



2018 Montana Traffic Education Conference

Speakers and Workshop Presenters

April 22-24, 2017 • Bozeman, Montana

GUEST PRESENTERS

Harry Amend is Vice-President of Haploos Consulting in Spokane, Washington, specializing in motivational and leadership coaching. He has 41 years of education, leadership, coaching, training and development experience at all levels of organizations. He worked as a school superintendent, leading school systems in the states of Washington, Montana and Idaho and is currently serving as interim principal at Freeman High School south of Spokane. Harry also spent 20 years as a professional baseball scout for the Philadelphia Phillies (recruiting four players from MT). He holds a MA in Guidance and Counseling from Eastern Washington University and an MA in Pre-Med from the University of Washington.

Dr. Kelly Browning has been in leadership positions promoting awareness and education through youth programs over the past 20 years. She received her formal education from Minnesota State University Moorhead, the University of Central Florida, and her Ph.D. in Criminology from the University of South Florida. Dr. Browning joined the Impact Teen Drivers team as Executive Director in 2008.

Rich Hanson spent 32 years in the classroom as a high school teacher and is now enjoying traveling to different states and countries to deliver the message of quality driver education. He is an adjunct instructor for Western Oregon University's Traffic Safety Education program. He was named 2006 Teacher of the Year by ADTSEA and the American Automobile Association. Rich worked closely with the Montana Office of Public Instruction and a curriculum committee of traffic educators from 2012 – 2014 to revise and update the Montana Teen Driver Education curriculum modules.

Stephanie Harrell is a social/clinical research assistant at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC). At HSRC, she helped develop coding protocols for naturalistic studies of teen driving and coded more than 6,000 video clips. She also helped to develop HSRC's young driver smartphone app. Stephanie's interests include motorcycle and teen-parent program evaluation, and autonomous vehicle policy. She earned her B.A and M.A. from Columbia University in New York.

John Perdaems, PT, MDT, OCS is board certified in Orthopedics, certified in Mechanical Diagnosis and Therapy of the spine. He is a 1992 graduate of the University of Montana, School of Physical Therapy. John has worked at Bozeman Health Physical Therapy since 1998. He also provides physical therapy at Ridge Health Club.

Opening Keynote: Focus on Success

Sunday, April 22
12:15-1:15 pm

This keynote will inspire teachers to *focus on success!*

Impact Teen Drivers

Sunday, April 22
1:45-3:45 pm

Impact Teen Drivers can enhance teaching methods and provide resources that encourage teens to develop safe driving habits.

Closing Keynote: When is my good enough not good enough?

Tuesday, April 24
10:30-11:30 am

Capping the conference with a pep talk about the value of professional development and taking self-assessment seriously, Rich will inspire, provoke, and, as always, help teachers be the best they can be, in the classroom and behind the wheel.

New Car Technology and Teen Drivers

Tuesday, April 24
8:00-8:50 am

Vehicle safety technology is advancing and already assisting drivers. Alert, skilled and attentive drivers are still needed on the open road, so driver education is more relevant than ever.

Sitting is the New Smoking

Monday, April 23
2:30-3:20 pm and 3:30-4:20 pm

This talk will focus on what you can do for spinal health when you must sit and drive as well as exercises for overall health.

Jeffrey A. Weldon is a partner in the Billings law firm of Felt, Martin, Frazier & Weldon, P.C. His practice focuses on Montana school law and includes commercial transactions, real estate transactions, estate law and Indian law. Jeff formerly served as legal counsel and human resources director for Billings Public Schools. He also served as chief legal counsel for Montana's Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Jeff is a Billings, Montana native and has a master's degree in public administration and J.D. both from the University of Montana.

Avoiding Crashes and Courts

Monday, April 23

10:15-11:45 am

The legal and liability issues facing traffic education programs and resources available to instructors.

MONTANA TRAFFIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PRESENTERS

Ryan Boyle is an Industrial Technology and Traffic Education teacher at Whitefish High School where he joined the traffic education program in 2016. He also coaches football and wrestling at Whitefish High School, in addition to teaching a dual credit welding and drafting course at Flathead Valley Community College along with woods and engineering classes. Ryan graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2005 and received a Masters of Educational Leadership from Rocky Mountain College in 2010.

Mick Davis is the Driver Education Coordinator for Great Falls Public Schools and has worked as a driver education instructor since 1984. In 2014, he retired as a Health Enhancement teacher. Mick was President of the Montana Traffic Education Association in 2009 and 2013. Mick has also been a Montana DRIVE instructor since 1998. He currently serves as the MTEA Awards Chairman and will preside over the awards ceremony.

