

District Continuous Improvement & Support

December 7, 2020

Women Together: Today and Tomorrow Virtual Conference

Please join the San Joaquin County Office of Education, Lodi Unified School District, and our partner Old Sow Coaching and Consulting as we begin the important work surrounding gender equality in the workplace here in San Joaquin County and the local region with the *Women Together: Today and Tomorrow* conference on February 3, 2021, from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The conference is free, virtual, and will feature the following renowned speakers:

- Kirsten Olson, Doctor of Education, Professional Certified Coach, and Chief Listening Officer at Old Sow Coaching and Consulting
- Dr. Tina Opie, Founder of Opie Consulting Group, Award-Winning Researcher, and Associate Professor of Management at Babson College
- Dr. Jennifer Martin, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services at Hemet Unified School District
- Margarita Mayo, Award-Winning Researcher and Professor of Leadership and Organizational Behavior at IE Business School in Madrid
- David Smith, Associate Professor of Sociology, National Security Affairs Department at the United States Naval War College
- W. Brad Johnson, Professor of Psychology at the United States Naval Academy and Faculty Associate at John Hopkins University

Register at bit.ly/WomenTogether2021

Recommended Article: Edutopia's "Strategies to Encourage Students to Turn Their Cameras On"

Many teachers express concern that their students won't turn their cameras on during virtual instruction. There are many engagement and learning benefits to students having their cameras on, but there are also many reasons why students may not feel comfortable with their classmates seeing them or their surroundings. Or, students may feel disconnected to the learning community. Fortunately, there are many different things teachers can try--most of which are embedded in the tenets of social and emotional learning best practice. Check out Eduopia's article titled: "[Strategies to Encourage Students to Turn Their Cameras On](#)" to see 16 different strategies teachers can integrate into learning and teaching.

SBAC Scoring Resources

Interim Assessment Hand Scoring Workshops for Teachers: [Register here](#) for the online 2020–21 Interim Assessment Hand Scoring Workshop for Teachers—including one of the December workshops focusing on mathematics. Workshop participants will engage in the process of hand scoring Smarter Balanced assessment items as a way to *deepen understanding of the content standards, strengthen evaluation of student work, and promote the use of student results to inform teaching and learning.*

For details and to register, go the [2020–21 Interim Assessment Hand Scoring Workshop web page](#).

For further information, contact Nikki Antonovich, Coordinator, Sacramento County Office of Education, by email at caasp@scoe.net.

New Tool for Understanding How Smarter Balanced Scores Written

Responses: Have you ever wondered how student writing on the Smarter Balanced assessments is evaluated and scored? Learn all about it with the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium’s newly available **Smarter Annotated Response Tool (SmART)**. The [Smarter Annotated Response Tool](#) is available publicly for anyone to use and is an excellent tool for educators and parents to use for *supporting student writing during distance learning*. SmART is also designed to help educators and others interested to *better understand the rubrics used to score students’ written responses* to Smarter Balanced assessment items. This online tool supports learning in a number of ways, including the following:

- Showing examples of student writing, scoring annotations, and rubrics
- Highlighting what to look for when reviewing student responses
- Providing a professional learning resource for the scoring of student writing samples

[Click here to explore the Smarter Annotated Response Tool](#)

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