug

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: New England is peppered with low stone walls. They are so integrated into the land that they look almost like they've been there since the beginning of time. In reality, each of those stones was gathered and placed, forming the foundation for something with purpose.

Aspiring leaders gather wisdom from many places and apply that knowledge in new leadership positions. This session will address how to identify, collect, and arrange learnings into an effective leadership foundation: build your own New England all of leadership skills.

Outcomes:

- Participants will learn about leadership stones: how to recognize them and what to do with them. Learners will create at least one stone during the session.
- Participants will learn 3 principles of being new that are within their control and how to apply them.
- Participants will learn reflection techniques to keep their leadership growth fresh in new situations.

Dorinda Rife is an educator whose journeys have included classroom and itinerant teaching across four states and hundreds of educational settings. She carries certificates as a COMS and CLVT, and she has served in a number of leadership positions including principal and superintendent in multi-faceted schools applying a variety of service delivery models. She gets the biggest kick out of jumping into and figuring out systems that are new to her and learning from those she serves. Today Dorinda serves as statewide Low Vision Specialist for ASDB. She works on a variety of passion projects through Dorinda Rife Consulting, including public speaking gigs throughout the year. Dorinda publishes a weekly blog on Leadership Stones (www.dorindarife.com/blog).



Success with eSight: Empowering Students with Visual Impairment
Brian McCollum, Rosa Henderson, and Jeanette Contant-Galitello
eSight

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020

Time: 12:00-1:00 PM Arizona time (starting at 12:00 PM Pacific/1:00 PM Mountain/2:00 PM Central/3:00 PM Eastern/9:00 AM Hawaii/11:00 AM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JaQ9xWqQ4emGeclt0lGhg

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Summary: A growing number of students with low vision and legal blindness are seeing new possibilities inside the classroom and out, with eSight. Clinically-validated, eSight 4 is a wearable assistive technology that significantly enhances vision while maintaining 100% mobility retention. Including a product demonstration and student case studies, in this workshop, you will learn how eSight works and how students at the elementary to College level are using eSight to succeed at school in social, extra-curricular and academic contexts. You will also gain invaluable tips and tricks for helping your students with low vision achieve their goals with eSight.

After this session, participants will be able to:

1. Explain how eSight enhanced vision device works and who can benefit from it;
2. Describe how eSight is used by students at the elementary school to college level;
3. Identify techniques for and for helping students with low vision achieve their goals with eSight.

Rosa Henderson and Jeanette Contant-Galitello

Rosa and Jeanette started their journey with eSight as a wearer and later became eSight Coaches. As eSight Coaches, they work closely with fellow eSight wearers, helping them achieve their goals whether at home, work, school, and play. While their coaching sessions focus primarily on using eSight, both encourage their clients to maintain a large low vision toolkit and integrate holistic tips and tricks to improve client outcomes.

Brian McCollum, Chief Commercial Officer at eSight

Brian is a seasoned industry leader, bringing with him more than 20 years of operational, financial and healthcare experience. Prior to joining eSight, Brian worked at Precedent Health, where he served as President and Chief Executive Officer, driving the company to a strategic exit in 2018. Additionally, he worked at Orthofix International in progressive leadership positions from Chief Financial Officer, to eventually leading as President of Global Spine Business Unit. During his tenure at Orthofix, Brian was responsible for expanding distribution globally, fostering new business partnerships and overseeing the business development strategy. Brian graduated from St. Andrew's Presbyterian College and holds a BA in Business Administration. He will be dividing his time between the US and Canada.



