Effective Leadership Creates Success

Your Guide to AASA's National Conference on Education

Los Angeles, CA
February 14–16, 2019

Presented by
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Welcome to the AASA National Conference on Education in Los Angeles!
On behalf of AASA staff and members who have contributed to the organization of this year’s conference, I thank you for engaging and learning with your colleagues.

When Los Angeles was founded, its full name was El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora Reina de los Angeles sobre el Rio Porciuncula. I am thankful it was shortened. Whether you call it LA, City of Angels, The Big Orange or La La Land, this week the voices of educators will fill the city.

We are here to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing public education, our schools and our students. This annual event is an amazing opportunity for educational leaders from across the country to come together to learn from each other and dive into the critical issues that all of us face in our districts. You have the opportunity to hear from our General Session speakers, learn from education thought leaders, and engage with colleagues from across our great nation.

Whether you are attending for the first time or are a regular attendee, you will find outstanding options among the program offerings. Please take a careful look at the sessions to best plan your time while in Los Angeles. To maximize your experience, be sure to visit our partners in the NCE Marketplace.

Over the next few days, I hope you reunite with old friends and make some new ones. Be sure to follow the conference hashtag #NCE19 to get insight from across the conference. Engage with other leaders. Learn with and from one another. Take what you learn back to your district and lead with new knowledge and an expanded network of colleagues.

I am so glad you are here this week. Your leadership matters. I hope you take what you learn this week and can apply it in the context of your schools, district and community.

Sincerely,

Chris Gaines
President
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
Welcome to Los Angeles and the 2019 National Conference on Education.

I am pleased that you were able to make the journey to the City of Angels to join us as we hear the voices of our superintendents — the men and women whom I consider to be the foremost thought leaders in public education and the champions for the children they serve.

We are so blessed and truly appreciate when the CEOs of the teaching and learning industry gather under one roof to network with peers, share best practices and serve as “critical friends” to help one another succeed.

I truly believe that the superintendency is the toughest occupation in America. It’s not enough to be a good manager. You have to be a politician and a financial wizard. You have the daunting responsibility of keeping your children and staff safe in this environment of increasing violence. You have to close the achievement gap without all the necessary resources.

For generations, our conference has tapped into a variety of resources, addressing the most pressing issues in today’s education landscape. The rich conversations coupled with powerful learning experiences have yielded a number of key takeaways for our members to bring back to their districts for the benefit of their communities. With the theme “Effective Leadership Creates Success,” this year’s edition promises to be no different. Our sessions will focus on the following strands: Administration and Leadership, Professional Learning, School Environment, and Curriculum and Instruction.

Meanwhile, you will have ample opportunities to learn the latest social media tools at the popular Social Media Lounge. The lounge will provide you with the appropriate “how-to’s” so you can determine the best platforms to communicate with your key audiences.

From start to finish, you will be able to follow what’s happening at NCE’19 through Conference Daily Online. This award-winning online publication will provide wall-to-wall coverage to ensure that the leadership of our nation’s school districts are aware of the relevant information and insights available. Check out Conference Daily Online by accessing nce.aasa.org/conference-daily-online.

Please be sure to stop by the Knowledge Exchange Theater, located in the Exhibit Hall, where you can speak directly to other thought leaders on the topics that mean most to you. While in the Exhibit Hall, you can also visit with more than 200 companies committed to improving K–12 education.

Once again, thank you for joining us in Los Angeles. Thank you for the outstanding work you do on behalf of our children. If there is anything you need while you’re here, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Domenech
Executive Director
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Registration Hours ......................................................... 2 – 5PM
Bookstore Hours ............................................................... 2 – 5PM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Registration Hours ............................................................ 7AM – 4:15PM
Bookstore Hours .............................................................. 7AM – 7:30PM
Exhibit Hall Coffee Break .................................................... 7:45 – 9AM
Exhibit Hall Hours ............................................................. 7:45AM – 4PM
Educational Sessions ....................................................... 9 – 10AM
Thought Leader Sessions .................................................. 9 – 10AM
  • Featuring Blake Hammond, Dan Domenech, Nicholas Pelzer, Monica Goldson, Alvin Wilbanks and Brenda Turnbull
  • Featuring Robert Balfanz
Educational Sessions ....................................................... 10:15 – 11:15AM
Thought Leader Session .................................................. 10:15 – 11:15AM
  • Featuring David Berliner
Thought Leader Session .................................................. 10:15 – 11:45AM
  • Moderated by LaRuth Gray with Joylynn Pruitt-Adams
Federal Relations Luncheon .............................................. 12NOON – 1:30PM
  • Featuring Bruce Baker
Thought Leader Sessions .................................................. 12:45 – 1:45PM
  • Featuring Luvelle Brown, Linda Darling-Hammond and Gail Pletnick
  • Featuring Kim Marshall
Exhibit Hall Snack Break .................................................. 1:45 – 3PM
Educational Sessions ....................................................... 3 – 4PM
Opening General Session .................................................. 4:15 – 6:15PM
  • Featuring Susan Rice
Welcome Reception Honoring AASA Graduates .................. 6:30 – 7:30PM
AASA Graduation Ceremony ............................................ 7:30PM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

**Registration Hours** ................................................................. 7:30AM – 5PM

**Bookstore Hours** ................................................................. 7:30AM – 5PM

**Educational Sessions** .......................................................... 8 – 9AM

**Job Central** ........................................................................... 8AM – 3PM

**Second General Session** ....................................................... 9 – 11AM
  • Featuring Bill Daggett

**Blessings in a Backpack Stuffing** ............................................. 11AM – 12NOON

**Exhibit Hall Hours** ............................................................... 11AM – 2:30PM

**Educational Sessions** .......................................................... 11:15AM – 12:15PM

**Dr. Effie H. Jones Memorial Luncheon** .................................. 12:15 – 2:15PM
  • Featuring Charles H. F. Davis, III

**Educational Sessions** .......................................................... 12:45 – 1:45PM
  • Featuring Julia Keleher
  • Featuring Christopher Williams, Jacqueline O. Wilson, Jill Baker, Kelly Ann and Max Silverman

**Exhibit Hall Snack Break** ....................................................... 1:45 – 2:15PM

**Thought Leader Sessions** ..................................................... 2:30 – 3:30PM
  • Featuring Trish Rubin
  • Featuring Dan Domenech and Tom Gentzel

**Educational Sessions** .......................................................... 3:45 – 4:45PM

**Thought Leader Session** ....................................................... 3:45 – 5:15PM
  • Featuring Jay Matthews
  • Featuring Rosa Atkins, Janet Robinson, Valeria Silva and Steve Herrington
  • Moderated by David Schonfeld

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

**Registration Hours** ............................................................. 7:30AM – 12NOON

**Bookstore Hours** ................................................................. 7:30AM – 12NOON

**Educational Sessions** .......................................................... 8 – 9AM

**Educational Sessions** .......................................................... 9:15 – 10:15AM

**Closing General Session** ..................................................... 10:30AM – 12NOON
  • Featuring Jim Abbott
Horace Mann is an insurance and financial services company that is committed to helping educators achieve financial success. It helps identify existing resources and savings opportunities to fund financial goals. By reducing or eliminating student loan debt, securing classroom funding and finding savings through insurance program reviews, it works to maximize educators’ hard-earned dollars and help develop a path to a successful financial future.

Naviance by Hobsons is a comprehensive college and career readiness solution that helps middle and high school students identify their strengths, explore careers, create individualized academic plans and match to best-fit post-secondary institutions.

The roles of school leaders are changing. They face competition for students’ enrollment, teacher recruitment and public trust. Apptegy works with school administrators across the country to create a powerful identity by building technology that makes it easy to establish your brand across web, mobile, social media and alerts. Its goal is to help your school thrive in a competitive K–12 market.

Aramark (NYSE: ARMK) proudly serves Fortune 500 companies, world champion sports teams, state-of-the-art healthcare providers, the world’s leading educational institutions, iconic destinations and cultural attractions, and numerous municipalities in 19 countries around the world. Its 270,000 team members deliver experiences that enrich and nourish millions of lives every day through innovative services in food, facilities management and uniforms. It operates its business with social responsibility, focusing on initiatives that support its diverse workforce, advance consumer health and wellness, protect the environment and strengthen its communities. Aramark is recognized as one of the World’s Most Admired Companies by FORTUNE, as well as an employer of choice by the Human Rights Campaign and DiversityInc.
BetterLesson is the leader in personalized professional development. It provides high-quality coaching that helps educators shift instructional practice to create learner-centered classrooms. Coaching is supported by proven instructional strategies and an iterative, learn-by-doing methodology that supports their implementation — in a way that is personalized to the needs of your teachers and students. With BetterLesson, teachers get the competencies, resources and motivation required to prepare students for a rapidly-changing world.

GoGuardian has changed the way K–12 schools maximize the learning potential of every student. Its SaaS products help educators identify learning patterns, protect students from harmful and distracting content, and support students who are at risk of self-harm. With GoGuardian, educators can easily engage students with more effective resources and communication. No other tool provides such actionable insight into student needs. As the only solution built exclusively by, for and with educators, it’s easy to see why 10,000 schools and 120,000 educators choose GoGuardian to engage with and protect more than 5 million students. Learn more about GoGuardian’s industry-defining learning analytics, student engagement and self-harm prevention products at www.goguardian.com.

As the leading food and support services company, Compass Group North America is a family of companies building one-of-a-kind experiences for all of its customers. Compass Group is extremely proud of its placement on Fortune Magazine’s Global 500 and Top 50 Change the World List; being designated as one of Forbes’ Most Diverse Companies, and also its current No. 1 position on Fast Company’s list of “Top 10 Most Innovative Companies in Food.” As part of this family, SSC and Chartwells bring unmatched expertise to the education industry. SSC partners to provide quality integrated facilities services, including custodial, maintenance and grounds, and Chartwells serves delicious food to more than 2 million students annually in hundreds of school districts and college campuses nationwide. Each is a powerful solution on its own, but together they maximize budgets and ensure a safer, cleaner and healthier environment. This collective commitment to student success and well-being allows its partners to focus on their core objective: educating our future.

MyOptions™ is the nation’s largest FREE college and career planning program. Through specialized platforms, such as myCollegeOptions® and myScholarshipOptions™, valuable resources are available to millions of students, their parents and educators nationwide. MyOptions strives to empower students with critical post-secondary planning information that helps them make educated decisions about their future goals. Beyond its work with students and families, the myOptions team builds dynamic relationships with schools, school districts and education partners. Its mentor platform provides educators with interactive dashboards, progress monitoring reports and a post-secondary checklist that helps educators best serve their students.

Newsela is an Instructional Content Platform that combines engaging, leveled content with integrated formative assessments and insights to supercharge engagement and learning in every subject. Students and teachers use Newsela to find digital content from hundreds of the best sources — from National Geographic to NASA, Biography.com to Encyclopedia Britannica, the Washington Post to the Wichita Eagle. Content is instructionalized to meet students where they are, with interactive tools and analytics to take them where they want to go. Newsela has become an essential solution for schools and districts, with a presence in over 90% of U.S. K–12 schools. Newsela is the content platform for the connected classroom.

Panorama Education partners with schools and districts to collect and analyze data about social-emotional learning, school climate, family engagement and more. With research-backed surveys and a leading technology platform, Panorama helps educators act on data and improve student outcomes. It has supported more than 5 million students in 6,500 schools across 40 states, including those in the New York City Department of Education, Dallas Independent School District, Seattle Public Schools and San Francisco Unified School District.

Right At School offers school districts headache-free before- and afterschool care at no cost to schools. It provides safe and meaningful programs to enrich the lives of students, give parents peace of mind, and enable districts and schools to focus on their academic mission.
JOIN TWITTER-SAVVY SUPERINTENDENTS IN THE SOCIAL MEDIA LOUNGE!

There’s always a lot to celebrate at AASA’s National Conference on Education, but we hope you will take some time to join us in celebrating the 5th Anniversary of the Social Media Lounge! Year after year, AASA staff has worked with Twitter-savvy superintendents to bring the Social Media Lounge to life inside the NCE Marketplace. We host insightful sessions, make time for hands-on training and provide a tech-forward space for education leaders to share tips and tricks, snap selfies and create relationships that will last far beyond the conference. Check out the official schedule to learn how you can get involved!
**ACTIVITIES START THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14**
The Social Media Lounge is open during NCE Marketplace Hours. In addition, there are various sessions taking place around the conference:

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14**
- **9 – 10AM | Breakout Session | Room 511C**
  To Respond or Not to Respond: Modeling Positive Social Media Use in the Age of Trolls, Spam and Hate
- **11:30AM – 12:30PM | Knowledge Exchange Theater**
  Five Key Digital Engagement Trends for School Districts in 2019
- **1 – 2PM | Social Media Lounge**
  Office hours with David A. DeSchryver, Director, Whiteboard Advisors (@ddeschryver @whitebdadvisor), on school expenditure fiscal transparency — the sleeper issue of 2019 and beyond. You’ve got questions, he’s got answers.
- **2 – 3PM | Social Media Lounge**
  Happy Hour and Live Tweet Chat

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15**
- **11:30AM – 12:30PM | Knowledge Exchange Theater**
  Getting Your School Board on Board with Social Media
- **12:30 – 1:30PM | Social Media Lounge**
  Meet and Greet with NCE Thought Leader Trish Rubin, Marketing Instructor and Marketing Brand Consultant, Baruch College, CUNY/Trish Rubin Ltd.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16**
- **8 – 9AM | JW Marriott, Gold 3**
  **AASA Readership/Social Media Focus Group**
  All are welcome to attend a special focus group breakfast with AASA leadership, Social Media Lounge hosts and participants, and *School Administrator* magazine staff. We want to hear how we can help you achieve your social media goals and make you a more connected leader. We also hope you bring your ideas, thoughts and suggestions for how AASA can improve and better serve you. A light breakfast will be served and attendees will receive a small participation gift.
Proud to partner with AASA to boost student success

NJPA is now Sourcewell—your government source for cooperative contracts.

Visit Sourcewell-mn.gov
To learn how we can support your professional learning and networking needs visit http://www.aasa.org/Leadership-and-Professional-Development/
The School of the Future strives to provide superintendents with a futuristic approach to all aspects of education: Methodology & Curriculum and Technology. The School of the Future encourages new, out-of-the-box ways of thinking that allow students to reach their full potential with the products provided and showcased during the AASA National Conference on Education. School of the Future sessions take place in the NCE Exhibit Hall.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

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<tr>
<td>8 – 8:30AM</td>
<td><strong>YouthTruth Student Survey</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Non-Academic Measures Matter: Improving Engagement, Climate and SEL</strong></td>
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<td>Join Superintendent Kathleen Smith (Brockton, MA) and Superintendent Brian Shumate (Medford, OR) for a conversation about non-academic measures that matter, including engagement and connection.</td>
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<td>8:30 – 9AM</td>
<td><strong>Measured Progress</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Connecting What Matters: School Quality and Student Outcomes</strong></td>
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<td>How can you increase academic achievement? Pay more attention to school quality. Come learn how the AdvancED Continuous Improvement Network provides a comprehensive system with personalized professional services and a suite of research-based tools to improve teaching and learning.</td>
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<td>11:30AM – 12NOON</td>
<td><strong>Investorspace XYZ</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Four Most Important Factors When Designing a High School Makerspace</strong></td>
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<td>What real-world skills do students need to learn? Join investorspace XYZ’s experienced engineers and step through equipment, interior design and hands-on curriculum for the School of the Future.</td>
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<td>12NOON – 12:30PM</td>
<td><strong>K12 Insight</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Crisis Ready vs. Crisis Laden</strong></td>
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<td>The best school crisis is the one that never starts. Dr. David Blaiklock shares a solution — and why it might already exist in your schools.</td>
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<td>2 – 2:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Go365 Humana</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wellness is Contagious! Empowering Teachers as Community Role Models</strong></td>
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<td>It’s no secret that educators’ well-being may take a back seat to a myriad of other responsibilities. Learn how teachers can inspire a wellness revolution within their classrooms and beyond.</td>
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<td>2:30 – 3PM</td>
<td><strong>Ed Leadership SIMS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ELS Simulations — Engaging and Meaningful Leadership PD that Works</strong></td>
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<td>“The principal’s job (is) both the most important in a school building and the loneliest, and the stress it places on individuals is illustrated by its rapid turnover rates...” (EdWeek). Ed SIMS are an engaging way to build resilience, team and decision-making capacity to better prepare aspiring and sitting admins.</td>
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**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

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<td>2 – 2:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Milestone C</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Shaping Future STEM Leaders</strong></td>
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<td>Declining innovative motivation is an enduring problem in corporate America. Milestone C closes the loop between industry professionals and educators to address the root cause.</td>
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AASA’s Discover China Program

Summer Professional Development Program for K-12 Educators since 2014
An opportunity for American educators to network with Chinese educators during a 12-day program

Learn more at Room 506, 10:15–11:15 am, Thursday, Feb 14, 2019

“I learned so much about present Chinese education and their plans for the future. The combination of visiting schools, meeting with education officials, traveling to historical locations, and enjoying the company of fellow education leaders made this trip perfect. My only regret is that I did not participate in an experience like this earlier!”
Tom Edington, superintendent, Wawasee Community School Corporation, Syracuse, Ind.

