Dr. Passarini firmly believes that GOOD teachers provide a continuum of learning opportunities that meet a wide variety of ability. In addition, good teachers model an attitude of tolerance and acceptance. They examine all environmental considerations before providing instruction, modified as needed; to meet each student’s specific needs. GREAT TEACHERS, however, make themselves available for success by being optimistic and by not being distracted by low energy people or situations. They have a strong inner conviction and focus on success. Great teachers have the curiosity and the courage to examine their student’s feelings and desires and connect learning opportunities to what is most important.
**Biography:** Dr. Passarini has been teaching 49 years. His experiences have been as an adapted physical educator in APE/Gen. PE/Health with Waltham Schools 1970-88; System Wide APE Specialist with Wayland Schools 1988-2004. He is presently is Adjunct Professor Salem State University teaching about adapted physical education and is an APE Specialist/Consultant with the Swampscott Public Schools. Dr. Passarini is a recipient of the 1999 MAHPERD Amelia Riou Adapted Physical Education Award; 2000 AAHPERD Adapted Physical Education National Teacher of the Year; 2001 Council for Exceptional Children: Going the Extra Mile Award and the 2003 Disney Most Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

9:40-10:40am  **BREAKOUT SESSIONS (choose one)**

**Session A**
**Tips and Tricks for High School APE/PE Programs**
This session will discuss the utilization of peer tutors/Para educators, programming, and transition planning for students ages 14-21 in High School APE/PE programs. Susan and Donna will share their expertise with this population and their combined experience of 80 years in the APE field. Although this session is geared to High School, it could easily be adapted to middle and elementary school.

**Speakers**
Susan Brophy, M.S., C.A.P.E. Retired Adapted PE Teacher, Chelsea Public Schools and Adjunct Professor, Bridgewater State University, MAHPERD 1997 Amelia Riou Award for APE Teacher of the Year and 2016 Joseph McKenney Award
Donna Mc Manus, M.Ed., Retired Adapted PE Teacher, Andover Public Schools and Intern Supervisor at Bridgewater State University, MAHPERD 2003 Amelia Riou Award for APE Teacher of the Year

**Session B**
**Create an Adapted Physical Education Toolbox!**
**Speaker**
Valerie Miners, Andover Public Schools; 2019 MAHPERD Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year

10:50-11:50  **BREAKOUT SESSIONS  (choose one)**

**Session A**
**Adapted Sports**
Come to an interactive session and have the opportunity to play a variety of wheelchair sports as well as Goal ball. Learn and or freshen up on the basic rules and regulations of adapted sport.

**Speaker**
Paul Welland, Chapter 126 in Hartford CT - Adapted Sports Programing
**Session B**

**APE with a Switch!**
In this session, you will learn about assistive technology and various devices that can be used to engage students with multiple disabilities in the PE setting. You will also have the opportunity to engage in some activities to experience using switches for yourself!

**Speakers**
Nicole McCoy, SHAPE Eastern District Adapted PE Teacher of the Year; Christina Portelli, Lancaster, PA School District & PSAHPERD Board Member as Adapted Activities Chair

11:50-12:45   **Lunch & Exhibits**  (Lunch: Included with Registration)

12:50-1:50pm  **BREAKOUT SESSIONS (choose one)**

**Session A**

**Alternative Achievement Standards**
Creating Achievement Standards for transition aged students (18 -22) based on Shape High School Standards and community options for recreation and leisure

**Speakers**
Vidavanh Xapilak, Talia Loda, Rachel Ball, and Amy Masciale: Graduate Students Springfield College

**Session B**

**Assessing Students**
Provide various tools in which to informally and formally perform assessments, data collection, and ways to incorporate the assessment and ongoing data into appropriate benchmarks and accommodations to increase an individual’s ability to independently access the general physical education curriculum

**Speaker**
Matthew Bernstein, Adapted Physical Educator- Brockton Public Schools

2:00-3:00pm  **BREAKOUT SESSIONS (choose one)**

**Session A**

**Changing the World is a Team Sport**
In this session, you will learn about Interscholastic Unified Sports and suggestions for starting or maintaining a program. Information will touch on not only the sports aspect, but the inclusive club and whole school engagement pieces as well.