Steffani Grogan has taught more than 25 years in the Forsyth Schools, currently filling the 7-8 Math and K-12 technology coordinator positions. She runs the Forsyth driver education program and a summer driver education program in Hysham. Steffani serves on the board as a class B representative and is also MTEA's newsletter editor. Steffani was elected MTEA President for 2018-19 and will assume these duties at the Annual Business Meeting on April 23.

Kurtis Koenig began teaching traffic education at Ennis High School in 2007. A Montana native, Kurtis grew up in Sheridan in a "teacher-filled family." He received his degree in 2003 from MSU-Bozeman and started teaching high school English in Ennis the following year. Kurtis is MTEA's Board President for the term 2017-18.

Halvar Olstead taught third and fourth grade for more than 30 years in the Mt. Baker Schools in the Cascade Foothills east of Bellingham, WA. For a few years, he taught the behind-the-wheel portion of driver education. Halvar holds a Bachelor of Education degree in Social Sciences from Pacific Lutheran University, with minors in Education, Music, and Communication Arts. He received a Master of Education in School Administration from Western Washington University. Halvar has taught traffic education in Montana since 2009 in Opheim, Three Forks, Nashua, Scobey, Plentywood, and most recently, Culbertson.

Huff Symposium Parent Meeting Panel

Monday, April 23

2:30-3:20 and 3:30 to 4:20 pm

This panel of traffic educators will share how they run their parent meetings and how they encourage quality parental involvement in their teen's traffic safety education.

MTEA Awards Banquet

Sunday, April 22

6:00 pm

MTEA honors the Outstanding Traffic Education Teacher of the Year and Contributor of the Year and recognizes retiring teachers.

Lesson Slam!

Sunday, April 22

4:00-5:00 pm

Rev up your lessons for the Lesson Slam!

Classroom Tech Demonstration

Tuesday, April 24

7:30-7:50 am

Huff Symposium Parent Meeting Panel

Monday, April 23

2:30-3:20 and 3:30 to 4:20 pm

This panel of traffic educators will share how they run their parent meetings and how they encourage quality parental involvement in their teen's traffic safety education.

Another Lone Ranger in Montana Traffic Safety Education

Tuesday, April 24

9:00-10:00 am

Halvar will share small town stories, observations, forms, lesson ideas and encourage participants to engage in some interactive activities.

Jerry Olson, past MTEA president and 2018 Conference Chair. Jerry Olson is a health enhancement and traffic education instructor in Great Falls and at the Montana DRIVE advanced driver workshops in Lewistown. Jerry has been a driver education instructor since 2005 and is the creative genius behind the 2013 Buckle Up for Montana seat belt campaign and a BTW Practice Drive booklet that is part of the OPI's Teen Driver Curriculum. Jerry was MTEA's 2012 Montana Traffic Education Teacher of the Year and MTEA President from 2016-17.

Jessica Sichelstiel is a second-grade teacher in Helena and has been teaching for nine years. She began teaching traffic education in 2016 and co-teaches driver education at Capital High and Helena High with Caleb Feuerstein. Co-teaching driver education has been a great experience for both teachers and students. Jessica's son is in their driver education class this session and she has found it helpful to be on the parent side of driver ed. Jessica has been married for 13 years to her husband Sean and has two rambunctious boys. Her hobbies include reading, watching her children play various sports, and traveling with friends and family.

David Wallace is a driver education instructor at Kicking Horse Job Corps, just south of Ronan, where he has been teaching a variety of subjects since 2012. He and his wife are blessed with four beautiful children ranging from ages two to seven. When he isn't driving on icy roads with novice drivers, David enjoys fixing vehicles for friends and neighbors, reloading rifle ammunition for accuracy, growing and canning food with his wife (because she makes him), and riding bikes around town with his family.

Jeff Westrom is a health enhancement and traffic education teacher in Frenchtown. Jeff graduated from Stevensville High School, spent five years in the Marine Corps and then attended the University of Montana where he eventually earned a Masters degree in Education. In 1999, he began teaching at Frenchtown and has taught physical education classes from kindergarten to high school. Jeff has also coached high school basketball, junior high cross country, and junior high basketball. Jeff also runs a driving instruction business to help new drivers who are not eligible or are unable to take driver education in the school setting.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION PRESENTERS

Patti Borneman is the Program Specialist for Traffic Education Programs at the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI). Since 2011, she has assisted school districts and traffic education teachers with the OPI's Traffic Education Data & Reporting System, registered drivers for the Montana DRIVE summer workshops in Lewistown, and helped with special projects such as the Teen Driver Education and Training curriculum update, editing the spring and fall Montana Roundabout Newsletter, and revising the Adapted Illustrated Montana Driver Manual. She also assists with public communications and outreach to districts and educators, and helps plan and organize the annual Montana Traffic Education Conference.