Please contact Tara at tgao@aasa.org or 571.721.9585
AASA INTERNET STATION

Located on the floor of the Exhibit Hall

Stay connected with your office and family while you are away at the AASA Internet Station.

AASA SOCIAL MEDIA LOUNGE

Located on the floor of the Exhibit Hall

Be sure to stop by the AASA Social Media Lounge. It’s the go-to place for on-the-spot, hands-on assistance with Twitter, Facebook, Voxer, Periscope and so much more. See pages 8–9 for more information.

AWARDS

AASA award and scholarship programs recognize excellence, profile best practices in public education, and honor leaders from inside and outside the field of school administration whose contributions have made a significant impact on the lives and learning of children. See pages 18–28 for the winners of this year’s awards.

BADGES

Please wear your conference name badge at all times while in the Los Angeles Convention Center. Room monitors and security personnel have been instructed to deny entry to those without a badge. If your badge is incorrect or has been misplaced, visit the Badge Corrections and Reprints Counter in the AASA Registration Area, West Hall Lobby.

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK STUFFING

Exhibit Hall Floor, Booth 249

Friday, February 15 .......................... 11AM – 12NOON

Approximately 13 million children struggle with hunger on a regular basis. AASA and Sourcewell are proud to partner with Blessings in a Backpack (BIB) during the 2019 National Conference on Education to help provide food on weekends for elementary students who qualify for their schools’ free and reduced-price meal program. We will be stuffing bags on the Exhibit Hall floor Booth 249 to be donated to a local LA school. Please come volunteer!

AASA APP

Stay connected with the official AASA app, powered by Blackboard. Blackboard solutions support school safety, community engagement and personalized learning.

Sponsored by Blackboard

AASA BOOKSTORE

Be sure to stop at the Bookstore to peruse the latest education-related titles. The Bookstore can be found in the West Hall Lobby across from registration.

Sponsored by Sourcewell

The Bookstore is open the following hours and hosts the following book signings:

**Wednesday, February 13** .................................. 2 – 5PM

**Thursday, February 14** .................................. 7AM – 7:30PM

**Friday, February 15** .................................. 7:30AM – 5PM

**Saturday, February 16** .................................. 7:30AM – 12NOON

BOOK-SIGNING SCHEDULE

**Thursday, February 14 | 11:30AM – 12NOON**

David Berliner, *50 Myths and Lies That Threaten America’s Public Schools: The Real Crisis in Education*

**Thursday, February 14 | 1:45 – 2:15PM**

Bruce Baker, *Educational Inequality and School Finance: Why Money Matters for America’s Students*

**Thursday, February 14 | 2:15 – 2:45PM**

Luvelle Brown, *Culture of Love: Cultivating a Positive and Transformational Organizational Cultures*

**Thursday, February 14 | 4:15 – 4:45PM**

Denver Fowler, *The 21st-Century School Leader: Leading Schools in Today’s World*

**Friday, February 15 | 11:15 – 11:45AM**


**Friday, February 15 | 3:45 – 4:15PM**

Trish Rubin, *BrandED: Tell Your Story, Build Relationships and Empower Learning*

**Friday, February 15 | 3:45 – 4:15PM**

Trish Rubin, Bernardine Futrell and Brian Creasman, *ConnectED Leaders: Network and Amplify Your Superintendency*
BUSINESS CENTER
Thursday, February 14 8AM – 5PM
Friday, February 15 8AM – 5PM
Saturday, February 16 8AM – 5PM

A full-service business center is located inside the Los Angeles Convention Center in the concourse between the West and South Halls.

CONFERENCE BAGS

Each registered attendee is allowed one conference bag. Bags can be picked up at the Materials Pick-Up Counter in the AASA Registration Area, West Hall Lobby, Los Angeles Convention Center.

CONFERENCE DAILY ONLINE

AASA provides daily coverage of key speakers, topical sessions and award presentations, along with photos from the conference, Twitter feed, video clips and conference blog with daily postings from several AASA members. An e-newsletter is distributed daily and the AASA website is updated with conference news throughout the three days at nce.aasa.org/conference-daily-online.

DR. EFFIE H. JONES MEMORIAL LUNCHEON ($70)

Room 515A, Los Angeles Convention Center
Friday, February 15 12:15 – 2:15 PM

To purchase a ticket for this lunch, see the Onsite/Assisted Registration Counter in the AASA Registration Area, West Hall Lobby, Los Angeles Convention Center. Onsite tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to sellout. See page 62 for details.

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EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

Choose from more than 100 Educational Sessions, Thought Leader Sessions and General Sessions. See session descriptions for more details about speakers. All sessions take place at the Los Angeles Convention Center unless otherwise noted.

EXHIBIT HALL

MAKING THE JOB OF SCHOOL SYSTEM LEADERS EASIER

Exhibit Hall A, Los Angeles Convention Center
Thursday, February 14 7:45AM – 4PM
Friday February 15 11AM – 2:30PM

Your schedules are full and your budgets are tight but your job still requires you to address your day-to-day school system needs. As the ultimate decision maker, you owe it to yourself to seek out the abundant resources available within the Exhibit Hall. Not a sales pitch, it is an avenue to invigorate your perspective on what is possible, what is new and cutting edge, and what can be applied or retooled to fit your unique K–12 community.

FEDERAL RELATIONS LUNCHEON ($70)

Room 515A, Los Angeles Convention Center
Thursday, February 14 12NOON – 1:30PM

To purchase a ticket for this lunch, see the Onsite/Assisted Registration Counter in the AASA Registration Area, West Hall Lobby, Los Angeles Convention Center. Onsite tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to sellout. See page 45 for details.

Sponsored by

FIRST AID

If you have a medical emergency, please pick up the nearest house phone to be connected with the facility’s operator. If you are in need of non-emergency assistance, a first aid station is located in Room 509, Los Angeles Convention Center.

FOOD SERVICE

A variety of food stations are available in the Exhibit Hall, Hall A, Los Angeles Convention Center.

GENERAL SESSIONS

General Session speakers are selected to help you take your leadership to new heights so you can move your district and community forward. All General Sessions take place at the Los Angeles Convention Center, Hall B.

Thursday, February 14 4:15 – 6:15PM

A DISCUSSION WITH SUSAN RICE AND DAN DOMENECH

Susan Rice, Former United States National Security Advisor and Ambassador to the United Nations, Washington, DC
GENERAL SESSIONS CONT.

Friday, February 15 | 9 – 11AM
RE-ENVISIONING LEARNING: ADDRESSING THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS
Bill Daggett, Ed.D., Founder and Chairman, International Center for Leadership in Education, Rexford, NY

Saturday, February 16 | 10:30AM – 12NOON
ADAPT: OVERCOMING ADVERSITY
Jim Abbott, Former Professional Baseball Player, Claremont, CA

HOTEL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL CONFERENCE HOTELS

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL
JW MARRIOTT HOTEL LOS ANGELES AT L.A. LIVE
900 West Olympic Boulevard | Los Angeles, CA 90015
(213) 765-8600

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT LOS ANGELES DOWNTOWN L.A. LIVE
901 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90015
(213) 443-9222

HOTEL INDIGO LOS ANGELES DOWNTOWN
899 Francisco Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 232-8800

INTERCONTINENTAL LOS ANGELES DOWNTOWN
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 688-7777

LUXE CITY CENTER HOTEL
1020 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015
(213) 748-1291

MILLENIUM BILTMORE HOTEL
506 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90071
(213) 624-1000

RESIDENCE INN LOS ANGELES DOWNTOWN L.A. LIVE
901 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90015
(213) 443-9200

SHERATON GRAND LOS ANGELES
711 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 488-3500

WESTIN BONAVENTURE HOTEL
404 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071
(213) 624-1000

HOUSING

A representative from AASA Housing is available to answer questions about hotels and reservations during registration hours at the Housing Desk in the AASA Registration Area, West Hall Lobby, Los Angeles Convention Center. This representative can help you locate friends and colleagues who made their reservations through AASA’s housing service.

JOB CENTRAL

SEARCH FIRMS AND STATE ASSOCIATIONS

Job Central provides efficient opportunities for state school board associations and potential job seekers to share information about opportunities within specific states and about the characteristics boards are seeking in candidates. The Job Fair is open Friday, February 15, 8AM – 3PM. Search firms and state associations can be found at Job Central, Room 503, Los Angeles Convention Center. Job Central also has its own Focus Zone for Educational Sessions on topics such as career planning, interview skills and contract negotiations.

BWP & ASSOCIATES

Mark Friedman, President
(708) 361-4997 | friedman.markr@gmail.com
Debra Hill, Managing Director
(847) 204-0462 | drmomaka29@gmail.com

ECRA/HYA

Therese Meyer, Director of Operations
(847) 318-0072 | theresemeyer@ecragroup.com
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HAZARD, YOUNG, ATTEA

Glenn “Max” McGee, President
(847) 444-5674 | maxmgee@hyasearch.com

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

Tom Leahy, Executive Searches IASB
(217) 299-5820 | tleahy@iasb.com
Jim Helton, Executive Searches
(217) 299-5820 | jhelton@iasb.com
Al Molby, Executive Searches IASB
(217) 299-5820 | amolby@iasb.com

J.G. CONSULTING

James Guerra, President and CEO
(214) 934-5537 | james@jgconsulting.us

KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Janice Lantz, Superintendent Selection Services
(502) 249-2022 | jan@kasa.org
PROGRAM CHANGES

AASA will post any program changes to the Conference Daily Online website at nce.aasa.org/conference-daily-online.

REGISTRATION

West Hall Lobby, Los Angeles Convention Center

Wednesday, February 13 .......................... 2 – 5PM
Thursday, February 14 ............................ 7AM – 4:15PM
Friday, February 15 ............................... 7:30AM – 5PM
Saturday, February 16 ............................. 7:30AM – 12NOON

SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE

NCE Exhibit Hall, Los Angeles Convention Center

The School of the Future strives to provide superintendents with a futuristic approach to education. It showcases products that allow students to reach their full potential in each of the designated areas: Methodology & Curriculum and Technology. Be sure to check the schedule of programming on pages 12–13.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

HOTELS WITH SHUTTLE SERVICE:

ROUTE A
Intercontinental & Sheraton Grand

ROUTE B
Westin Bonaventure & Millennium Biltmore

Shuttles run during the following days and times:

Thursday, February 14 ........................ 7 – 9AM & 6:45 – 8:30PM
Friday, February 15 ............................ 7 – 9AM & 4 – 5:30PM
Saturday, February 16 .......................... 7 – 9AM & 11:45AM – 12:30PM

All shuttles arrive at and depart from Gilbert Lindsey Plaza at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Share your experiences at the National Conference on Education on Twitter! Add this to your tweet: NCE19. Also, be sure to check out pages 8–9 of the program book for a complete listing of all of AASA’s social media coverage and options at the conference.

AASA’s official photographer Lifetouch.

As the official photographer for AASA, Lifetouch is sharing the images captured during NCE. You will find the images at http://bit.ly/LTNCE19. Please feel free to download (no need to log on or purchase) and share with family, friends and school district leaders and on social media. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Dehn at (952) 826-4559 or hdehn@lifetouch.com.

LOST AND FOUND

Turn in any items you may find at the AASA Information Kiosk, located in the AASA Registration Area.

MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS

See the index on page 117 to see which state associations and organizations are hosting events at the conference.

PHOTOGRAPHY

PRINTING PROVIDED BY LIFETOUCH FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR MAGAZINE.

AASA's official photographer Lifetouch.
AASA AWARDS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

4:15 – 6:15PM OPENING GENERAL SESSION

NATIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR® AWARD

The National Superintendent of the Year® Program has enabled Americans to recognize and honor U.S. superintendents for the contributions they make every day advocating for public education, our nation’s children and our country’s future. Now in its 31st year, the National Superintendent of the Year® Program, co-sponsored by First Student, Inc., VALIC and AASA, celebrates the leadership of these outstanding public school superintendents. One of the four finalists will be named National Superintendent of the Year® and will represent colleagues and the profession over the next 12 months.

Sponsored by

First Student
VALIC

JEFF BUTTS
Superintendent, Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, Indianapolis, IN
Currently: Superintendent, Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, January 2011 – Present
Academic Degrees: Purdue University, Doctor of Philosophy, Education Leadership; Illinois State University, M.S., Educational Administration; Millikin University, Bachelor of Science, Education

Over the past 26 years, Jeff Butts has held positions as a bus driver, coach, teacher, athletic director, principal, assistant superintendent and now superintendent. He became the fifth superintendent in the history of the M.S.D. of Wayne Township on January 1, 2011. Recent honors include the Ed Tech Digital Trailblazer Award from Indiana CoSN, Administrator of the Year from the Indiana High School Press Association and the Indiana Council for Exceptional Children Advocate of the Year. Butts has also served as president for the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents, board chair with the Hendricks Regional Health (HRH) YMCA, president of the Indiana Partnershare and president for the Indiana Urban Schools Association (IUSA). He was selected to serve on the transition team for Jennifer McCormick, Indiana superintendent of public instruction, and remains active on several advisory committees with the Indiana Department of Education.
CURTIS JONES, JR.
Superintendent, Bibb County School District, Macon, GA
Currently: Superintendent, Bibb County School District, April 2015 – Present
Academic Degrees: Nova Southeastern University, Ph.D. – Educational Leadership; Lincoln Memorial University, Specialist of Education; Command and General Staff College, Master’s of Military Arts and Sciences; Albany State College, Master’s of Business Administration; United States Military Academy at West Point, Bachelor of Science

Dr. Curtis L. Jones, Jr., a passionate educator dedicated to developing students as scholars, leaders and good citizens, joined the Bibb County School District in April 2015. Using his classroom and administrative experiences, Dr. Jones developed the Bibb County School District’s strategic plan, “Victory in Our Schools.” The strategic plan has five goal areas: increasing student achievement, increasing student and stakeholder engagement, increasing teacher and leader effectiveness, being a liable organization, and learning and growth. This plan drives the district’s continuous improvement efforts through shared accountability for all stakeholders and resource alignment.

MARY ANN RANELLS
Superintendent, West Ada Joint School District 2, Meridian, ID
Currently: Superintendent, West Ada Joint School District 2, December 2016 – Present
Academic Degrees: University of Idaho, Ph.D.; University of Idaho, Ed. Specialist; College of Idaho, M.Ed.; Idaho State University, Bachelor of Arts

Mary Ann Ranells has served in numerous roles in public education. With 45 years of experience, she has been a teacher, elementary principal, and has been the director of curriculum, assessment, special education, Title I and other federal programs. Ranells served as the deputy superintendent for the state of Idaho and led the Lakeland Joint School District as superintendent for six years. Currently, she serves as the superintendent for the West Ada School District. She has also been an adjunct professor and grant writer and has served in numerous leadership roles for state and national organizations.