**Speakers**
Nicole McCoy, SHAPE Eastern District Adapted PE Teacher of the Year; Christina Portelli, Lancaster, PA School District & PSAHPERD Board Member as Adapted Activities Chair

**Session B**

**Creating Effective Routines in APE and Aquatics**
Routines that engage your paraprofessional supports.

**Speaker**
Eric Chase, Adapted Physical Educator-Cambridge Public Schools
Session C

Never Give Up Spirit Mind Body Approach

In society, in schools and in various career paths an emphasis is often placed on the topic of disabilities. While disabilities are a realistic topic in our world today, many times we tend to highlight the negative details they entail. We often unknowingly respond to comments made or questions asked about disabilities as something that should not be discussed since controversy or sensitive feelings could potentially arise. While respect and privacy are important elements for an inclusive an environment to be created, more proactivity should be taken to allow current students, and future professionals to gain exposure as well as awareness of the amazing skills, strengths, and athletic abilities that people with different “unique abilities more commonly known as disabilities” possess.

Speaker
Louie Gomes-Graduate Student Springfield College/Motivational Speaker

3:00-3:10pm Closing: Evaluations/PDP’s

Guest Speakers

2019 SHAPE Eastern District Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year

Nicole McCoy
Nicole graduated from West Chester University where she majored in Health and PE and minored in Adapted PE and Health. She also received her Masters of Education in Special Education from WCU. She is in her 8th year teaching K-12 Adapted Physical Education as a C.A.P.E. certified teacher in the School District of Lancaster in Pennsylvania. She teaches students in Autistic Support, Life Skills Support, and Multiple Disability Support classrooms in both an inclusive and self-contained PE environment. She worked with her colleagues to develop and implement an Adapted Aquatics Program for all students in self-contained special education classrooms across the district. She also initiated bringing Interscholastic Unified Sports to her county and created a Unified Track and Field team at the high school for which she has been the head coach for three years. Along with the team, she advises an inclusive club to promote acceptance and a positive environment for all students. She received the PA State APE Teacher of the Year award in 2017, the Lancaster/Lebanon/Berks AHPERD APE Teacher of the Year award in 2018, and the SHAPE Eastern District APE Teacher of the Year award in 2019. She also serves on the APE Committees at both her local and state levels and has presented at various conventions, both locally and for her state association.

Adapted Physical Educator-Lancaster, PA School District & Assistant Coach, Unified Track & Field Team

Christina Portelli

Christina Portelli is in her 6th year teaching Adapted Physical Education in the School District of Lancaster. Christina teaches students K-12 in self-included and inclusive settings in her district that includes autistic support, life skills support, multiple disabilities and physical impairments. The Adapted PE department also created Adapted Aquatics in their school district and all students in special education have received four swim lessons for the past 5 years. She is also C.A.P.E. Certified. Christina graduated from West Chester University with a degree in Health and PE and a
minor in Adapted PE and is currently completing her masters of education from The Pennsylvania State University for Special Education with Autism Emphasis. She also has been the head coach for Girls Varsity soccer team for the past 4 years and is assistant coach to the Unified Track & Field Team for the past 3 years. Christina has presented at many PSAHPERD and Lancaster-Lebanon-Berks Conventions. Christina served on the executive board for PSAPERD for 3 years as the Adapted Activities Chair.

Paul Weiland

Certified Health and Physical Education teacher with a certification in Adapted Physical Education. He has vast experience in coaching wheelchair basketball both at the high school and collegiate levels. He was also a member of the 2008 Paralympic Wheelchair Basketball Selection Committee. He currently works at Chapter 126 in Hartford CT running adapted sports programing, group exercise classes, hosting family nights and organizing community outreach.