See new possibilities

**5 Literacy Activities for Blind/VI Students
Who are Emergent Readers and Writers
Megan Mogan
Deafblind Specialist, Arizona Deafblind Project**

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020

Time: 1:30-2:30 PM Arizona time (starting at 1:30 PM Pacific/2:30 PM Mountain/3:30 PM Central/4:30 PM Eastern/10:30 AM Hawaii/12:30 PM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Yyhgo0g6TNeaC4IMcMV2bg

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

Abstract: This presentation is for educators and service providers who work with students of all ages who are Blind/VI with additional disabilities. Many of these students may be moving toward conventional literacy instruction, but need creative and thoughtful sensory and learning supports to get there. Megan will share and demonstrate 5 examples of Comprehensive Literacy (Erickson & Koppenhaver, 2013) activities adapted for Blind/VI students with additional disabilities: Shared Reading, Shared Writing, Independent Reading, Independent Writing, and Working with Letters and Sounds. All activities will include video demonstrations and step-by-step directions. Join us to add some motivating activities to your instructional toolbox for both distance and in-person settings as we practice the mantra: “Every child reads. Every child writes.”

Objectives:

- Describe the difference between Emergent and Conventional Literacy
- List 5 daily activities within the Comprehensive Literacy Approach for emergent readers and writers
- Observe activities and materials adapted for Blind/VI learners with additional disabilities when providing a comprehensive literacy approach

Megan is a Deafblind Specialist with the Arizona Deafblind Project. She serves educators and families of deafblind children and youth across the state of Arizona alongside her amazing colleagues on the Project. Megan worked as a Speech-Language Pathologist for 18 years at the Arizona State School for the Deaf and Blind-Tucson campus and in the Sunnyside Unified School District. Megan studied Communication Disorders at Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, Illinois and received a Master's degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences from the University of Arizona. She lives in Tucson with her husband and 3 kids, sneaking in a game of ultimate frisbee whenever she can.



Making the Grade with APH's Mantis Q40 and Chameleon 20
Joe Hodge, American Printing House for the Blind
Jim Sullivan, American Printing House for the Blind
Rachel Feinberg, Humanware

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020

Time: 3:00-4:00 PM Arizona time (starting at 3:00 PM Pacific/4:00 PM Mountain/5:00 PM Central/6:00 PM Eastern/12:00 PM Hawaii/2:00 PM Alaska)

Cost: \$15

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ICNCLLeQQNqpHsWfLEFeoA

CEU: 1 hour professional development credit, ACVREP-certified

The bell rings, and it is off to the next class or perhaps virtual class. Explore how your first-grader to your twelfth-grader can make the grade with APH's Mantis Q40 and Chameleon 20 throughout their day. Discover drilling with flashcards, editing comments in MS Word, bookmarking Of Mice and Men, and more.

Objectives:

- 1) Participants will list three activities an elementary student can complete with the Chameleon 20
- 2) Participants will list three activities a middle school student can complete with the Mantis Q40
- 3) Participants will list three activities a high school student can complete with the Mantis Q40
- 4) Participants will identify four advantages of a refreshable braille terminal with a QWERTY keyboard.

Joe Hodge I grew up in Fort Wayne Indiana, and graduated from Ball State University! I worked eight years at Humana here in Louisville! And now I've been at the American printing house for three where I work in quality assurance. I test software, hardware, and focus on the user interface of products!



Jim Sullivan is currently the Director of Social Enterprise for the American Printing House for the Blind (APH). Before joining APH Jim worked for several assistive technology companies. Those companies include HumanWare, Optelec, Texthelp and Kurzweil Education Systems. He holds a Master's of Education in Rehabilitation Counseling and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Jim and his wife Mary reside in Hudson, OH, and are the parents of three young adults.



Rachel has worked in the Access Technology field for 10 years. She graduated with a counseling degree from Bob Jones University in South Carolina. She joined Humanware as the Blindness Product Specialist covering the West Coast region. In this position, she travels and trains individuals on the use of the BrailleNote Touch and other blindness-specific products. Through the method of in-person workshops, presentations at rehabilitation and education conferences, phone support, and training via the Zoom platform, Rachel interacts with many teachers and students and is able to show them the advantages of using braille and Humanware technologies. Prior to joining Humanware, Rachel worked in the San Francisco Bay Area at the Hatlen Center for the Blind as a braille and technology instructor. In this role, she supported clients as they worked to enhance their technological skills. Rachel is passionate about the advancement of technology, as it fosters communication and a sense of enrichment for everyone.