In-Car Lessons

Tuesday, April 24
9:00-10:00 am

This interactive workshop with teaching and coaching tips will help you get your behind-the-wheel lessons across in the classroom on wheels.

Huff Symposium Parent Meeting Panel

Monday, April 23
2:30-3:20 and 3:30 to 4:20 pm

This panel of traffic educators will share how they run their parent meetings and how they encourage quality parental involvement in their teen's traffic safety education.

Intersections

Monday, April 23
2:30-3:20 pm and 3:30-4:20 pm

Learn about new visual methods to help your students better understand 4-way intersections and right-of-way laws and establish a shared vocabulary before you go driving in rush hour traffic.

Huff Symposium Parent Meeting Panel

Monday, April 23
2:30-3:20 and 3:30 to 4:20 pm

This panel of traffic educators will share how they run their parent meetings and how they encourage quality parental involvement in their teen's traffic safety education.

Pre-conference Workshop: Navigating OPI's Website and Traffic Ed Curriculum

Sunday, April 22
10:30-11:30 am

This one-hour workshop will familiarize participants with the OPI's new website, specifically the Driver Education section that includes a more robust Traffic Education Curriculum download structure and YouTube Traffic Education Channel.

Susan Court has been with the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) since 1997 where she is the state coordinator for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), a nationwide survey conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The program also conducts the Montana School Health Profiles – a school survey assessing school health policies and health education implementation. Prior to working at OPI she taught elementary health enhancement for 18 years.

Dale Kimmet is currently the Special Education School Improvement Unit Manager at the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) and has worked for the OPI for almost ten years. Prior to working at the OPI, Dale was a teacher, counselor, principal, superintendent, and coach at Terry Schools for twenty-four years. Dale taught Driver Education in Terry, Winnett, and Glendive, Montana for fifteen years.

Fran Penner-Ray is the Director of Traffic Education at the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) where she has worked in traffic education since 2004. She learned to drive in Detroit and to ride a horse in New Mexico. She walks or rides a bicycle to work at the OPI, where she provides vision, support, and leadership for schools and communities to improve traffic safety education in an effort to reduce young driver crashes. Fran also manages the Montana DRIVE Program at Lewistown with 12 seasonal instructors.

Dr. Tim Tharp is Montana's Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Dr. Tharp is a long-time school administrator and leader in Montana's rural schools. He has served as a teacher, principal, superintendent, and athletic director in Scobey, Dutton, Dutton/Brady, Sunburst, and Hobson. He has also coached volleyball, basketball, and baseball throughout his career. He is a lifetime member of the Montana Officials Association, recipient of the MHSAA/MIAAAA Gold Pass, and served on the board of the Montana Rural Education Association for 11 years, including five years as the President of MREA. He is a retired volunteer fireman, emergency medical responder, and reserve deputy sheriff. He has degrees from both the University of Montana and Montana State University including a Doctor of Education, Master of Business Administration, Master of Science, and Bachelor of Science.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION PRESENTERS

Michele Snowberger is the Driver Services Bureau Chief at the Montana Department of Justice, Motor Vehicle Division (MVD). She was the City Court Judge in Belgrade, Montana, for 12 years before coming to Helena. She earned her law degree at Pepperdine University.

Tammy Stefanik is the Deputy Bureau Chief for the Driver Services Bureau for the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) at the Montana Department of Justice. Since she started with MVD in 1999, she has worked with every Bureau in MVD as a driver examiner, management analyst, trainer, and business process improvement specialist and has been involved with all aspects of program management for the Bureau including systems development.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Tuesday, April 24
9:00-10:00 am

An overview of the risk behaviors recorded by the YRBS, including the behavior of young drivers and passengers who self-report on buckling up, or driving while texting, drinking or drugged, or riding with impaired or distracted drivers.

Students with Special Needs in Driver Ed

Monday, April 23
8:10-9:00 am and 9:10-10:00 am

This session will address issues concerning the equal opportunity of students with special needs in participating in a driver education program.

Montana Traffic Safety Education

Monday, April 23
1:30-2:20 pm

An update on OPI's work to support driver education teachers and encourage teen driver safety in schools across the state.

OPI Update

Monday, April 23
7:30-8:00 am

During Monday's breakfast, find out what's been going on at the Office of Public Instruction from the Deputy Superintendent.

CDTP and Driver Licensing

Monday, April 23
8:10-9:00 am
9:10-10:00 am

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Michele and Tammy will give their annual CDTP update and answer your CDTP questions.