

Day One

Keynote • 8:30 am - 9:05 am

“Treatment Plans: Not Just for Kids Anymore ... Helping Your Students by Helping Yourself During These Unprecedented Times” – Beverly Moskowitz

Join Bev as she exposes the ‘Secrets Behind Her Mask,’ in a moving and surprisingly funny address that resonates with our collective humanity. Whether a parent yourself of a special needs child or the professional dealing with one, her humorous observations will transform your OT practice. Reassure yourself and your struggling students with knowledge that the journey does not mean we have to be there YET. Be inspired to help your students re-establish their relationship with learning and give everyone permission to dance again!

MORNING SESSIONS • 9:15 am – 11:50 am

Choose **ONE** Full Morning Session OR **TWO** 70-Minute Sessions • One mid-morning break

Full Morning Session • 9:15 am – 11:50 am

A-1: Executive Function Dilemmas: Intervention Strategies to Improve Student Outcomes

– *Cynthia Haynes*

This session explores intervention strategies for school-based OTs working with special needs students with executive function (EF) deficits. Therapists will learn strategies and procedures to address various domains of EF and how to integrate those strategies into your school-based services. Case study examples will be discussed.

First 70–Minute Morning Sessions
9:15 am – 10:25 am

CHOOSE ONE: A-2 or A-3

A-2: Moving from a Caseload to a Workload Model – Beverly Moskowitz

Caseload refers to the number of students treated with IEPs, IFSPs and 504s. Workload refers to ALL activities required by school-based professionals, including preparation, collaboration, observation, travel, virtual therapy ... even lunch! As nationally advocated by AOTA, ASHA and APTA, we will learn, share, and begin to ‘plant seeds’ to help you better manage and move your OT practice, school or district into a workload model to more fully realize the ideals of IDEA.

A-3: The Importance of Sensory Validation and How Sensory Processing Impacts Behavior and Learning – Greg Santucci

Every bit of information we obtain comes in through our sensory systems. Understanding and validating how a child processes sensory input can help create sensory safe classrooms and lead to improved regulation and participation in school. In this session we will dive into sensory processing, particularly for neurodivergent learners. We will explore fun, practical strategies that can improve classroom behavior and performance.

Second 70–Minute Morning Sessions
10:40 am – 11:50 am

CHOOSE ONE: A-4 or A-5

A-4: Increase Your Impact, Effectiveness and Efficiency with the SETT, WATI and WLPS – Beverly Moskowitz

Explore three fabulous tools that help school-based and online OTs better understand the functional needs of students and match them with real solutions. Learn great ways to use the free resources and forms to supplement curriculum, facilitate goal writing, enhance lesson plans, assess the need for assistive technology, and clarify realistic developmental compositional expectations from grades PreK-8.

A-5: Quick Fixes, Tricks and Ideas to Help Support Student Success – Greg Santucci

You’re going to have a bigger bag of tricks after this session! OTs are amazing, super-talented and extremely creative professionals, but we can always use a new strategies or activities to help our students. In this session, we will explore accommodations, tricks, products and ideas that have been proven successful and will work quickly to improve student’s behavior and performance in school.

“Well-paced sessions with very practical information, ideas, and strategies.”

– Melissa Leclerc,
Occupational Therapist



“An awesome conference of very practical, useful sessions directly related to OTs in schools!”

– Lisa Brenneman, OT



Team Discount

ONE DAY

One Person: \$289

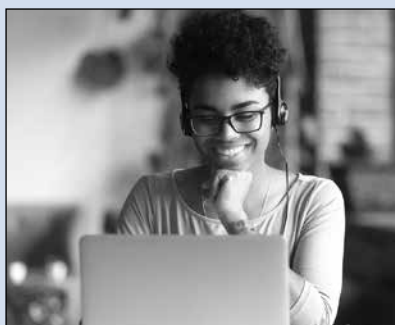
BOTH DAYS

One person: \$489

Team of 3+: \$469 per person when enrolled at the same time

Lunch break on your own • 11:50 am – 1:05 pm (A great time to network with colleagues!)

