

# OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



## — December 2023 Education Bulletin —

Welcome to the December 2023 edition of the **Luzerne Intermediate Unit (LIU) Office of Professional Learning's (OPL)** monthly education bulletin. The intent of this communication is to provide subscribers with:

- Professional learning opportunities offered by our department,
- Provide school leaders with educational policy support, and
- Provide tips for practicing educators.

This edition will focus on Remake Learning Days as an opportunity for schools to connect with their community. Other items included are:

- SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem
- Meet a member of the OPL team

### REMAKE LEARNING DAYS

Don't forget to  
subscribe to the  
OPL Education  
Bulletin!!!



Scan w/ a smart phone

## WHAT IS REMAKE LEARNING DAYS (RLD)?

Remake Learning Days is a joyful celebration of hands-on learning hosted by members of your community. Between May 2, 2024 and May 22, 2024, we invite caregivers to learn alongside their children at events hosted by local community partners—maybe you? These partners include libraries, parks, schools, tech centers, museums, after-school centers, non-profits, makerspaces, and more. If you wish to be a part of this worldwide celebration where families are encouraged to be curious, explore new types of learning, and discover new passions, here is what you need to do.

### Submit Your Event at [RemakeLearningDays.org](https://remakelearningdays.org)



Event submissions are open now. The first 50 events submitted and approved by January 1, 2024 will be entered into a raffle to receive one of three \$150 gift cards to be used to cover event expenses. Submitting an event includes four steps:

- Provide information about your region
- Provide point of contact information
- Tell us a little about your organization
- Describe your event

Once this is complete and your event is approved, you will be added to the RemakeLearning search page where families can find events appropriate to their child's age, interests, and their residence. Event

hosts can submit their event at <https://remakelearningdays.org/event-submission>.

# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN EVENT HOST?

Event hosts select a time or multiple times to “open the doors” of their organization and provide learning experiences for youth of any age that are meant to engage them in hands-on activities with their parents or caregivers. Most events are aligned to a general theme. These themes are:



Arts



Maker



Outdoor  
Learning



Science



Tech



Youth  
Voice

Once your event is submitted to the RemakeLearning.org website, it will be published to the “Find an Event” page that will be marketed to families all across the Commonwealth.

## INTERESTED EVENT HOST? HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

On **December 18, 2023, from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM** and again on **January 29, 2024, from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM**, the Northeast PA Remake Learning (#remakedaysNEPA) team will offer a 1-hour virtual workshop meant to introduce Remake Learning Days Across America to interested hosts in the Northeast Region of Pennsylvania and walk through the event submission process.

If you are interested in participating as an event host and wish to learn more, please use the QR code to register. To view a sample published event, go to <https://remakelearningdays.org/northeasternpa/> and scroll down to Featured Events.



STEM

## SHINEonPA STEM ECOSYSTEM

First, what is a STEM Ecosystem? There are over 100 nationally recognized STEM Learning Ecosystems worldwide and nearly a dozen in Pennsylvania. The SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem is one of them. STEM Ecosystems are typically es-



tablished by the geography they serve. The SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem serves Carbon, Luzerne, Schuylkill, Monroe, Wayne, Pike and Wyoming counties with a persistent goal, to promote STEM opportunities for ALL students and arming them with 21st Century employability skills. This Ecosystem and others also believe that STEM is more than

an acronym. STEM embodies all of the opportunities, concepts, and practices our children require to become employable and productive citizens in their communities.

# WHAT DOES THE SHINEONPA STEM ECOSYSTEM DO?

Simply put, the SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem brings STEM opportunities to the families in our communities. The Ecosystem has:

- Raised over \$1M dollars in grant funding
- Funded over twenty makerspaces in regional schools, libraries, and community centers
- Continues to partner with local public and private organizations

The SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem also maintains a website where you can learn more about the work this group does. Go to <http://shineonpa.org/>. Feel free to join their mailing list, find STEM ideas for families and educators, or become an active member by reaching out to Dr. Rich Mackrell.

## STEELS

## SUPPORTING THE ELEMENTARY GRADES

**Resources for Educators and Leaders:** (<https://www.k-5science.com/webinar-resources>) includes a webinar recording entitled Making Time for Science in K-5. Related slide decks can be found here as well.

**Science and Engineering in Preschool Through Elementary Grades:** (<https://nap.nationalacademies.org>) This is a free e-book that reviews evidence-based guidance on effective approaches to preschool through elementary science and engineering instruction that supports the success of all students.

## WHO IS WHO?

## LIU OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

In each issue of the OPL Education Bulletin, you will get a chance to meet a member of our team. In this issue, we would like to introduce Ty Yost, Assistant to the Executive Director for District Services, and the work he does in the LIU region and beyond.

**Credentials:** Undergraduate degree from Millersville University with teaching certification in Technology Education, M.Ed. at Wilkes University with certification as an Instructional Technology Specialist, certification in Curriculum and Instruction Supervision, and Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility from Marywood University.

**Years of Service:** Technology Education teacher at East Stroudsburg Area and Mountain View School District (8 years), Instructional Technology Coach (2 years), LIU District Consultant and Director of technology before my current position as Assistant to the Executive Director for District Services.

**Other Areas of Interest:** In addition to being a leader in technology services, Mr. Yost also is readily involved in many of the programs provided by the LIU's Office of Professional Learning, including the growing offerings in certification programs.

**Additional Project Areas:** A member of the leadership team for the Pennsylvania Statewide STEM Ecosystem, as well as our local SHINEonPA Stem Ecosystem. Co-facilitates the Luzerne Safe Schools Network, the LIU's Career Readiness work as well as the Regional Wide Area Network services for both LIU 18 and NEIU 19.



# LIU OPL NETWORK TRAININGS (DEC 2023—JAN 2024)

Did you know that the Office of Professional Learning regularly offers workshops at several locations? Areas of educator support include all core content areas, support for students with special needs, and classroom management.

- Gifted Network Meeting, 12/5/2023
- Open-Ended Item Writing and Scoring: Math Grades 6-8 PSSA, 12/7/2023
- Health and Physical Education Knowledge and Skills-Based Outcomes, 12/14/2023
- K-5 Fluency in Mathematics Development, 1/8/2024
- Mindfulness Practices for Everyday Teaching, 1/10/2024
- Behavior Series—Behavior Based Interventions, 1/11/2024

We also hold monthly network meetings for Curriculum Coordinators and quarterly network meetings for school Principals.

All registrations are through MyLearning Plan. Visit our website at [www.liu18.org](http://www.liu18.org) and head to “Register for IU Events” to find out more about these opportunities and to register.



Dr. Rich Mackrell  
[rmackrell@liu18.org](mailto:rmackrell@liu18.org)  
(570)991-1121

Dr. Jessica Jacobs  
[jjacobs@liu18.org](mailto:jjacobs@liu18.org)  
(570)718-4631

**Main Office** 368 Tioga Ave, Kingston, PA 18704

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