BRIAN WOODS
Superintendent of Schools, Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, TX
Currently: Superintendent, Northside Independent School District, 2012 – Present
Academic Degrees: The University of Texas at San Antonio, Ed.D., Education Leadership and Policy Studies; The University of Texas at San Antonio, M.A., Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; The University of Texas at Austin, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

Brian Woods began his career in Northside in 1992 as a social studies teacher at Marshall High School. Woods then helped open O’Connor High School as an assistant principal. Woods also serves as vice president of the Texas Association of School Administrators and is a past chair of the regional advisory executive committee for Education Service Center, Region 20. He is a member of the Go Public Steering Committee, the Board of P16Plus Council of Greater Bexar County and the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. He also serves as president of the Board of Texas Academic Decathlon and is a member of the Superintendents Advisory Board of the Principals’ Institute, the steering committee for Fast Growth School Coalition, the Superintendent’s Advisory Council for the Holdsworth Center.
AASA DR. EFFIE H. JONES HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award honors the memory of Effie H. Jones, a school administrator, teacher, counselor, organizer of the Office of Minority Affairs at AASA, and a champion of women and minorities in educational leadership. Equity and opportunity were the hallmark of her life’s work, and closing the academic, health and social gap between children who have and those who don’t was one of the cardinal intents of her rigorous efforts to increase the number of women and minority school system leaders. Because of her vision and commitment, AASA’s focus on equity, on superintendent pipeline issues, and on vulnerable children and youth is sharp and unrelenting.

Presenter: Charles H.F. Davis, III, Assistant Professor of Clinical Education, Director of Research, and Chief Strategy Officer of the University of Southern California (USC) Race and Equity Center

The Dr. Effie H. Jones Memorial Luncheon is Friday, February 15, 12:15 – 2:15PM.
Tickets are required and can be purchased at Registration for $70.

Sponsored by

THE 2019 RECIPIENTS ARE:

WANDA COOK-ROBINSON
Superintendent, Oakland Schools, Waterford, MI

Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson has devoted over 30 years in education to creating a culture of mentorship. She recognizes that becoming the first African-American woman in several educational leadership positions throughout her career were made possible through the support she received from others; and so, she “pays it forward” by promoting, developing and supporting the women and minorities around her. She does this both in her position as superintendent and as an outspoken member in organizations such as the Michigan Education Justice Coalition and the Oakland County Employment Diversity Council. In 1992, she co-founded and continues to serve on the board of the Minority Women’s Network, which supports women and minorities across the country to return to school, and helps them through the doctoral degree process. Dr. Cook-Robinson has lead Oakland County Schools as superintendent since 2015. In this role, she supports the academic achievement of the 207,000 students in Oakland County’s 28 public school districts, public school academies and non-public schools. She holds a Ph.D. in Instructional Technology and an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership from Wayne State University, a Master’s Degree in Curriculum Development and Supervision from the University of Michigan, and a Bachelor of Arts in Special Education from Michigan State University.
TRACI DAVIS  
Superintendent, Washoe County School District (WCSD), Reno, NV

Traci Davis’ educational leadership has resulted in dramatic increases in academic proficiency rates for special education students and students of color both while principal of Clark County from 2004 to 2011, and now as superintendent of WCSD. She was appointed to her current role as superintendent in 2014 after serving as deputy superintendent for two years. Davis established an Equity Task Force where 15 members provide input in the development, implementation, and monitoring of board policies and programs that directly impact diverse groups in the district. The changes she has made in pursuit of equity have improved services, access, and outcomes for students and families. Her advocacy on behalf of all Nevada children provided powerful support for historic statewide education legislation passed during the state legislative sessions of 2015 and 2017. The 2015 legislation included increased resources for students with disabilities, English Language Learners (ELL) and at-risk students, required data collection by race and ethnicity, and permitted superintendents to deviate from discipline policy so they could create alternatives to out of school suspension. The 2017 legislation included the elimination of private school vouchers and provided additional funding for both low income, ELL and at-risk students, and to attract teachers to Title 1 and underperforming schools. Under her leadership, WCSD was among the first in the nation to adopt board policies and regulation in support of transgender students and was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for its pioneering work in this area. Davis is a graduate of the AASA/Howard University Urban Superintendents Academy inaugural cohort. She received certification as an Educational Specialist from Nova Southeastern University with a focus on school administration; a master’s degree in educational technology from Lesley University; and a bachelor’s degree in education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

KARL V. HERTZ  
Retired Superintendent, Mequon-Thiensville School District (WI) and 1997–1998 AASA President

As an educational and civic leader, Karl Hertz has been a staunch advocate for social justice and equity his entire life. For 12 years, he was superintendent of the Mequon-Thiensville School District, where he led the charge in 1988 to compassionately and respectfully desegregate suburban school districts in Wisconsin. This program was known as Chapter 220 and provided a pathway for urban students to attend schools in the suburbs and for suburban students to attend schools in Milwaukee. As a result, many urban and underserved students, as well as suburban students, had expanded opportunities to broaden their knowledge and experience. He hired Dr. Demond Means, the first African-American high school teacher in Mequon-Thiensville school district, and went on to mentor him to become one of three African-American superintendents in Wisconsin at the time. He is a champion of women in the superintendency, always providing sage advice during the hard times and through the pitfalls of school leadership. Among those he has mentored are three female superintendents who led or will lead AASA as president of the association. From 1997–1998, Dr. Hertz served as president of AASA where, through his writing, speaking and his actions, he thoughtfully and deliberately laid out a roadmap for addressing the challenges and creating a school system that served.

AASA’s School Administrator magazine is always willing to consider outside contributions for various sections each month. Find author submission guidelines at www.aasa.org/AuthorGuidelineMagazine.aspx. Questions may be sent to the editor at magazine@aasa.org.
The highest-performing state-level, Canadian and Association for the Advancement of International Education winners are also honored.

ALABAMA | William Wilkes, Phenix City Board of Education
ALASKA | Karen Gaborik, Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
ARIZONA | Howard Carlson, Wickenburg Unified School District 9
ARKANSAS | Shawn Cook, Lakeside School District 9
CALIFORNIA | Mary McNeil, Needles Unified School District
COLORADO | Rico Munn, Aurora Public Schools
CONNECTICUT | Alan Addley, Granby Public Schools
DELAWARE | Matthew Burrows, Appoquinimink School District
FLORIDA | Malcolm Thomas, Escambia
GEORGIA | Curtis Jones, Bibb County School District
IDAHO | Mary Ann Ranells, West Ada Joint School District 2
ILLINOIS | Gary Kelly, DuQuoin Community Unit School District 300
INDIANA | Jeff Butts, Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township
IOWA | Susie Meade, Winterset Community Schools
KANSAS | Glen Suppes, USD 400 — Smoky Valley Public Schools
KENTUCKY | Emmanuel Caulk, Fayette County Public Schools
LOUISIANA | Theodis Goree, Caddo Parish Public Schools
MAINE | John McDonald, RSU 13
MARYLAND | John Gaddis, Somerset County Public Schools
MASSACHUSETTS | Eric Conti, Burlington Public Schools
MICHIGAN | Glenn Maleyko, Dearborn Public Schools
MINNESOTA | Jay Haugen, Farmington Area Public Schools
MISSISSIPPI | Tony Cook, Houston School District
MISSOURI | Jeremy Tucker, Liberty 53 School District
MONTANA | Rob Watson, Bozeman School District 7
NEBRASKA | Michael Teahon, Gothenburg Public Schools
NEVADA | Dale Norton, Nye County School District
NEW HAMPSHIRE | Lorraine Tacconi-Moore, SAU 24
NEW JERSEY | Michael Salvatore, Long Branch Public Schools
NEW MEXICO | Ricky Williams, Hagerman Municipal Schools
NEW YORK | Jason Andrews, Windsor Central School District
NORTH CAROLINA | Patrick Miller, Greene County Schools
NORTH DAKOTA | Paula Suda, Hillsboro School District
OHIO | Kevin Miller, Ottawa Hills Local Schools
OKLAHOMA | Sean McDaniel, Mustang Public Schools
OREGON | Timothy Sweeney, Coquille School District 8
PENNSYLVANIA | Gennaro Piraino, Franklin Regional School District
RHODE ISLAND | Philip Auger, North Kingstown School Department
SOUTH CAROLINA | Harrison Goodwin, Chesterfield County School District
SOUTH DAKOTA | Kelly Gledt, Pierre Public Schools
TENNESSEE | Linda Gilbert, Murfreesboro City Schools
TEXAS | Brian Woods, Northside Independent School District
UTAH | Jerre Holmes, North Summit
VERMONT | John Alberghini, Chittenden East Supervisory Union
VIRGINIA | Jared Cotton, Chesapeake Public Schools (Formerly Superintendent for Henry County Public Schools)
WASHINGTON | Michael Nelson, Enumclaw School District
WEST VIRGINIA | Gary Price, Marion County Board of Education
WISCONSIN | Aaron Sadoff, The School District of North Fond du Lac
WYOMING | Raymond Schulte, Park County School District #6
CANADA | David Keohane, Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools
INTERNATIONAL | Rose C. Puffer, International School of Islamabad, Pakistan
AASA, The School Superintendents Association, First Student and VALIC take great pleasure in announcing the 2019 National Superintendent of the Year® Finalists.

The Four Finalists for the 2019 National Superintendent of the Year® are:

Jeff Butts, Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, Indianapolis, Indiana
Curtis Jones Jr., Bibb County School District, Macon, Georgia
Mary Ann Ranells, West Ada Joint School District #2, Meridian, Idaho
Brian Woods, Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, Texas

2019 State Superintendents of the Year Winners

ALABAMA
William Wilkes
Phenix City Board of Education

ALASKA
Karen Gaborik
Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

ARIZONA
Howard Carlson
Wickenburg Unified School District #9

ARKANSAS
Shawn Cook
Lakeside School District #9

CALIFORNIA
Mary McNeil
Needles Unified School District

COLORADO
Rico Munn
Aurora Public Schools

CONNECTICUT
Alan Addley
Granby Public Schools

DELAWARE
Matthew Burrows
Appoquinimink School District

FLORIDA
Malcolm Thomas
Escambia County Schools

GEORGIA
Curtis Jones
Bibb County School District

IDAHO
Mary Ann Ranells
West Ada Joint School District #2

ILLINOIS
Gary Kelly
DuQuoin Community Unit School District #300

INDIANA
Jeff Butts
Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township

IOWA
Susan Meade
Winterset Community Schools

KANSAS
Glen Suppes
USD #400 - Smoky Valley Public Schools

KENTUCKY
Emmanuel Cauk
Fayette County Public Schools

LOUISIANA
Theodis Goree
Caddo Parish Public Schools

MAINE
John McDonald
RSU 13

MARYLAND
John Goddis
Somerset County Public Schools

MASSACHUSETTS
Eric Conti
Burlington Public Schools

MICHIGAN
Glenn Maleyko
Dearborn Public Schools

MINNESOTA
Jay Haugen
Farmington Area Public Schools

MISSISSIPPI
Tony Cook
Houston School District

MISSOURI
Jeremy Tucker
Liberty S3 School District

MONTANA
Rob Watson
Bozeman School District #7

NEBRASKA
Michael Teahon
Gothenburg Public Schools

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Lorraine Tacconi-Moore
SAU 24

NEW JERSEY
Michael Salvatore
Long Branch Public Schools

NEW MEXICO
Ricky Williams
Hagerman Municipal Schools

NEW YORK
Jason Andrews
Windsor Central School District

NEVADA
Dale Norton
Nye County School District

NORTH CAROLINA
Patrick Miller
Greene County Schools

NORTH DAKOTA
Paula Suda
Hillsboro School District

OHIO
Kevin Miller
Ottawa Hills Local Schools

OKLAHOMA
Sean McDaniel
Mustang Public Schools

OREGON
Timothy Sweeney
Coquille School District #8

Pennsylvania
Gennaro Piraino
Franklin Regional School District

RHODE ISLAND
Philip Auger
North Kingstown School Department

SOUTH CAROLINA
Harrison Goodwin
Chesterfield County School District

SOUTH DAKOTA
Kelly Glodt
Pierre Public Schools

TENNESSEE
Linda Gilbert
Murfreesboro City Schools

TEXAS
Brian Woods
Northside Independent School District

VERMONT
John Alberghini
Chittenden East Supervisory Union

VIRGINIA
Jared Cotton
Henry County Public Schools

WASHINGTON
Gary Price
Enumclaw School District

WEST VIRGINIA
Gary Price
Marion County Board of Education

WISCONSIN
Aaron Sadoff
The School District of North Fond du Lac

WYOMING
Raymond Schulte
Park County School District No. 6

CANADA
David Keohane
Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR: INTERNATIONAL WINNER
Rose Puffer
International School of Islamabad, Pakistan

AASA, First Student K-12 Education, and VALIC stand together to salute our nation’s outstanding contributors to public education. Our heartfelt thanks for your dedication, talent, and ability to make education more accessible and more meaningful to America’s students. First Student and VALIC thank our partner, AASA, for their unfailing support, leadership, and commitment to the Superintendent of the Year Program.
Women in School Leadership Award

The Women in School Leadership Award, sponsored by Horace Mann and AASA, pays tribute to the talent, creativity and vision of outstanding women educational administrators in the nation’s public schools. Any female superintendent, assistant superintendent, aspiring superintendent, central-office director, school principal or classroom teacher in the United States who plans to continue in the profession may apply. The award program is designed to recognize the exceptional leadership of active, front-line women in school leadership who are making a difference in the lives of students every day. One Women in School Leadership Award will be given in each category.

Sponsored by

The 2019 Finalists in the Central Office/Principal Category Are:

Marie Izquierdo | Chief Academic Officer, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami, FL
Marie Izquierdo is a career educator with more than 25 years of experience in school reform. She is the chief academic officer for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the nation’s fourth-largest school system, which serves more than 350,000 students and employs 53,000 teachers and staff.

Tanzy Kilcrease | Associate Superintendent, Bibb County School District, Macon, GA
Tanzy Kilcrease is a 25-year educator who serves as the assistant superintendent of teaching and learning for the Bibb County School District. Her love for children inspires her work in education. In fact, she left the field of journalism in order to return to school and realize her true calling in education.

The 2019 Finalists in the Superintendent Category Are:

Wanda Cook-Robinson | Superintendent, Oakland Schools, Waterford, MI
Wanda Cook-Robinson is a lifelong educator. She is an instructional architect who creates educational environments where all children can reach their optimum potential. In July 2015, she assumed the position of superintendent of Oakland County Schools. In this role, she has added her years of educational experience and vast leadership skills to support the academic achievement of the 207,000 students in Oakland County’s 28 public school districts, public school academies (charter schools) and non-public schools.

Courtney Orzel | Superintendent, Lemont-Bromberek Combined School District 113A, Lemont, IL
Courtney Orzel currently serves as superintendent of schools for Lemont-Bromberek School District 113A. She has served in public education for 20 years. This is her fifth year as superintendent in Lemont 113A. She formerly served as a middle school principal, assistant principal, and middle school and high school teacher.

Betsy Webb | Superintendent, Bangor School Department, Bangor, ME
Betsy Webb is a passionate, committed educator who believes all children are capable of learning at high levels and the key to their success is acceleration. She began as a teacher in 1983 and has held a variety of educational positions spanning all levels. She has been the superintendent in Bangor since 2008, where her leadership has resulted in increased academic achievement and development of a 10-year strategic plan emphasizing academic excellence, professional excellence, quality instructional program and an environment for success.
AASA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

AASA honors exceptional educational leaders as well as the immediate past president of the association with the Distinguished Service Award. These educational leaders are recognized by AASA for bringing honor to themselves, their colleagues and their profession; rendering exemplary service to their state or national professional association; and contributing to the education field through writing, public advocacy or other activities.

THE 2019 RECIPIENTS ARE:

DWIGHT D. JONES
Dwight Jones serves as Senior Vice President of Equity, Inclusion & Urban Markets at McGraw-Hill Education. In this role, he works with leading national, regional and local associations and organizations to find new ways to partner together to address the needs of administrators, teachers and students in some of the largest and most academically diverse U.S. school districts. Most recently, Jones served as the superintendent of Clark County School District in Las Vegas, NV. During his tenure there, he initiated a school reform agenda designed to raise the academic bar and ensure all the district’s 315,000 students were prepared for college and career. His other past positions include: Colorado Commissioner of Education, Superintendent at Fountain-Fort Carson School District Eight, Fountain, CO; Operational Vice President at Edison Learning, Knoxville, TN; and Assistant Superintendent at Wichita Public Schools, Wichita, KS. Before taking on those roles, Jones held several positions as an elementary, middle and high school principal and as an elementary and middle school teacher. He is a father of three and resides with his wife, Jenifer, in Colorado Springs, CO.