The Bureau of Education & Research is North America's leading presenter of training for professional educators. Our goal is to provide high-quality PD programs, based on sound research, with an emphasis on practical strategies and techniques that can be immediately implemented.



Can't Attend? Online Professional Development Options:



Related Online Course

A related On Demand Video-Based Online Learning course, *Timesaving Strategies to Integrate Your OT Interventions into Classrooms: Accelerate the Success of Your School-Based OT Practice*, for Grades P-12, is available for immediate registration. To enroll, visit www.ber.org/online

Day One

AFTERNOON SESSIONS • 1:05 pm – 3:35 pm

Choose **ONE** Full Afternoon Session OR **TWO** 70-Minute Sessions
One mid-afternoon break

Full Afternoon Session • 1:05 pm – 3:35 pm

B-1: From Co-Regulation to Self-Regulation: Using Brain Science to Improve Behavior and Increase Student Outcomes – *Greg Santucci*

Our students must be regulated before they can learn! We will discuss practical intervention strategies in light of current research and examine the difference between “misbehavior” and “stress behavior”. This course will explore a much-needed paradigm shift that you can employ to promote respect, empathy and relationship-based classroom management strategies instead of behavioral strategies that focus on compliance. This course will make you proud to be an OT and ready to go back and advocate for a new way of supporting students.

First 70-Minute Afternoon Sessions 1:05 pm – 2:15 pm

CHOOSE ONE: B-2 or B-3

B-2: Data-Driven Decision Making: Save Time and Increase Your Effectiveness

– *Cynthia Haynes*

Accuracy, frequency, rubrics, goal attainment scaling, student self-reflection – we measure efficacy and document student progress in so many ways. Do you have post-it notes and paper scraps everywhere? Do you sometimes shuffle through pages of notes trying to make sense of it all? Learn practical, time-efficient ways to set up your data collection system and to collect and analyze individual and group data. Save time while still generating the quantitative and qualitative information you and your educational team need to help maintain their progress and improve outcomes.

B-3: Highly Effective OT Strategies that Get Your Students Moving! – *Beverly Moskowitz*

What do Coke, Pepsi, Yabba Dabba Doo, Ah-Runs, Nose Writing and Wallet Check have in common? They are heavy work, midline crossing and vestibular activation exercises that playfully inject doable and satisfying movement breaks into the school day and during your online therapy sessions. Energize students, teachers and even yourself with fun and effective movement strategies. Get ready ... let's do them together!

Second 70-Minute Afternoon Sessions 2:25 pm – 3:35 pm

CHOOSE ONE: B-4 or B-5

B-4: Occupation-Based Assessment: Making the Most of So Many Choices!

– *Cynthia Haynes*

Have you been using the same Beery VMI, BOT-2 and PDMS for years? Do you wonder if there are any other assessment tools out there that might be more useful, time-efficient, and evidence-based that you should consider? Explore additional outstanding standardized and criterion referenced assessment tools you can use immediately. Find the right tool for the right job and expand your assessment repertoire.

B-5: Integrate OT Interventions Across the Curriculum and Accelerate the Success of Your School-Based or Online OT Practice – *Beverly Moskowitz*

Push in ... and then what? Learn how to save time by infusing OT sensibilities across all content areas and all settings, starting with your earliest learners ... or kids working at this level. Explore opportunities to promote fine motor, social skills and self-regulation during authentic grade level activities. Become more efficient and effective throughout your school week.