GAIL PLETNICK
Gail Pletnick is an educational innovator with a demonstrated history of success. She is a Past President of AASA, the School Superintendents Association, and a recently retired public school superintendent. Dr. Pletnick is skilled in personalized and digital transformation, strategic planning and educational reform. She currently serves as AASA Co-chair of the Personalized Learning Cohort, a mentor for the Aspiring Superintendent Academy and lead superintendent faculty for the AASA/NAESP Aspiring Principals program. Dr. Pletnick’s experiences include serving as an Assistant Superintendent, Director of School Accountability, Principal, plus teaching at the pre-school through higher education levels. The Alliance for Excellent Education recognized Dr. Pletnick’s work to build a culture of transformation. She was accepted into the League of Innovative Schools and served as Chair of the EdLeader21 Advisory Committee. She was named as 2016 Arizona Superintendent of the Year and an Education Week’s 2014 Leader to Learn From. Dr. Pletnick has presented at several conferences, including NSBA, AASA, Global Education Research Association, Education Week Leaders To Learn From and Learning Forward, and she is actively involved in several educational initiatives tied to school innovation. She earned her Ed.D. from Temple University in Administration and Policy Studies.
AASA EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
The AASA Educational Administration Scholarship was created in 1949 to provide incentives, recognition and financial assistance to outstanding graduate students in school administration who intend to make the school superintendency a career. AASA selects recipients on the basis of their experience and excellence in school administration, personal essays and recommendations from university faculty. Each recipient receives a $2,500 scholarship given in honor of AASA’s former executive directors: Sherwood D. Shankland, Worth McClure, Finis E. Engleman, Forrest E. Connor, Paul B. Salmon, Richard D. Miller and Paul D. Houston.

THE 2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ARE:
TERRY DADE | Fairfax County Public Schools
MIT LEE FOLEY | Saginaw Public School District
OSCAR ROMANO | YES Prep Public Schools

VH1 SAVE THE MUSIC
This award for distinguished support of music education is sponsored by the VH1 Save The Music Foundation in collaboration with AASA. The award is given to a superintendent or chief executive officer who is committed to ensuring that music education is part of the core curriculum in all schools in his or her school district.

THE 2019 RECIPIENT IS:
FRANCISCO ESCOBEDO
Superintendent
Chula Vista Elementary School District
Chula Vista, CA
AASA School Solutions Center companies help schools save money, raise money and improve student performance.

Please contact Tara at tgao@aasa.org or 571.721.9585

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Albert Risk delivers independent risk mitigation, intelligence and financial advisory solutions.
CrisisGO, emergency communications tools for schools.
CitizenAID, empowering school communities to save lives.
National Fire Adjustment (NFA), ensure the district is utilizing all areas of insurance policy when losses occur.

Save Money

Diamond Assets, premier Apple hardware trade-up services.
E-Rate Advantage, Full service E-Rate consulting services.
Gotzoom, student loan relief and forgiveness for district employees.
UPS, shipping, freight, logistics, and supply

Curriculum and Innovation

JASON Learning, STEM education through exploration.
Renaissance Learning, assessment and personalized practice solutions.
Triway International Group, bridging china and the world
Wonder Media Story Maker®, cultivates intentional writing.

Leadership/Professional Development

ECRA Group, leadership, planning and analytic solutions.
Infinity Systems, uses Orgametrics™ tool to help school districts identify and improve organizational alignment.
International Through Leader Network (ITLN), “Provider of The Happiness Advantage | Orange Frog Workshop”
National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET), advancing educator effectiveness.
Quantum Learning, transformative, school-wide professional development.
AASA ACKNOWLEDGES AND EXPRESSES SINCERE APPRECIATION TO OUR AWARD SPONSORS:

- **NATIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR® AWARD**
  - First Student
  - VALIC®

- **DR. EFFIE H. JONES HUMANITARIAN AWARD**
  - McGraw Hill Education

- **WOMEN IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AWARD**
  - Horace Mann

- **VH1 SAVE THE MUSIC AWARD**
  - VH1 Save The Music Foundation
2019 AASA/SOURCEWELL HELPING KIDS MINI GRANT

Since 2012, Sourcewell (formerly NJPA) and AASA have been working together to support the Helping Kids Program, providing mini grants that have helped kids in urgent need. The mini grants have been used for everything from boots and coats to dental care and temporary housing stipends.

The majority of the 2019 grant went to help school districts recover from hurricane-ravaged areas in the southeastern portion of the U.S. as well as the California fires. The school districts include:

- **Newman-Crows Landing Unified School District**
  - Newman, CA
  - Superintendent: Randy Fillpot
- **Franklin County School District**
  - Eastpoint, FL
  - Superintendent: Traci Moses
- **Baker County K12 School**
  - Newton, GA
  - Superintendent: Roy G. Brooks
- **Calhoun County School District**
  - Morgan, GA
  - Superintendent: Shereca R. Harvey
- **Miller County Schools**
  - Colquitt, GA
  - Superintendent: James Phillips
- **Terrell County Schools**
  - Dawson, GA
  - Superintendent: Robert D. Aaron
- **Thomas County School District**
  - Thomasville, GA
  - Superintendent: Lisa Williams
- **East Peoria Community High School District 309**
  - East Peoria, IL
  - Superintendent: Marjorie Greuter
- **Indian Prairie School District 204**
  - Aurora, IL
  - Superintendent: Karen Sullivan
- **Crooksville Exempted Village School District**
  - Crooksville, OH
  - Superintendent: Matthew L. Sheridan
- **Bristol Township School District**
  - Levittown, PA
  - Superintendent: Melanie Gehrens
- **Bucks County Intermediate Unit 22**
  - Doylestown, PA
  - Superintendent: Mark Hoffman
- **Centennial School District**
  - Warminster, PA
  - Superintendent: David E Baugh
- **Intermediate District 287**
  - Plymouth, MN
  - Superintendent: Sandra Lewandowski
- **Rockwood School District**
  - Eureka, MO
  - Superintendent: Eric D. Knost
- **Guilford County Schools**
  - Greensboro, NC
  - Superintendent: Sharon Contreras
- **Pender County Schools**
  - Burgaw, NC
  - Superintendent: Steven Hill
- **Nashua School District**
  - Nashua, NH
  - Superintendent: Jahmal Mosley
- **Gouverneur Central School District**
  - Gouverneur, NY
  - Superintendent: Lauren French
- **Galena Park Independent School District**
  - Houston, TX
  - Superintendent: Angi M. Williams
- **Vancouver Public Schools**
  - Vancouver, WA
  - Superintendent: Steven T. Webb
- **Cadott Community Schools**
  - Cadott, WI
  - Superintendent: Jenny Starck

We are donating the remaining $13,000 to help California’s Butte County and more specifically Paradise Unified School District through the North Valley Community Foundation, https://www.nvcf.org/. The funding will go to the Butte County Schools Fire Relief Fund. The Butte County Office of Education created the Schools Fire Relief Fund to provide a one-stop location where individuals or organizations could provide support directly to schools in Butte County.
AASA NATIONAL SUPERINTENDENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM® sharpens the skills that successful superintendents identify as essential for leading in today’s complex and challenging education environment. The certification program offers three regional cohorts: East — Virginia; Midwest — Illinois; and West — California.

WEST 2019 GRADUATES:
Krin Abraham | Superintendent | Houston Independent School District 294, Houston, MN
Giovanni Annoos | Superintendent | Upper Lake Union School District, Upper Lake, CA
Benjamin Barton | Superintendent | Princeton Public School District 477, Princeton, MN
Doug Brubaker | Superintendent | Fort Smith School District, Fort Smith, AR
Amy J. Carter | Superintendent | Meridian Public School District, Meridian, MS
Heather Davis-Schmidt | Superintendent | Whitefish School District 44, Whitefish, MT
Lisa Floyd | Deputy Director, Education | Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, Richmond, VA
Karen Gaborik | Superintendent | Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, Fairbanks, AK
Brian Harvey | Superintendent | Oxford School District, Oxford, MS
Kyle Heath | Superintendent | Cleburne Independent School District, Cleburne, TX
Suzzette Hesser | Superintendent | Hoopeston Area Community Unit School District 11, Hoopeston, IL
Louis E. Laffitte, Jr. | Superintendent | Salt River/Pima/Maricopa, Laveen, AZ
Donna S. Leak | Superintendent | Sauk Village School District 168, Sauk Village, IL
Mark E. Marshall | Superintendent | Los Banos Unified School District, Los Banos, CA
Paul A. Penna | Superintendent | SAD 6, Buxton, ME
Craig Skaluba | Superintendent | Muncy School District, Muncy, PA
Daniel Streeter | Superintendent | Humboldt Unified School District 22, Prescott Valley, AZ

If you are interested in reviewing two new books during the coming year for School Administrator magazine, please let the editor know at magazine@aasa.org. Anyone who is a current member of AASA is eligible.
The ASPIRING SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY® is a highly interactive year-long program that provides the real-world skills our next generation of superintendents will need to thrive.

**MIDWEST 2018 GRADUATES:**

Yousef Awwad | Former Interim Superintendent | Portland Public School District, Portland, OR  
Laurie Barron | Superintendent | Evergreen School District, Kalispell, MT  
Paul Blanford | Retired Superintendent | Elmwood School District, Elmwood, WI  
Robert Breidenstein | Superintendent | Salamanca City Central School District, Salamanca, NY  
Xandra Brooks-Keys | Former Superintendent | Coahoma County School District, Clarksdale, MS  
Curtis Cain | Superintendent | Wentzville School District, Wentzville, MO  
Sean Dusek | Superintendent | Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, Soldotna, AK  
Annette Freiheit | Superintendent | Pine City Public Schools, Pine City, MN  
Brian Hartwell | District Superintendent | Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES, Auburn, NY  
Nicholas Henkle | Superintendent | Channahon 17, Channahon, IL  
Eugene Kotulka | Superintendent | Alleghany County Public Schools, Low Moor, VA  
Crystal LeRoy | Superintendent/Chief School Business Official | Kenilworth School District 38, Kenilworth, IL  
Delesicia Martin | Superintendent | Hinds County School District, Raymond, MS  
Daniel Moore | Superintendent | Banta Elementary School District, Tracy, CA  
Bhavna Sharma-Lewis | Superintendent | Diamond Lake District 76, Bartlett, IL  
Wade Shipman | Superintendent | Tallassee City Schools, Tallassee, AL  
Bilal Tawwab | Former Superintendent | Flint Community Schools, Flint, MI  
Rachel Udstuen | Superintendent | Spring Grove School District, Spring Grove, MN  
Brad Voehringer | Superintendent | Morton Grove School District 70, Morton Grove, IL

**ASPIRING SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY®**

The ASPIRING SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY® is a highly interactive year-long program that provides the real-world skills our next generation of superintendents will need to thrive.

Mack Bullard | Director of Strategic Talent Management | Griffin-Spalding County School System, Griffin, GA  
John DiPaula | Principal, Hammond High School | Howard County Public Schools, Ellicott City, MD  
Andrea Hensley | Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction | Cleburne Independent School District, Mansfield, TX  
Benjamin Hodge | Assistant Superintendent | Avon Local School District, Avon, OH  
Dawn Linden | Executive Director of Elementary Education | Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI  
Emily Lipe | Superintendent | Davidson County Schools, Lexington, NC  
Kelly Murray | K–12 Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction | Radnor Township School District, Wayne, PA  
Pierrette Peters | Principal | Alexandria City Public Schools, Alexandria, VA  
Tina Plummer | Assistant Superintendent | Pattonville School District R3, Saint Ann, MO  
Daniel Powell | Assistant Superintendent | North Pocono School District, Moscow, PA  
Marc Schaffer | Superintendent | Thompson School District, Loveland, CO  
Billy Snow | Superintendent | Cedar Hill Independent School District, Cedar Hill, TX  
Donna Thomas | Assistant Superintendent for HR | Hoke County Schools, West End, NC
THE URBAN SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY is a cross-institutional partnership that offers a dynamic approach to urban superintendent preparation and certification. AASA has launched distinct partnerships with Howard University and the University of Southern California to bolster the effectiveness of school district leadership in our nation’s urban areas.

AASA/HOWARD UNIVERSITY URBAN SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY COHORT GRADUATES:

Morcease J. Beasley | Superintendent | Clayton County Public Schools, Jonesboro, GA
Dana Bogle | Lead Principal | District of Columbia Public Schools, Bowie, MD
Yolanda M. Cargile | Superintendent | Hickman Mills C-1 School District, Kansas City, MO
Michael T. Conner | Superintendent | Middletown Public Schools, Middletown, CT
Derrick Lamarr Dunlap | Principal | Rochdale Early Advantage School, New Rochelle, NY
Anthony Edison, Sr. | Superintendent | Posen-Robbins School District 143-5, Posen, IL
Benjamin Edmondson | Executive Vice President | High Scope Educational Research Foundation, Ypsilanti, MI
Kelvin Edwards, Sr. | Deputy Superintendent | Franklin City School District, Franklin, VA
LeTrecia Gloster | Director of Learning | District of Columbia Public Schools, Franklin, TN
Bernice Gregory | Chief, Human Capital Management Officer | Dekalb County, Dekalb, GA
James L. Henderson | Superintendent | Holmes County Consolidated School District, Ellicott City, MD
Patrick Jean-Pierre | Deputy Assistant Director | Diversity and Inclusion, Delmar, NY
Felicia Jones | Director, Education Programs | Martha’s Table, Washington, DC
Heather Lamb | Academic Coordinator | Virginia Beach City Public School District, Virginia Beach, VA
Anthony Lewis | Superintendent | Lawrence Public Schools, Lawrence, KS
Brandon Martin | Coordinator, Career and Technology Education | Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Virginia Beach, VA
Nicole McDowell | Director, Alternative Learning | Racine Unified School District, Racine, WI
Terry Nelson | Director, Curriculum and Instruction | Hancock County School District, Martinez, GA
Veronica Diane Perkins | Chief Academic Officer | Little Rock School District, North Little Rock, AR
Mini’imah Shaheed | Chief Schools Officer | KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools, Decatur, GA
Keith Simmons | Chief of Staff | Bibb County School District, Macon, GA
Darrin Slade | Assistant Superintendent — School Leadership | Kansas City Public Schools, Kansas City, KS
Tommy T. Welch | Principal | Meadowcreek High Schools, Norcross, GA
Stacey M. Wilson-Norman | Deputy Superintendent | Durham Public Schools, Durham, NC
AASA/USC URBAN SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY COHORT GRADUATES:
Jeanette Chien | Assistant Superintendent | San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego, CA
Roxane Fuentes | Superintendent | Berryessa Union School District, San Jose, CA
Rupak M. Gandhi | Superintendent | Fargo Public Schools, Fargo, ND
Antoine Hawkins | Deputy Superintendent | Bassett Unified School District, La Puente, CA
Kimberly Mackey | Executive Director of Elementary Education | Allentown School District, Allentown, PA
Bryan McGraw | Superintendent | North Pocono School District, Moscow, PA
Shawnterra Moore | Superintendent | South San Francisco Unified School District, South San Francisco, CA
David Parker | Superintendent | Forest Grove School District, Forest Grove, OR
C. Michael Robinson, Jr. | Consultant | Strategic Achievement, LLC, Thibodaux, LA
Andrew Schwab | Associate Superintendent, Learning and Innovation | Union School District, San Jose, CA
Jeffery T. Studebaker | Superintendent | Madison Consolidated Schools, Madison, IN
Robert Valles | Associate Superintendent, Human Resources | Oxnard Union High School District, Oxnard, CA
### Thursday Conference Sessions-at-a-Glance

#### THURSDAY CONFERENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 – 9 AM</td>
<td>Shuttle Service Available</td>
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<tr>
<td>7AM – 4:15PM</td>
<td>Registration Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>7AM – 7:30PM</td>
<td>Bookstore Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45 – 9 AM</td>
<td>NCE Exhibit Hall Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45AM – 4PM</td>
<td>NCE Exhibit Hall Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 – 8:30AM</td>
<td><strong>SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: YOUTHTRUTH STUDENT SURVEY</strong>&lt;br&gt;NCE EXHIBIT HALL&lt;br&gt;Non-Academic Measures Matter: Improving Engagement, Climate and SEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9 AM</td>
<td><strong>SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: MEASURED PROGRESS</strong>&lt;br&gt;NCE EXHIBIT HALL&lt;br&gt;Connecting What Matters: School Quality and Student Outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 – 10 AM</td>
<td>Roundtable Sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thought Leader**<br>ROOM 502A<br>Building Sustainable Principal Pipelines<br>**Thought Leader**<br>ROOM 501C<br>Becoming an Anti-Racist Multicultural Organization (ARMCO): Leading with Racial Equity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>502A</td>
<td>Federal Funding to Address School Safety and Mental Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>506</td>
<td>Improving Culture Through Improved Leadership Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501C</td>
<td>Preparing Life-Ready Students: Expanding the Definition of College and Career Readiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>513</td>
<td>Stealing Marketing Strategies from the Private Sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>504</td>
<td>The Next Generation of Superintendents: The Millennials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special Contracts Session**<br>ROOM 511A

**Roundtable Sessions**<br>See page 85 for details

**Thought Leader**<br>KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER<br>Myths About Standardized Testing and Their Relationship to School and Teacher Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>501A</td>
<td>Promoting Equity by Promoting School Attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501C</td>
<td>Gender Equity in Educational Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>505</td>
<td>Protect Your Network, Protect Your Budget: How Pairing Cybersecurity and Cyber Insurance Can Keep Your Finances on Track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>511B</td>
<td>Actionable Measures of Rigor, Relevance and Relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>512</td>
<td>Harlem and El Barrio: Building School–Community Partnerships and Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>507</td>
<td>The Killing Epidemic: How to Move from Tragedy to Action to Overcome the Opioid Crisis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>510</td>
<td>How to Take That Book Inside Your Head and Get It Published</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bookstore Hours

- **WEST HALL LOBBY**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST EXHIBIT HALL**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST HALL LOBBY**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST EXHIBIT HALL**: 7AM – 7:30PM

### Registration Hours

- **WEST HALL LOBBY**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST EXHIBIT HALL**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST HALL LOBBY**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST EXHIBIT HALL**: 7AM – 7:30PM

### NCE Exhibit Hall Hours

- **WEST HALL LOBBY**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST EXHIBIT HALL**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST HALL LOBBY**: 7AM – 7:30PM
- **WEST EXHIBIT HALL**: 7AM – 7:30PM
### SESSIONS-AT-A-GLANCE

**ROOM 514**
Restructuring the Playbook: A Blueprint for Maximizing the Impact of Coaching

**ROOM 506**
When Worlds Connect: An Exchange of Cultures and Best Practices in Education with Discover China

**ROOM 504**
Superintendent Stress! Got It?

**ROOM 511C**
AASA/JASON District Model

**10:15 – 11:45AM**

**THOUGHT LEADER | ROOM 502A**
Special Film Screening and Conversation “America to Me”: Examining Education, Equity and Race

**11:30AM – 12NOON**

**ROOM 506**
When Worlds Connect: An Exchange of Cultures and Best Practices in Education with Discover China

**11:30AM – 12:30PM**

**KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER**
Five Key Digital Engagement Trends for School Districts in 2019

**12NOON – 1:30PM**

**ROOM 515A**
Federal Relations Luncheon

**12NOON – 1:30PM**

**ROOM 502A**
Sobol Lecture — Public Schools for Tomorrow: Where Should We Be Headed and How Do We Get There?

**1:45 – 3PM**

**SNACKS IN THE FUTURE: K12 INSIGHT | NCE EXHIBIT HALL**
Wellness Is Contagious! Empowering Teachers as Community Role Models

**1:45 – 3PM**

**ROOM 504**
AASA/JASON’s Experience for Districts

**3 – 4PM**

**Roundtable Sessions | See page 88 for details**

**ROOM 511A**
Join, Connect and Grow with the AASA Urban Superintendents Academy

**ROOM 511C**
Embracing Personalized Learning: Lessons from AASA Personalized Learning Cohort Superintendents

**ROOM 510**
ESSA Fiscal Transparency: How to Communicate About Money

**ROOM 501B**
Getting Students to Graduation: What’s Working in Three California Districts

**ROOM 514**
Five Things High School Education Leaders Need to Know About College

**ROOM 506**
AASA/JASON’s Experience for Districts

**ROOM 501C**
Cooperative Purchasing and Employee Benefits

**4:15 – 6:15PM**

**Opening General Session | WEST HALL B**

**6:30 – 7:30PM**

**Welcome Reception Honoring AASA Graduates | WEST HALL LOBBY**

**7:30PM**

**AASA Graduation Ceremony | ROOM 502A**

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**FOCUS ZONES**

- Administration and Leadership
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Professional Learning
- School Environment
7 – 9AM
Shuttle Service Available

7AM – 4:15PM
Registration Hours | WEST HALL LOBBY

7AM – 7:30PM
Bookstore Hours | WEST HALL LOBBY

7:45 – 9AM
NCE Exhibit Hall Coffee Break | WEST EXHIBIT HALL A

7:45AM – 4PM
NCE Exhibit Hall Hours | WEST EXHIBIT HALL A

8 – 8:30AM
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: YOUTHTRUTH STUDENT SURVEY
NCE EXHIBIT HALL
NON-ACADEMIC MEASURES MATTER: IMPROVING ENGAGEMENT, CLIMATE AND SEL
Join Superintendent Kathleen Smith (Brockton, MA) and Superintendent Brian Shumate (Medford, OR) for a conversation about non-academic measures that matter, including engagement and connection.

8:30 – 9AM
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: MEASURED PROGRESS
NCE EXHIBIT HALL
CONNECTING WHAT MATTERS: SCHOOL QUALITY AND STUDENT OUTCOMES
How can you increase academic achievement? Pay more attention to school quality. Come learn how the AdvancED Continuous Improvement Network provides a comprehensive system with personalized professional services and a suite of research-based tools to improve teaching and learning.

9 – 10AM
Roundtable Sessions | See page 82 for details

THOUGHT LEADER
ROOM 502A
BUILDING SUSTAINABLE PRINCIPAL PIPELINES
Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Research shows that school leadership is second only to teaching among school-related factors in its impact on student learning. With this in mind, how can districts ensure that all schools benefit from effective leadership? In 2011, The Wallace Foundation launched the six-year, $85 million Principal Pipeline Initiative (PPI) to learn whether building pipelines of effective school principals can help districts retain leaders, improve school climate and influence student outcomes. Join representatives from PPI districts and researchers from Policy Studies Associates to discuss findings from a new report that looks at the sustainability of these pipelines, and learn more about how you can develop, train and build a principal workforce to sustain your district with high-quality leaders.

Presenters:
Dan Domenech (Moderator), Executive Director, AASA, Alexandria, VA
Monica Goldson, Interim CEO, Prince Georges County Public Schools, MD
Blake Hammond, Principal, Denver Public Schools, Denver, CO
Nicholas Pelzer, Program Officer, The Wallace Foundation, New York, NY
Brenda Turnbull, Policy Studies Associates, Washington, DC
Alvin Wilbanks, Superintendent, Gwinnett County Public Schools, GA

THOUGHT LEADER
KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER
REDESIGNING HIGH SCHOOLS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
Focus Zone: Professional Learning
This Thought Leader presentation examines how what has been learned about high school improvement during the past 20 years, along with recent findings from the learning and improvement sciences, can be used to design high schools that meet the 21st-century goal of graduating all students prepared for post-secondary schooling and providing them with a pathway to adult success.

Presenter:
Robert Balfanz, Everyone Graduates Center, School of Education, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
ROOM 507
RETHINKING SCHOOL SAFETY AND SUCCESSFULLY LEVERAGING COMMUNITY EXPERTS FOR CHANGE

Focus Zone: School Environment
Although schools are statistically among the safest places for children, recent acts of violence have put school security under the microscope. As educators, we have an obligation to leave no stone unturned in our efforts to provide comprehensive plans, resources and training to not only respond to emergencies, but also to prevent them. Learn how Virginia Beach City Public Schools leveraged community expertise through the creation of a Blue Ribbon Panel focused on existing safety practices, the identification of gaps, and actions needed to strengthen school safety and security. Hear what this panel of military personnel, law enforcement personnel, mental health experts and educators has recommended; how those recommendations are being implemented in Virginia Beach; and what other divisions can learn from this work.

Presenter:
Aaron Spence, Superintendent, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Virginia Beach, VA

ROOM 501A
SHIFTING RESOURCES TO FUND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Through good times and bad, school and district leaders have always worked hard, planned carefully and toiled to use taxpayer dollars wisely. However, the recent pressures on district budgets represent a seismic shift. In the past, the tough times typically lasted only a few years and budget gaps were managed through short-term fixes such as delaying textbook and technology purchases, deferring maintenance, reducing professional development and cutting back on instructional coaching. Today, many districts are facing sustained, multi-year funding gaps with no significant relief in sight. If student achievement is to rise and new demands are to be met within the context of the “new normal,” school districts need to find new ways to operate with these tighter budgets. This presentation shares the latest research, compiled over two years from experts across the country and validated by real-life districts. It focuses on three key areas:
1) More effectively matching general education staffing levels to enrollment (especially at the secondary level),
2) Cost-effectively improving special education services and 3) Academic Return on Investment. Presenters address the political and communication aspects of identifying opportunities to shift resources to fund top priorities.

Presenters:
Jeffrey Francis, Executive Director, Vermont Superintendents Association, Montpelier, VT
T. Lamar Goree, Superintendent, Caddo Parish Public Schools, Shreveport, LA
Nathan Levenson, Managing Director, District Management Group, Boston, MA

ROOM 501B
SUCCESSFUL INNOVATIVE PRACTICES — FUTURE-FOCUSED SCHOOLS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The nation’s most successful innovative districts have a future-focused culture. Most school districts determine initiatives for the following year based on the current year’s budgets, contracts, staffing, etc. Essentially, their futures are driven by their past. Not so in the nation’s most rapidly improving schools. These “future-focused” schools and districts put a stake in the ground five or more years out, setting timelines for ideal conditions for curriculum, budget, staffing and more. They then build back from the future. Learn how three very different districts approach a long-term vision plan with highly successful processes and results.

Presenters:
Patrick Michel, Superintendent, Hamilton Fulton Montgomery BOCES, Johnstown, NY
Ross Renfrow, Superintendent, Johnston County Public Schools, Smithfield, NC
Eric Schneider, Superintendent, Minnetonka Public Schools, Minnetonka, MN

ROOM 505
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ALIGNED SCHOOL DISTRICT?

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Mountain View Whisman School District transformed from being a completely decentralized district to a district with One Team and One Plan. Superintendent Ayindé Rudolph shares the importance of developing mission-driven leaders and the critical role alignment played in helping Mountain View Whisman educators realize the promises they made to their community. Learn about his thinking before he went on this journey, what he learned about alignment, the changes he made as a result of this learning and the impact it has had on his school district.

Presenters:
Art Johnson, CEO, Infinity Systems, Minneapolis, MN
Ayindé Rudolph, Superintendent, Mountain View Whisman School District, Mountain View, CA
Room 511B
Implementing an International Curricula and Assessment System

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Learn how Corinth School District, labeled a “District of Innovation” by the Mississippi State Board of Education, developed a creative alternative for instructional and assessment practices to improve the learning and performance of all students. This rural and highly diverse district received approval to waive state laws, rules and regulations, allowing Corinth the opportunity to experiment with innovations designed to increase student achievement and close existing achievement gaps. Widespread input was solicited and received from multiple stakeholders during plan development. Corinth’s innovations included a new modified student calendar allowing more time for focused student interventions, a K–12 implementation of the Cambridge International Assessment System, and the use of performance or mastery-based internationally benchmarked assessments. These modifications, coupled with engaging pedagogical practices, have significantly improved students’ ability to read, analyze, synthesize and write. Presenters share key metrics that led to these district innovations.

Presenters:
Edward Childress, Superintendent, Corinth School District, Corinth, MS
Frank Davis, Member, Board of Trustees, Corinth School District, Corinth, MS

Room 511C
To Respond or Not to Respond: Modeling Positive Social Media Use in the Age of Trolls, Spam and Hate

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
As we approach 2020, schools are more social than ever before, and administrators have become stark advocates for using social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook to engage their communities. While school districts and their leaders serve as models for positive social media use, they’re not always prone to “trolling” or the other challenges that crop up. Learn from a panel of superintendents how to navigate the negative side of social media.

Presenters:
Kirk Koennecke, Superintendent, Graham Local Schools, Saint Paris, OH
Glenn Robbins, Superintendent, Tabernacle Township School District, Tabernacle, NJ
Nancy Wagner, Superintendent, River Trails School District 26, Mount Prospect, IL
Avis Williams, Superintendent, Selma City Schools, Selma, AL

Room 512
Teaching Kindness: An Uncommon Solution to Common Middle School Challenges

Focus Zone: School Environment
America’s students are increasingly exposed to meanness, intolerance, violence, racism and even hatred. A quarter of middle school students report being bullied at school, with nearly as many now reporting incidents of cyberbullying, putting their education at risk. Despite the glaring need, there is a lack of free, easy-to-use resources for middle school educators to combat this rising tide. District leaders are similarly under-resourced to provide schools with educator-friendly, scalable solutions that can be easily adapted to improve school climate in a variety of settings. Explore the Middle School Kindness Challenge, a research-based, no-cost program open to any school with grades 4–8 that creates healthy school climates and reduces unnecessary harmful suspensions through the intentional teaching and fostering of kindness.

Presenters:
Sharon Contreras, Superintendent, Guilford County Schools, Greensboro, NC
Bryan Joffe, Director, AASA, Alexandria, VA
Adeline Ray, Director, College and Career Readiness, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, IL

Room 510
Federal Funding to Address School Safety and Mental Health

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Are you aware of all the funding streams, new and existing, that are available to improve mental health for students, hire school resource officers and improve school security infrastructure? If not, this session is for you! We walk through the various formula and competitive grant opportunities that exist at different federal agencies that will enable you to use federal funding to meet the behavioral health and safety needs of your students. We also touch on private grant opportunities that can be available to districts to keep students safe.

Presenter:
Judy Riffle, Founder and CEO, Santa Cruz Grants and Consulting, Rio Rico, AZ
ROOM 506
IMPROVING CULTURE THROUGH IMPROVED LEADERSHIP PERFORMANCE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
A strong, vibrant culture is sustainable only by leaders who are clear and courageous. The axiom “As goes culture so goes achievement” is truer and more necessary today than ever. Leaders who are crystal clear about the words and actions that promote a vibrant culture and courageously keep the culture intact witness the culture’s impact on staff morale and student achievement. We perform our best when we’re clear on outcomes, understand the expectations and trust those on our team. When we perform at high levels, we exhibit clear intercommunication skills, crave feedback and desire high levels of competence. How are your leaders performing? Are they communicating directly and honestly? Do they crave feedback? Do they push themselves to get better every day? Explore ways to strengthen culture by developing yourself and the leaders around you and grasp a feedback structure that builds individual and team efficacy.

Presenters:
Larry Perondi, Superintendent in Residence, Unified School District, Chula Vista, CA
Mark Reardon, Lead Learning Consultant, Quantum Learning Education, Oceanside, CA

ROOM 501C
BECOMING AN ANTI-RACIST MULTICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ARMCO): LEADING WITH RACIAL EQUITY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
What habits of mind, leadership strategies and resources do you implement to disrupt and dismantle inequitable systems, policies and practices? Puget Sound Educational Service District is leading the way in this work at a national level. Join an interactive session where — anchored in lessons learned — participants are presented with strategies, resources and action frameworks that they may use to engage members of a district and/or school community in the work of racial equity that strengthens student educational outcomes and builds adult capacity to confront and address White Supremacy.

Presenters:
Nikum Pon, Director, Equity in Education, Puget Sound Educational Service District, Renton, WA
Marion Smith, Jr., Director, K-2 Learning, Leadership and Student Success, Puget Sound Educational Service District, Renton, WA
John Welch, Superintendent, Puget Sound Educational Service District, Renton, WA

ROOM 513
PREPARING LIFE-READY STUDENTS: EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Traditionally, college and career readiness (CCR) has been centered around three areas: academic skills, career knowledge and college knowledge. However, research shows that this isn’t enough. Although academic, career and college knowledge are vital to a student’s future success, they also need to be equipped with skills to succeed in postsecondary endeavors and in life. Tools such as Redefining Ready Indicators and the CCLR Framework are helping to expand the concept of readiness. Join a panel of district leaders devoted to preparing life-ready students to learn more about strategies, partnerships, alignment and funding incorporated to prepare students to succeed in whatever pathway they choose.