Online Learning

BER offers educators a wide range of online courses that are affordable, fun, fast, and convenient. BER is now offering On Demand Video-Based courses. You may earn optional graduate-level credits for most courses. See the catalog of available courses at www.ber.org/online

Day Two

MORNING SESSIONS • 8:30 am – 11:15 am

Choose **ONE** Full Morning Session OR **TWO** 75-Minute Sessions
One mid-morning break

Full Morning Session • 8:30 am – 11:15 am

C-1: Address Your Volume of Handwriting Referrals More Effectively – Beverly Moskowitz

Leave this session prepared to implement the Size Matters Handwriting Program, an evidence-based approach to handwriting that uses no additional materials at all. Explore key concepts along with strategies to use SMHP in a variety of settings including push-in collaboration, pullout therapeutic intervention, stand-alone curriculum, handwriting club, center time activity, and homework so your students can catch up on their writing skills.

First 75-Minute Morning Sessions 8:30 am – 9:45 am

CHOOSE ONE: C-2 or C-3

C-2: The Role of OTs in Trauma and Resilience for School-Aged Children – Cynthia Haynes

Children who have experienced trauma may also manifest challenges in both academic and non-academic areas of school performance. Our role as a school-based OT should include developing observational, interview and intervention skills that guide our interactions with the student and influence the school context. Learn about collaborative opportunities, assessments, and intervention strategies you can incorporate into your daily practice immediately.

C-3: The OT Evaluation: Painting a Picture of the Student Beyond the Test Scores – Greg Santucci

A good evaluation can accelerate student outcomes by identifying the root of the problem from day one. In this session you will discover and efficient, comprehensive way of evaluating many component areas that impact school function. Walk away with practical strategies to enhance your evaluations and goal writing.



Second 75-Minute Morning Sessions 10:00 am – 11:15 am

CHOOSE ONE: C-4 or C-5

C-4: Workload vs Caseload Model: Address Your Expanding Responsibilities – Cynthia Haynes

As school-based practitioners, we face expanding caseloads and increased responsibilities that may even extend to online services. There are not enough hours in the day to get everything accomplished! AOTA suggests using a workload model to calculate reasonable time allocations to address student needs. Learn how to collect important data that will help you decide if a workload model represents your current responsibilities. Receive ideas for moving to a workload model and ways to advocate for and support your students and yourself.

C-5: UnSEEN and OverLOOKED: How Vision Impacts Learning and OTs Role in Addressing Visual Deficits in School – Greg Santucci

A large part of learning happens visually, so it's important that we have a clear understanding of how children are seeing and perceiving information presented to them in school. There's more to vision than what's assessed during the nurses screening, and OTs are a valuable asset to the educational team to help identify underlying visual deficits. Explore the different aspects of vision, review a visual screening tool and discover practical strategies for improving functional vision skills.

Comprehensive Resource Handbook

You will receive an extensive digital resource handbook, specifically designed for this conference. Included in the handbook are resource materials for ALL conference sessions, even those you don't attend. These materials include:

- Numerous interventions you can use immediately
- Practical tools you can share with teachers
- Tools to help you work smarter, not harder

Registrants will also receive a printed copy of the resource handbook as long as their registration is received in the BER office at least 15 calendar days before the event.

“Excellent, knowledgeable instructors presenting on a variety of topics relevant to therapy in today's world.”

– Kalia Rabe, OT

On-Site Training

Conferences like this one along with many other topics can be brought to your school or district. Please view all of our On-Site PD options at www.ber.org/onsite or call 877-857-8964 to speak with an On-Site Training PD Consultant.



Lunch Break • 11:15 am – 12:30 pm • Lunch Break (on your own)

... “Many ideas that can be utilized immediately!” ...

Conference Locations & Hotel Accommodations



NEWARK is home to a variety of attractions including beautiful parks, and museums such as the Newark Museum and Thomas Edison's laboratory.

Conference Location and Overnight Accommodations:

The Wilshire Grand Hotel –
West Orange • (973) 731-7007

For reservations, please call the number above and mention you are attending this BER conference prior to November 12, 2021 to receive the special rate of \$159 (Single/Double) plus tax, rates subject to availability.