Presenters:
Kim Oppelt (Moderator), Research Director, Hobsons, Duluth, MN
Jeff Butts, Superintendent, Metro School District of Wayne Township, West Chicago, IL
Susan Enfield, Superintendent, Highline Public Schools, Burien, WA
Jessica Garner, Director of College Readiness & Innovation, Union County Public Schools, Monroe, NC

ROOM 514
STEALING MARKETING STRATEGIES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
In the age of social media and competition from school choice, marketing has become a necessary skillset for school leaders. However, it’s not always easy to figure out where to get started. In this session, we break down the strategies that businesses in the private sector use to control public perceptions, build a following of advocates and recruit the best talent. We show you how they can be applied in any district — whether you have a shoestring budget or a full communications team.

Presenters:
David Allan, Vice President of Media and Marketing, Apptegy, Little Rock, AR
Jeston George, CEO, Apptegy, Little Rock, AR
Nathan McCann, Superintendent, Ridgefield School District, Ridgefield, WA
9 – 10AM

ROOM 504

THE NEXT GENERATION OF SUPERINTENDENTS: THE MILLENNIALS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

As the Baby Boomer superintendents retire, Millennials will be taking the helm of district leadership. Explore the differences between Millennials and previous generations of superintendents, their preferred work environments, and suggestions for Millennial superintendents in working with their administrative teams, boards and community.

**Presenters:**

Andrew Crozier, Superintendent, Central Lee Community School District, Donnelson, IA
Lora Wolff, Associate Professor, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

**9 – 11AM**

ROOM 511A

SPECIAL CONTRACTS SESSION

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

No part of a superintendent’s working conditions is more important than the contract with the school board. Get an overview of key contract provisions for superintendent contracts and contract provisions to be avoided, and participate in a discussion about who should negotiate a contract for a superintendent. Understand how a superintendent can avoid being terminated and key provisions of severance agreements should termination be necessary.

**Presenter:**

Maree Sneed, Partner, Hogan Lovells US LLP, Washington, DC

**10:15 – 11:15AM**

Roundtable Sessions | See page 85 for details

**THOUGHT LEADER**

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER

MYTHS ABOUT STANDARDIZED TESTING AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO SCHOOL AND TEACHER ASSESSMENT

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

Explore the inappropriate conclusions about standardized testing frequently made by the press, public and members of our own profession.

**Presenter:**

David Berliner, Regents’ Professor, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

ROOM 501A

PROMOTING EQUITY BY PROMOTING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

When district and school chronic absenteeism rates are high, that might signal a serious equity issue. Learn how one district, whose student body is largely Hispanic (80%) English learners (52%) from low-income households (57%), provides equitable educational opportunities for all students by adopting an evidence-based, multi-tiered system of supports that promotes a culture of attendance for all students and provides targeted and intensive supports for those students who require them. Learn about and reflect on the model, including relevant terminology and definitions, the steps and processes involved in adoption and implementation, data for evaluation and improvement, “lessons learned,” and ways you can implement an effective and equitable approach to improving attendance in your schools.

**Presenters:**

Dorota Celinska, School Improvement Behavioral and Instructional Coach, The School Association for Special Education in DuPage County, Lisle, IL
Patricia Graczyk, Assistant Professor, The University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
Charles Johns, Superintendent, West Chicago Elementary School District 33, West Chicago, IL

ROOM 501B

GROWING THROUGH OPPORTUNITY: HOW A BUILDING CAN INFLUENCE LEARNING

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

In 2011, the community of Hudsonville in Michigan successfully passed a bond to support its growing student population. The outcome is a transformational project that alleviated capacity concerns, eliminated inefficiencies and served as the impetus to integrate 21st-century learning principles within the district. Learn how this building successfully facilitates Skill4Success, a district initiative that promotes the development of soft skills that are essential for students entering the collegiate and professional world.

**Presenters:**

Nick Ceglarek, Superintendent, Traverse Bay Intermediate School District, Traverse City, MI
Jeff Hoag, Architect, GMB Architecture + Engineering, Holland, MI
ROOM 501C
GENDER EQUITY IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
How can districts achieve gender equity in leadership positions? Nationally, approximately only 19% of superintendents are women while over 76% of professional staff members in schools are women. Participants will discuss opportunities to support gender equity at all levels of leadership. Key issues such as challenges for women, mentoring, career advancement and pay equity will be addressed, as well as ways in which men can support, promote and advocate for gender equity.

Presenters:
Shari Camhi, Superintendent of Schools, Baldwin Public Schools, Baldwin, NY
Lori Caplan, Superintendent of Schools, Watervliet City School District, Watervliet, NY
Jacinda Conboy, General Counsel, NYS Council of School Superintendents, Albany, NY
Laura Feijoo, Senior Supervising Superintendent, NYC Department of Education, New York City, NY

ROOM 505
PROTECT YOUR NETWORK, PROTECT YOUR BUDGET: HOW PAIRING CYBERSECURITY AND CYBER INSURANCE CAN KEEP YOUR FINANCES ON TRACK

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Across the country, public school district budgets are tightening more and more every day. Budgets that were reduced during the financial crisis haven’t fully rebounded, and higher expectations mixed with lower revenue means that everyone from superintendents to kindergarten teachers to IT staff are feeling the squeeze. That doesn’t leave a lot of wiggle room for unplanned expenses like dealing with a cyber attack. By the time the dust has settled, these attacks have been known to generate costs in the hundreds of thousands (in some cases, even millions) of dollars. How can you avoid this disaster? And if you can’t avoid it, what can you do to save your bottom line and make sure your budget goes where it belongs: supporting your students and teachers? Review the cutting-edge strategy of pairing in-the-trenches cybersecurity practices with industry-leading cyber insurance solutions. Learn about the tools that you can use to detect, isolate and eliminate cyber threats, and gain a deeper understanding of how a great cyber insurance policy can cover your attack response costs should one occur.

Presenters:
Ryan Cloutier, Principal Security Architect/Principal Enterprise Architect, CISSP®, TIES/Sourcewell, Falcon Heights, MN
Ryan Donovan, Manager of Insurance and Risk Management, Sourcewell, Staples, MN
David Kruse, Director of Cyber Practice, Hausmann-Johnson Insurance and Sourcewell, Madison, WI

ROOM 511B
ACTIONABLE MEASURES OF RIGOR, RELEVANCE AND RELATIONSHIPS

Focus Zone: School Environment
Studies have shown again and again that rigor, relevance and relationships are key levers for increasing achievement and closing the gap for vulnerable students. While most districts have a school climate survey, that feedback often is collected and put on a shelf. Transformative education leaders lead by listening and using feedback to inform policy and guide practice. Hear from four leaders who have incorporated student perception data to increase academic rigor, enhance relevance and build strong relationships between students and teachers. In this interactive session, leaders from Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington share actionable next steps for using student survey data to prioritize equity and serve every learner. Hear about their experiences integrating student voice and share your own perspectives, challenges and victories. Together, we will compile best practices for gathering and using student feedback to drive student achievement.

Presenters:
Jennifer Bethman, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools, Bethel School District, Spanaway, WA
Steve Fleming, Principal, Pasadena Independent School District, Pasadena, TX
Karen Hickman, Deputy Superintendent of Academic Achievement, Pasadena Independent School District, Pasadena, TX
Regina Speaker Palubinsky, Superintendent, Great Valley School District, Malvern, PA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

10:15 – 11:15AM

ROOM 512

HARLEM AND EL BARRIO: BUILDING SCHOOL–COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND TRUST

Focus Zone: School Environment

Every year for the past three years, public schools in the New York City neighborhoods of Harlem and El Barrio have lost enrollment by 500 students while charter schools have gained enrollment by 1,000 students. This changing educational landscape and gentrifying neighborhood community has led to increasing distrust by families, elected officials and community leaders about the actions and long-term plans of the NYC Department of Education. This session features two superintendents and one district team staff member who are leading the year-long initiative to generate increased interest in and demand for high-quality district schools by local Harlem and El Barrio families; to build upon existing relationships and partnerships; and to improve student achievement across Harlem and El Barrio schools, with special attention to serving needs of boys and young men of color.

Presenters:
Alexandra Estrella, Superintendent, Community School District 4, New York, NY
Daniella Phillips, Executive Director, NYC Department of Education, Office of School Design, New York, NY

ROOM 507

THE KILLING EPIDEMIC: HOW TO MOVE FROM TRAGEDY TO ACTION TO OVERCOME THE OPIOID CRISIS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

After two students died of a synthetic opioid overdose, the Park City School District staff and students moved from grief to action by building stronger relationships with parents, staff, students and community members. Learn statistics around opioid-related deaths and gain strategies for addressing the nationwide epidemic that is attacking our youth. This session provides concrete action steps on how to deal with the increases in mental illness, suicide and drug addiction. Learn how to manage the emotional crisis that staff members experience after the crisis passes.

Presenter:
Ember Conley, Superintendent, Mesa Public Schools, Mesa, AZ

ROOM 510

HOW TO TAKE THAT BOOK INSIDE YOUR HEAD AND GET IT PUBLISHED

Focus Zone: Professional Learning

Have you wondered what to do about that idea for a book that’s been floating around in your head? What does it take to get your work published professionally? Four school district administrators (all AASA members) who’ve published a book within the past several years share their experiences of moving from concept to manuscript to polished work. They offer practical insights that you can apply in your own pursuit of book publishing. Publishers in the K–12 education field are always looking for worthwhile ideas from leaders working in the trenches, but you need to know how to navigate the process to succeed. Time will be available for questions from audience members.

Presenters:
Jan Irons Harris, Superintendent, Dade County School District, Trenton, GA
Craig Lockhart, Superintendent, Dooly County School System, Vienna, GA
Paul Mielke, District Administrator, Hamilton School District, Sussex, WI
Pam Moran, Executive Director, Virginia School Consortium for Learning, Charlottesville, VA

ROOM 513

WHAT’S COOKIN’ IN CHILD NUTRITION? INNOVATIVE APPROACHES: HOW STUDENT INSIGHTS AND COLLABORATION DRIVE MENU INNOVATION AT CPS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

The Nutrition Services Department at Chicago Public Schools diligently gathers and utilizes student feedback to drive menu innovation and recipe development. Through an expansive series of student tastings, vendor food fairs, and a host of survey and voting mechanisms, over 20,000 CPS students provide their feedback each year and determine the ultimate direction of the breakfast and lunch menus. Learn how large urban districts like CPS combine marketing concepts and culinary strategies, in an intentional effort to provide great-tasting meals that students want!

Presenters:
Keziah Calmese, Director of Marketing and Menu Innovation, Aramark, Chicago, IL
Tarah DeClemente, Manager of Health Promotion, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, IL
ROOM 514
RESTRUCTURING THE PLAYBOOK: A BLUEPRINT FOR MAXIMIZING THE IMPACT OF COACHING

**Focus Zone: Professional Learning**
Coaching continues to be recognized by researchers and practitioners in education as a nimble form of support that equips teachers, coaches, and leaders to prepare students for an ever-changing world. The debate is no longer whether coaching is more effective than other forms of professional development, but how to maximize its impact on practice. Join district leaders and coaching experts to understand how restructuring coaching has transformed the learning experience for both staff and students. Learn best practices for effective coaching and how to implement and scale them within your district. Leave with a blueprint and supporting resources you can begin using immediately.

**Presenters:**
- Laurie Barron, Superintendent, Evergreen School District, Evergreen, MT
- Jeff Liberty, Senior Vice President, Innovation, BetterLesson, Cambridge, MA
- Melissa Saunders, Executive Director of Student Achievement, Manassas City Public Schools, Manassas, VA

ROOM 506
WHEN WORLDS CONNECT: AN EXCHANGE OF CULTURES AND BEST PRACTICES IN EDUCATION WITH DISCOVER CHINA

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**
Every summer, AASA and Triway International take a group of AASA members to China to explore its rich culture and emerging trends in K–12 education. Learn about this professional enrichment opportunity during which participants discuss common challenges that are facing both countries, seek possible solutions to improving their schools and share stories that inspire everyone. It is also a personal reflection, as you will find yourself rethinking decisions you make in your district and what type of a leader you want to be when you are in a different environment. Join us to discover their ways of learning, teaching and leading schools across the globe. Discover China also provides opportunities to develop long-term partnerships with educators in China. By hosting Chinese educators and students, you can begin the steps to find a sister school connection and begin developing exchange opportunities for your students and teachers. You may win a free trip to China for summer 2019.

**Presenters:**
- Dion Betts, Assistant Superintendent, School District of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- Tara Gao, Business/Cultural Exchange Specialist, AASA, Alexandria, VA
- Lupita Hightower, Superintendent, Tolleson Elementary School District, Tolleson, AZ
- Donna W. Lewis, Superintendent, Creighton School District, Phoenix, AZ
- Phyllis Pajardo, Superintendent, Fairfax City Schools, Fairfax, VA
- Paul Wang, Vice President, Triway International Group, Falls Church, VA
- Chuck Woodruff, Chief Operating Officer, AASA, Alexandria, VA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

10:15 – 11:15AM
ROOM 504
SUPERINTENDENT STRESS! GOT IT?

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The superintendency has long been acknowledged as a stressful position. This interactive session explores superintendent stress based on data from Illinois and Iowa superintendents. Explore the superintendent stress as perceived by administrative assistants, as well as such questions as: What are the greatest superintendent stressors? How do demographic factors impact stress levels? What is the impact of stress on the superintendent’s personal life? How do superintendents manage stress? Ideas, suggestions and recommendations for addressing the stress of the superintendency will be presented.

Presenters:
Adam Ehrman, Superintendent, New Berlin School District, New Berlin, IL
Lora Wolff, Associate Professor, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

ROOM 511C
AASA/JASON DISTRICT MODEL

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
The AASA/JASON District Model has been implemented as a way to connect STEM to school, businesses, parents and after-school providers. The reach into the greater community impacts student achievement and career aspirations.

Presenters:
Elie Bracy, Superintendent, Portsmouth Public Schools, Portsmouth, VA
Kirk Koennecke, Superintendent, Graham Local Schools, Saint Paris, OH
Tim Onsager, Superintendent, Stoughton County Schools, Stoughton, WI
Judith Paolucci, Superintendent, Smithfield Public Schools, Smithfield, RI
Ed Toman, Superintendent, Wetzel County Public Schools, New Martinsville, WV

10:15 – 11:45AM
THOUGHT LEADER
ROOM 502A
SPECIAL FILM SCREENING AND CONVERSATION “AMERICA TO ME”: EXAMINING EDUCATION, EQUITY AND RACE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Experience an episode of the of the groundbreaking series “America to Me” from Oscar®-nominee Steve James (“Hoop Dreams”). Join your peers and add your voice to the conversation about complex and crucial issues, including the effects of race and privilege on education as seen through the eyes of students, teachers, administrators and families. The docuseries is an immersive look at a single year inside Oak Park River Forest High School, one of the more diverse and progressive high schools in Chicagoland with benevolent teachers, every amenity imaginable and one disquieting drawback: white students’ test scores are climbing while black students’ scores have stagnated. Share your stories, challenges and successes in a moderated post-viewing discussion.

Presenters:
LaRuth Gray (Moderator), Scholar in Residence and Senior Adviser to the Executive Director, The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools, Steinhardt Graduate School of Education, New York University, New York, NY
Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Superintendent, Oak Park and River Forest High School, Oak Park, IL

11:30AM – 12NOON
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: INVESTORSPACE XYZ
NCCE EXHIBIT HALL
THE FOUR MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS WHEN DESIGNING A HIGH SCHOOL MAKERSPACE

What real-world skills do students need to learn? Join inventorspace XYZ’s experienced engineers and step through equipment, interior design, hands-on curriculum for the School of the Future.

11:30AM – 12:30PM
KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER
FIVE KEY DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT TRENDS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN 2019

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Learn the top strategies for engaging learners, community stakeholders and other experts in the field, online, from a panel of digital-savvy superintendents. Find out which online tools, programs and platforms they’re utilizing to transform engagement within their school districts and beyond.

Presenter:
Deanna Atkins, Digital Content Manager, AASA, Alexandria, VA
12NOON – 12:30PM  
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: K12 INSIGHT  
NCE EXHIBIT HALL  
CRISIS READY VS. CRISIS LADEN

The best school crisis is the one that never starts. Dr. David Blaiklock shares a solution — and why it might already exist in your schools.

12NOON – 1:30PM  
ROOM 515A  
FEDERAL RELATIONS LUNCHEON:  
EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITY AND SCHOOL FINANCE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Our nation’s public schools receive and spend money. Lots of money. As part of this year’s luncheon, Bruce Baker will look at the cyclical effects of teacher labor markets and competitive wages, as well as the cyclical effects of revenue at the state and local levels, and the current role of the courts to influence, impact and shape school funding realities. A can’t-miss session!

Presenter:
Bruce Baker, Professor, Rutgers University Graduate School of Education, New Brunswick, NJ

Tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and can be purchased in the AASA Registration Area.

12:45 – 1:45PM  
THOUGHT LEADER  
ROOM 502A  
SOBOL LECTURE — PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR TOMORROW: WHERE SHOULD WE BE HEADED AND HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

During the 1990s, many states were focused on creating school systems that could equitably educate a more diverse group of learners for more challenging 21st-century skills. These efforts, however, were substantially derailed by No Child Left Behind’s focus on the low-level skills represented on high-stakes multiple-choice tests and the punitive strategies used to enforce accountability. Now, states and districts are renewing their efforts to create systems that support children’s social, emotional and academic development in ways that are culturally responsive and equitable, and enable higher-order thinking and performance. Examine the policies and practices needed to accomplish these goals.

Presenters:
Linda Darling-Hammond (Moderator), President and CEO, Learning Policy Institute, Palo Alto, CA  
Luvelle Brown, Superintendent, Ithaca City School District, New York, NY  
Gail Pletnick, AASA Immediate Past President, Gail Pletnick Associates, Glendale, AZ

1:45 – 3PM  
Snacks in the NCE Exhibit Hall | WEST HALL B

2 – 2:30PM  
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: Go 365 Humana  
NCE EXHIBIT HALL  
WELLNESS IS CONTAGIOUS! EMPOWERING TEACHERS AS COMMUNITY ROLE MODELS

It’s no secret that educators’ well-being may take a back seat to a myriad of other responsibilities. Learn how teachers can inspire a wellness revolution within their classrooms and beyond.
**2 – 3PM**

**KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER**

**RURAL CONSOLIDATION**

*Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership*

Rural school districts face unique financial and political pressures. Low enrollment and revenue plague many schools. One suggested remedy in many states is to consolidate small rural schools or districts. In this panel, leaders with experience in rural schools discuss the pressures on rural schools and the dangers of consolidation. Panelists provide data and anecdotes on consolidation and other recommendations rural and small schools face in many states.

**Presenters:**
- Richard Abernathy, Executive Director, Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators, Little Rock, AR
- G.A. Buie, Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas, Kansas City, MO
- Jay H. Burkhart, Superintendent, South Western School District, Hanover, PA
- Jay Curtis, Superintendent, Park County School District, Powell, WY


**3 – 4PM**

**Roundtable Sessions**

*See page 88 for details*

**ROOM 511A**

**JOIN, CONNECT AND GROW WITH THE AASA URBAN SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY**

*Focus Zone: Professional Learning*

The Urban Superintendents Academy is a cross-institutional partnership that offers a dynamic approach to urban superintendent preparation and certification. AASA has launched distinct partnerships with Howard University and the University of Southern California to bolster the effectiveness of school district leadership in our nation’s urban areas. Hear from alumni regarding their leadership transitions from academy participants to leading superintendents in our nation’s urban schools.

**Presenters:**
- Morcease Beasley, Superintendent, Clayton County Schools, Alexandria, VA
- Renae Bryant, Director of English Learner & Multilingual Services, Anaheim Union High Schools, Corona, CA
- Rupak Gandhi, Superintendent, Fargo Public Schools, Fargo, ND
- Nardos King, Executive Principal, Fairfax County Schools, Fairfax, VA
- Jeff Studebaker, Superintendent, Madison Consolidated School Corporation, Lafayette, IN
- Yee Wan, Director, Multilingual & Humanities Education, Santa Clara County Office of Education, San Jose, CA

**ROOM 511C**

**EMBRACING PERSONALIZED LEARNING: LESSONS FROM AASA PERSONALIZED LEARNING COHORT SUPERINTENDENTS**

*Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership*

A panel of superintendents from across the country share information on how their districts are transforming the teaching and learning environment by embracing personalized learning. Hear from superintendents from districts large to small, East Coast to West Coast, rural, suburban and urban who are part of the AASA Personalized Learning Cohort about creating a culture that supports this critical transformation and learn how they are designing instruction to ensure students graduate ready to take on the challenges and opportunities of this new era.

**Presenters:**
- Gail Pletnick, AASA PL Cohort Co-chair, AASA, Alexandria, VA
- Jeff Thake, Superintendent, Williston Public School District 1, Williston, ND
- Valerie Truesdale, Associate Superintendent, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Charlotte, NC
ROOM 501A
BUILDING A LOCAL TALENT POOL: HOW EDUCATORS RISING IS TRANSFORMING THE TEACHING PROFESSION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Focus Zone: Professional Learning
Learn how to develop a pipeline of professional educators starting in high school and develop an understanding of how Educators Rising helps local communities grow their own teachers who look like the communities they serve.

Presenters:
Aaron Spence, Superintendent, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Virginia Beach, VA
Josh Starr, CEO, PDK International, Arlington, VA

ROOM 501B
REPOSITIONING EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP: INQUIRY-BASED APPROACHES TO DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Much recent policy has focused on performance standards for prospective and current school administrators and their organizations, but relatively little attention has been given to how district leaders conceptualize their roles; how they are learning, posing and solving problems of practice; and how they are coping with increasing expectations and complexity in their local contexts. The presenters, all current superintendents and members of a university-based leadership network, share cases that illustrate what can happen when district leaders position themselves as inquirers, demonstrating the potential for site-based leaders to identify issues and problems that are locally significant, previously unrecognized, and not generally given the systematic attention that an inquiry-based approach to leadership affords. In each case, their intent has been to develop workable solutions by reframing educational practices, policies, conventions and expectations to ensure equitable access to high-quality education for all students.

Presenters:
Michael Johanek, Director, Mid-Career Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership, University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education, Philadelphia, PA
Carol Kelley, Superintendent, Oak Park Elementary School District, Oak Park, IL
Bolgen Vargas, Superintendent, Manchester School District, Manchester, NH
Randy Ziegenfuss, Superintendent, Salisbury Township School District, Allentown, PA

ROOM 501C
EVERYBODY NEEDS A BUDDY: SUPPORTING STUDENTS’ SUCCESS WITH A COMPANION APP

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
ACTNext’s Educational Companion app is a research-based prototype developed to help students learn. Powered by computational psychometrics, it has the infrastructure for personalized, holistic learning. The Companion leverages ACT data — the ACT test, ACT Tessera social, emotional learning assessment and WorkKeys assessments — and provides students with a holistic, personalized view into ratings and areas of improvement. Learn more about the Companion app and how students at Clinton High School in South Carolina collaborated on a pilot study of a beta release of the app.

Presenters:
Laura C. Koskela, Carolina Alliance for Technology, Clinton High School, Clinton, SC
Alina A. Von Davier, Senior Vice President, ACTNext, ACT, Iowa City, IA

ROOM 512
COMBATING INEQUITIES AND BUILDING SUCCESSFUL SYSTEMS OF INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORTS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
AASA and Communities in Schools led a network of 10 school districts from four states (LA, NV, PA and WA) to examine the power of comprehensive integrated student supports to ameliorate the effects of poverty and social, health and economic inequalities that have negative consequences for school performance and lifelong implications for overall health, economic achievement, and incarceration. Learn about the tools created by two of the state teams: Pennsylvania, which focused on trauma-informed schooling, and Washington, which focused on addressing non-academic barriers to student success.

Presenters:
Eric Eshbach, Superintendent, Northern York County School District, Dillsburg, PA
Kevin George, Superintendent, St. John the Baptist Parish Public Schools, Reserve, LA
Sybil Knight-Burney, Superintendent, Harrisburg School District, Harrisburg, PA
**ROOM 510**

**ESSA FISCAL TRANSPARENCY: HOW TO COMMUNICATE ABOUT MONEY**

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Some of the most contentious issues district leaders face are about money. Those are about to get even more intense as a slew of school-by-school financials are released (per the ESSA requirement). This workshop-style session is designed to equip leaders to engage with their communities and principals (and the media!) on emerging financial data with the goal of leveraging dollars to do the most for students. Explore new messaging research on how to talk about money in ways that can help unite (versus divide) communities, particularly amidst financial scarcity.

**Presenters:**
- Katie Hagan, Research Fellow, Edunomics Lab, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
- Margeurite Roza, Director, Edunomics Lab, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

**ROOM 513**

**CROWDFUNDING BEST PRACTICES FOR K–12 SCHOOLS**

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Public schools have long used donations to enrich students’ academic experience and to fund materials that system budgets cannot always afford. Crowdfunding is becoming a viable funding source, filling resource gaps and providing strategic acceleration for academic programs. However, because the practice is poorly understood, it may result in unexpected liabilities without the proper partners and safeguards in place. This workshop is moderated by Horace Mann, an AASA strategic partner, along with a representative from DonorsChoose.org, an organization with expertise in this area. Teachers at 80% of all the public schools in America have created classroom project requests on the DonorsChoose.org site, and those 3 million donors have given more than $700 million to classroom project requests on the site. This session explains how your district can maximize your teachers’ participation in crowdfunding while maintaining financial transparency and accountability, integrity controls, privacy and safety.

**Presenters:**
- Kirk Smiley, Principal Director, Advocacy and Public Partnerships, DonorsChoose.org, New York, NY
- Jim Yale, Vice President of Industry Relations, Horace Mann, Springfield, IL

**ROOM 514**

**FIVE THINGS HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION LEADERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COLLEGE**

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction

How do student priorities shift during the college search process and application cycle? Is demography, in fact, destiny? What factors are actually predictive of the ultimate enrollment decision? What role do Student Mindsets™ play in the college planning process? And, what blind spots must students overcome as they prepare for their post-secondary journeys? Get answers to these questions and others from industry thought leader Eduventures®, which leverages myOptions® — the largest college-bound high school student panel in the country — for their surveys and research reports. Leave with a deeper understanding of how to provide the right support to each student at the right time, and also gain understanding of myOptions® — the nation’s largest free college and career planning program.

**Presenters:**
- Bryan Contreras, Vice President – K12 and Education Partnerships, MyOptions, Austin, TX
- Cara Quackenbush, Vice President of Research, MyOptions, Winchester, MA
ROOM 506
AASA/JASON’S EXPERIENCE FOR DISTRICTS

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Superintendents share results after Year 2 implementation, with a focus on district involvement with JASON’s project-based curriculum, community awareness, teacher training and Argonaut travel. JASON’s STEM holistic model helps transform schools. After two years, superintendents share changes in student interest, achievement, involvement, and teacher and community focus.

Presenters:
Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent, Revere Local Schools, Richfield, OH
Brian Schmitt, Superintendent, Genesee Valley Central School District, Belmont, NY
Gwendolyn Shannon, Superintendent, Southampton County Public Schools, Courtland, VA
Tamara Sterling, Superintendent, Franklin City Public Schools, Franklin, VA

ROOM 507
UNDERSTANDING THE LABOR MARKET AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Automation and technology have changed the economic landscape, and schools must connect the dots and show students the link between school and the workforce. This session describes nine STEM-based Advanced Career (AC) curricula designed to increase the value of a student’s education by connecting a career focus with a college-ready core. The AC pathway courses are organized around authentic projects that engage students in using engineering ways of thinking and applying academic, technical, technology and 21st-century skills. They integrate the essential skills employers want: communication, collaboration, creative and critical thinking. A superintendent describes the impact of implementing nine of the AC curricula in high schools in his district, such as Clean Energy Technology, Aerospace Engineering and Health Informatics — all developed by the Southern Regional Education Board and a consortium of states. Find out how you can join over 145 schools in more than 22 states that offer one or more of these Advanced Career pathway programs of study.

Presenters:
Gene Bottoms, President, School Improvement Inc., Tucker, GA
Alvin Wilbanks, Superintendent, Gwinnett County Schools, Gwinnett, GA

ROOM 504
DISTRICT GOVERNANCE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Maintaining a good working relationship between the board and superintendent can be a challenge. This session provides insight and suggestions for improvements to increase organizational performance and efficiency. Ideas to improve the effectiveness of your relationship with the board and provide an optimal learning environment are provided.

Presenters:
Gary L. Ray, President, Ray & Associates, Cedar Rapids, IA
Ryan Ray, Corporate Director and Regional Search Associate, Ray & Associates, Cedar Rapids, IA
Lora Wolff, Associate Professor, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

ROOM 505
COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Focus Zone: Professional Learning
Cooperative purchasing. What exactly is it and what can it do for you? Discuss the value of cooperative purchasing as it applies to insurance and employee benefits, review procurement best practices, and evaluate how cooperative purchasing contracts streamline processes while allowing employee benefit program customization. We discuss how cooperative purchasing can save your district time and money throughout the process. Also hear from superintendents who have utilized cooperative purchasing contracts for their districts for employee benefits. Learn from your peers how these contracts created efficiencies and brought value to help their district attract and retain talent.

Presenter:
Ryan Donovan, Manager of Insurance and Risk Management, Sourcewell, Staples, MN
4:15 – 6:15PM

OPENING GENERAL SESSION
WEST HALL B

STUDENT ENTERTAINMENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REMARKS
Presenter:
Dan Domenech, Executive Director, AASA, Alexandria, VA

AASA National Superintendent of the Year Award

First Student 
VALIC

DR. EFFIE H. JONES MEMORIAL AWARD
PRESIDENT’S REMARKS
Presenter:
Chris Gaines, Superintendent, Mehlville School District, Saint Louis, MO

KEYNOTE: A DISCUSSION WITH SUSAN RICE AND DAN DOMENECH
Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Susan Rice, former United States National Security Advisor and Ambassador to the United Nations, discusses public education in America today.
Presenter:
Susan Rice, Former United States National Security Advisor, Washington, DC

6:30 – 7:30PM
Welcome Reception Honoring AASA Graduates
WEST HALL LOBBY

6:45 – 8:30PM
Shuttle Service Available

7:30PM
AASA Graduation Ceremony
ROOM 502A

As soon as AASA receives information about changes in any conference programs, the news is posted to the top of the Conference Daily Online site. Check it daily.
The Safest Choice for Students & The Right Transportation Partner for You

Please see us at booth 101.
# FRIDAY CONFERENCE SESSIONS-AT-A-GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 – 9AM</td>
<td>Shuttle Service Available</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30AM – 5PM</td>
<td>Registration Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30AM – 5PM</td>
<td>Bookstore Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 – 9AM</td>
<td>Roundtable Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>8AM – 3PM</td>
<td>Job Central</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 – 11 AM</td>
<td>Second General Session</td>
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## 11AM – 12NOON

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11AM – 12NOON</td>
<td>Blessings in a Backpack Stuffing</td>
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<tr>
<td>11AM – 2:30PM</td>
<td>NCE Exhibit Hall Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15AM – 12:15PM</td>
<td>Roundtable Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 504</td>
<td>Relationships Matter! The Importance of Networking and Mentoring in Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 514</td>
<td>How NYC DOE Is Shifting Culture to Improve Efficiency and Outcomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 501B</td>
<td>Measuring the Value of Student Assessment Data and Use</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 501C</td>
<td>Legal Issues Related to Disparities in Student Discipline</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 506</td>
<td>Animation Storytelling Motivates Students to Succeed at Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 510</td>
<td>Federal Education Update</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 511B</td>
<td>How to Personalize Professional Learning for Teachers and Principals</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 511C</td>
<td>How Rural School Districts Succeed in Taking the Digital Leap</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 513</td>
<td>Closing the AP/IB Equity and Opportunity Gap in High Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 507</td>
<td>Fairfax County’s Project Momentum: Delivering Equity and Excellence for All Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 512</td>
<td>AASA President-Elect Candidates Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 511A</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning After Textbooks: Making the Transition to Digital Content</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 505</td>
<td>Deploying EdTech Effectively – How to Maximize Impact While Minimizing Risk</td>
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## 11:30AM – 12:30PM