The greater **LONG ISLAND** area is home to an array of recreational, historical, and entertainment options, including Jones Beach State Park, Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, and Bethpage State Park.

Conference Location and Overnight Accommodations:

Holiday Inn – Holtsville
(631) 758-2900

Mention you are attending this BER conference to receive the special rate of \$109 (Single/Double), rates subject to availability.

Day Two

AFTERNOON SESSIONS • 12:30 pm - 3:10 pm

Choose **TWO** 75-Minute Afternoon Sessions • One mid-afternoon break

First 75-Minute Afternoon Sessions 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

CHOOSE ONE: D-1, D-2 or D-3

D-1: OTs: Make Best Use of Google Forms to Help Students Catch Up

– *Cynthia Haynes*

Outcome data is a key professional responsibility but how can we best make time for it along with all the other responsibilities we have? Explore how you can powerfully use Google Forms to easily collect data and represent it visually through graphs to help guide your practice. Gain valuable time and organization tips to help you work smarter, not harder, through the school year. Get hands-on practice using Google Forms throughout the session as you go deeper into this valuable Google Suite feature.

D-2: Make It/Take It: Promote Participation, Function, Motor Skills, Attention, Access, and Relaxation

– *Beverly Moskowitz*

This fun and highly engaging make it/take it session involves making effective tools you can teach students, teachers and colleagues to use. Learn how to leverage old-school crafts to promote new age results among your OT students at school or in your virtual program. The cost to bring these strategies to your schools? Pennies! The value? Priceless! Plus, effective mindfulness and relaxation breathing techniques included for FREE! PDFs of many activities are in the digital handbook, so print in advance, have your scissors handy, and be prepared for fun!

D-3: Increasing OTs Role In Helping Students with Challenging Behavior

– *Greg Santucci*

Behavior charts and taking away recess do not make durable improvements in behavior! Now, more than ever, there's a strong focus on "behavior" and trying to control it in our schools. OTs unique knowledge base allows us to understand "the why" behind the observable behavior. Learn key language and strategies necessary to warn a seat at the table when addressing challenging behaviors in school.

Second 75-Minute Afternoon Sessions 1:55 pm - 3:10 pm

CHOOSE ONE: D-4, D-5 or D-6

D-4: Integrating Strategies into the Classroom or Online Environment with Success! – *Cynthia Haynes*

Do you come into a classroom only to find your wobble cushions, grippers, easels, lined paper or spacing sticks in a closet, being used by another student, or lost and forgotten? Learn practical ways you can increase the successfulness of your classroom-based strategies, even in an online environment. Gain ideas for evaluating whether strategies are being used correctly and their overall impact on your students. Plus, see ways you can use this proactive approach to minimize OT referrals.

D-5: Need Ideas for Low-Incidence Populations? Ideas That Work In-Person or Online to Use and Share! – *Beverly Moskowitz*

Need ideas? Got ideas? Want to learn how to make, save, and send worksheets to teachers or parents to support practice of basic skills? In this interactive session you will learn how to convert raw ideas into professional, colorful, measurable, and best practice ones that can be used at school or virtually. Demos on how to customize worksheets using Pages or Word. Maximize your impact in Life Skills, multi-handicapped or other full-time learning support class addressing fine motor, self-care and functional writing.

D-6: Safety First! How to Embed Polyvagal Theory and Other Advances in Neuroscience Into Your Practice to Best Support Students – *Greg Santucci*

All OTs are knowledgeable about sensory processing, and "sensory" has gotten very popular in school. However, if a child doesn't feel safe, it's difficult to work on regulation skills and you must be regulated before you can fully participate in school. Advances in neuroscience, including the Polyvagal Theory, have validated the history of OT in mental health and our knowledge of how the brain works. This course will help put theory into practice and provide strategies to improve your outcomes and help students feel safe, regulated, and better able to participate.