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER</td>
<td>Getting Your School Board on Board with Social Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30AM – 12:30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROOM 515A</td>
<td>Dr. Effie H. Jones Memorial Luncheon</td>
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Tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and can be purchased in the AASA Registration Area.
**FRIDAY CONFERENCE SESSIONS-AT-A-GLANCE**

### 12:45 – 1:45PM

**Roundtable Sessions | See page 98 for details**

| ROOM 501A | Thinking Outside the Lunch Box |
| ROOM 504 | BOND: Building Our Network of Diversity...It’s Okay If It’s Twisted |
| ROOM 501B | A Systems Approach to Implementing Portrait of a Graduate |
| ROOM 505 | A No-Holds-Barred Conversation with Female Superintendents |
| ROOM 501C | Superintendents’ Environmental Education Collaborative |
| ROOM 512 | Engaging with Student Activism After Parkland: First Amendment and Other Considerations for School Leaders |
| ROOM 511C | Putting Kindness into Motion |
| ROOM 513 | Early Childhood Matters Most — A Call to Action |
| ROOM 507 | Insurance Recovery for School Districts |
| ROOM 511B | Reid’s Story...Channeling Grief into Kindness |
| ROOM 510 | E-Rate and Your District: Leveraging Federal Dollars to Expand District Connectivity |
| ROOM 511A | Transforming the Afterschool Hours in Our Districts |
| ROOM 506 | Lessons Learned from the Newtown Tragedy |

**THOUGHT LEADER | ROOM 515B**

Superintendent/School Board Relations – A Discussion Between NSBA Executive Director Tom Gentzel and AASA Executive Director Dan Domenech

### 3:45 – 4:45PM

**THOUGHT LEADER | ROOM 515B**

How to Embrace High School Rankings and Not Hate Yourself in the Morning

| ROOM 507 | Meet Your Digital Equity Goals Through Sustainable Funding Options |
| ROOM 505 | How to Create an Effective Community Service Program |
| ROOM 514 | How to Create an Effective Community Service Program |
| ROOM 501C | Women at the Forefront: Leading the Fight for Equity |
| ROOM 512 | Creating School and Community Health Partnerships That Promote Wellbeing and Safety |
| ROOM 504 | Voice from the School: Grading Reform in Action |
| ROOM 501A | Leadership Lessons for Our Times: Cybersecurity and Data Privacy |
| ROOM 501B | Solving the Challenges of Digital Equity — The Superintendent’s Perspective |
| ROOM 511B | The National Affiliation of Superintendent Searchers: Helping You Land a Lasting Superintendency |
| ROOM 513 | The Science of Adolescent Learning: Synapses for School Improvement |
| ROOM 506 | Save Lives Before Help Arrives |

### 4 – 5:30PM

**THOUGHT LEADER | ROOM 502A**

Crises, Adversity, Tragedy: Leading from the Inside Out

| ROOM 511C | The Science of Adolescent Learning: Synapses for School Improvement |
| ROOM 501A | Define Before Being Defined! Marketing a School Leadership Brand as a Storyteller-in-Chief |
| ROOM 513 | Equity and Excellence Are Not Mutually Exclusive |
| ROOM 506 | Save Lives Before Help Arrives |

**Shuttle Service Available**
7 – 9AM
Shuttle Service Available

7:30AM – 5PM
Registration Hours I WEST HALL LOBBY
Bookstore Hours I WEST HALL LOBBY

8 – 9AM
Roundtable Sessions I See page 92 for details

ROOM 506
TELL YOUR STORY. DEFINE YOUR SUCCESS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The national shift toward local autonomy and more personalized approaches to education provides a tremendous opportunity for school superintendents and boards of education to create a clear and compelling vision for student success aligned to the values of the communities they serve. While the shift toward multiple indicators of student success is widely welcomed by educators, operationalizing new policies at the local level presents a new set of challenges. Panelists present a best-practices framework for superintendents to align communication, define school quality, and evaluate the impact that school improvement initiatives are having on student, financial and other system outcomes.

Presenters:
John Gatta, Chief Executive Officer, ECRA Group, Schaumburg, IL
Katherine Wright, Research Assistant Professor, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

ROOM 512
AASA BUILDING SUPPORT FOR BREAKFAST
“AFTER THE BELL”

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Learn about the results of a survey of AASA State Association Executive Directors that gauged the reach, impact and efficacy of school breakfast programs in their state. This session provides useful tools to help state executives become breakfast champions, including how they can assist superintendents with “Breakfast after the Bell” at the district level.

Presenters:
Kayla Jackson, Project Director, AASA, Alexandria, VA
Rebecca Shaw, Project Coordinator, AASA, Alexandria, VA

ROOM 501B
DEVELOPING 21ST-CENTURY EDUCATION LEADERS WHO CAN DRIVE TRANSFORMATION

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
How can superintendents effectively support their teams in leading school and district transformation? What leadership qualities are most critical to systems change that leads to the 4Cs (critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity)? Learn to use the 4Cs Leadership Rubric to strengthen the knowledge and skills of your local teams. Hear how superintendents have tackled specific problems of practice through systems change leadership and leave with a 4Cs Leadership toolkit you can use and share with others.

Presenters:
Karen Cheser, Superintendent, Fort Thomas Independent Schools, Fort Thomas, KY
Valerie Greenhill, President, EdLeader21, Tucson, AZ
Ken Kay, CEO, EdLeader21, Tucson, AZ

ROOM 511C
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE INITIATIVE: A TOOL FOR EQUITY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The Closing the Achievement Gap Consortium (CAGC) — a cooperative partnership of 30 private, public, choice, voucher and parochial school districts — developed the African-American Female Initiative as an effective strategy to close the achievement gap in their districts and schools. Learn how the African-American Female Initiative can be used as a tool to pursue equity as a measurable and achievable goal and how to address equity and the achievement gap in your districts.

Presenters:
Phil Ertl, Superintendent of Schools, Wauwatosa School District, Wauwatosa, WI
Monica Kelsey-Brown, Director of Teaching and Learning, Brown Deer School District, Brown Deer, WI
Elliott Moeser, Executive Director, Closing the Achievement Gap Consortium, Mequon, WI
Sue Savaglio-Jarvis, Superintendent of Schools, Kenosha School District, Kenosha, WI
ROOM 510
EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS MOST — COMMUNITY IN ACTION

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
All children need to start school ready. This is not a school problem, but rather a community imperative. How do you get every student to an equal starting point? Superintendents are in a unique position to be the conduit of change in a community. Explore how leading superintendents have engaged community and district leaders to focus and fund early childhood learning and how to find, ask for and get committed funding from business and community leaders to serve more children.

Presenters:
Terry Breeden, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, Shaker Heights Schools, Shaker Heights, OH
Greg Fuerstenau, Superintendent, Taylorville School District, Taylorville, IL
Mike Kuhrt, Superintendent, Wichita Falls Independent School District, Wichita Falls, TX

ROOM 501A
LEADING LEARNING IN TODAY’S FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
The first three Industrial Revolutions (steam, electricity and information) saw a profound impact on our world economy as society evolved with new technologies. It is reasonable to expect something similar today as we move into the fourth Industrial Revolution, powered by smart machines. New technologies like artificial intelligence, 3D printing and robotics have tremendous impact on industries, our economy and our society. How do we redefine career readiness and better prepare students for an uncertain future? Join the conversation as three superintendents share strategies and resources on how best to educate today’s students for a future whose main characteristic is ambiguous change. Learn how leading superintendents get buy-in from their district team, school board and community as they design learning for the fourth Industrial Revolution.

Presenters:
Tim Broadrick, Superintendent-Director, Shawsheen Valley Technical High School District, Billerica, MA
Ann McMullan, Project Director, Empowered Superintendents Program, Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), Los Angeles, CA
Matthew Miller, Superintendent, Lakota Local School District, Liberty Township, OH
Michelle Murphy, Superintendent, Rim of the World Unified School District, Blue Jay, CA
David Schuler, Superintendent, Township High School District 214, Arlington Heights, IL

ROOM 501C
LANDING AND KEEPING THE RIGHT JOB FOR THE LONG RUN

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Whether you are aspiring to your first superintendency or seeking a long, stable position for your last one, get proven tips for writing an application, interviewing and presenting your best self from this panel of practicing and recently retired superintendents and school board members. Find out what board members are looking for in a superintendent and what superintendents need to look for in boards. Learn what it takes to keep your position for many years, including negotiating that all-important first contract with the board, strategies for clear and frequent communication, building and sustaining trust, managing time and people, and handling the complex politics of competing demands and stakeholder groups.

Presenters:
Max McGee, President, Hazard Young Attea Associates, Schaumburg, IL
Doug Wilson, Superintendent, Marana Unified School District, Marana, AZ

ROOM 511B
DISRUPTING POVERTY: A MORAL IMPERATIVE

Focus Zone: School Environment
As the number of students experiencing poverty increases in our public schools, we need to examine how schools and educators can guarantee all students learn at high levels. This session addresses poverty as a moral imperative for achieving district visions. Investigate the possibilities of developing preventative programs for families and students. The impact of school culture on student learning is a central focus of this session. Finally, advocacy is discussed as a tool to sustain district work.

Presenters:
Steve Bliss, Retired Director of Technology/Chief Information Officer, Unadilla Valley Central School District, New Berlin, NY
Robert Mackey, Superintendent, Unadilla Valley Central School District, New Berlin, NY
8 – 9AM

ROOM 507
THE MISSING LINK: ACCOUNTABILITY WITH STAFF SUPPORT

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Take an in-depth look at June’s School Administrator cover story profiling two school systems that demonstrate it is possible to be both data-driven and a builder of professional capacity. Engage in a facilitated dialogue about leadership strategies for closing achievement gaps and increasing success for all students with the director of the Center for Educational Leadership and superintendents from Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland and Woodstock Community Unit School District 200 in Illinois.

Presenters:
Michael Moan, Superintendent, Woodstock Community Unit School District 200, Woodstock, IL
Max Silverman, Executive Director, Center for Educational Leadership, Seattle, WA
Jack R. Smith, Superintendent, Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD
David I. Steinberg, Associate Professor, Organizational Leadership, Hood College, Montgomery Village, MD

ROOM 513
LESSONS LEARNED ABOUT SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION FOR THE ESSA ERA

Focus Zone: School Environment
This interactive session focuses on the ESSA requirements for improving our 5% lowest-performing schools — in particular secondary schools. Presenters review the requirements of the new legislation, how it applies to the 5% lowest-performing schools, the funding available, the timeline for implementation and the evidence requirements. Find out what we have learned about what works over the last 10 years and the critical role evidence-based approaches play.

Presenters:
Robert Balfanz, Director, Everyone Graduates, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Charles Hiteshew, CEO, Talent Development Secondary, Baltimore, MD

ROOM 505
HOW TO RESPOND TO CYBERBULLYING, ONLINE THREATS AND SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGES

Focus Zone: School Environment
Kids younger and younger are using social media every day. This session, hosted by Lifetouch, offers insights for administrators on how best to train faculty, educate their students and be prepared for online threats through the unique lens of law enforcement officer, SRO and Jeff Bean, the founder of Safe Schools 4 All. Bean shares practical and effective methods to help keep schools safe.

Presenter:
Jeff Bean, President and Founder, SafeSchools4All.com, Plainfield, IL
Lifetouch.

ROOM 504
INCREASING THE CHANCES OF GETTING THE JOB YOU WANT

Focus Zone: Professional Learning
Attaining the right administrative position is critical to the success of the administrator, school board, school district, students and community. Learn about the comprehensive job search process, including finding openings, applying (letter of application, philosophy of education, resume, references and transcripts), interviewing, transitioning to a new position and ensuring the right job fit.

Presenters:
Thomas E. Bertrand, Executive Director, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield, IL
Thomas Leahy, Director of Executive Searches, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield, IL
Richard Voltz, Associate Director/Professional Development, Illinois Association of School Boards, Springfield, IL

AASA’s School Administrator magazine is always willing to consider outside contributions for various sections each month. Find author submission guidelines at www.aasa.org/AuthorGuidelineMagazine.aspx. Questions may be sent to the editor at magazine@aasa.org.
INDUSTRY EXPERTS SHARE BEST PRACTICES FOR BUILDING SAFE AND SECURE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Focus Zone: School Environment

Student safety and school security is top of mind for all district leaders. Knowing what measures to take to enhance peace of mind without increasing anxiety is a seemingly impossible challenge. A panel of industry experts share their perspectives and best practices based on their experiences with districts around the country.

Presenters:
Sean Burke, President, School Safety Advocacy Council, Lawrence, MA
Paul Ishimaru, Director, Blackboard Connect, Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles, CA
Amanda Klinger, Esq., Director of Operations, The Educator’s School Safety Network, Washington, DC
Amy Klinger, Founder and Director of Programs, The Educator’s School Safety Network, Washington, DC

STUDENT DATA AND PRIVACY: WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE NEW CONGRESS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

This year, Congress and state legislatures are expected to consider hundreds of policies related to student data and privacy, including the first reauthorization of the federal policy FERPA. This session gives an overview of the latest trends at the state level, what to expect at the federal level and what it all could mean for the nation’s public schools.

Presenters:
Gretchen Shipley, Partner and Co-Chair, eMatters Practice Group, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrst LLP, Oakland, CA
Amelia Vance, Director of Education Policy Project, Future of Privacy Forum, Washington, DC
Mark Williams, Partner and Co-Chair, eMatters Practice Group, Fagen Friedman & Fulfrst LLP, Oakland, CA

KEYNOTE: RE-ENVISIONING LEARNING: ADDRESSING THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS

Focus Zone: School Environment

The true visionaries in education are those who fight their way out of the proverbial box to innovate and create a learning environment where all students can thrive. Bill Daggett inspires you to become a visionary leader to advance the future of K-12 education. He shares his latest research on innovative practices from the nation’s most rapidly improving schools that are resulting in dramatic improvements in student performance. Critical areas trending in these schools are addressing the social and emotional needs/mental health as a first priority; focusing on the future needs of students to succeed in the changing workplace and society over standards and state tests; a boardroom-to-classroom approach to student improvement; and a simple, yet impactful framework that allows educators to innovate.

Presenter:
Bill Daggett, Founder and Chairman, International Center for Leadership in Education, Rexford, NY
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

58

AASA’s National Conference on Education

11AM – 12NOON

EXHIBIT HALL FLOOR, BOOTH 249

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK STUFFING

Approximately 13 million children struggle with hunger on a regular basis. AASA and Sourcewell are proud to partner with Blessings in a Backpack (BIB) during the 2019 National Conference on Education to help provide food on weekends for elementary students who qualify for their schools’ free and reduced-price meal program. We are stuffing bags on the Exhibit Hall floor Booth 249 to be donated to a local LA school. Please come volunteer!

11AM – 2:30PM

NCE Exhibit Hall Hours | WEST EXHIBIT HALL A

11:15AM – 12:15PM

Roundtable Sessions | See page 95 for details

ROOM 504

RELATIONSHIPS MATTER! THE IMPORTANCE OF NETWORKING AND MENTORING IN LEADERSHIP

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Successful leaders build a strong network through positive relationships. They know that it is critically important and their responsibility to serve as mentors to the next generation of leaders. Learn from the experiences of four women from varied backgrounds and professional career paths, and how they made a commitment to support each other’s personal and professional journeys. They share their stories, starting with a common bond — their love of learning about leadership — to how they have supported, coached and kept in contact with each other even though they are separated by hundreds of miles and are in different stages of their careers. Walk away with strategies for fostering, building and creating new mentorships that will be crucial to your success throughout your career.

Presenters:
LaManda Mallard, Educational Leader, Highland Park Independent School District, Dallas, TX
Julie Ramos, Director, Wickliffe City Schools, Painesville, OH
Kelly Spivey, Superintendent, Talawanda School District, Oxford, OH
Nancy Wagner, Superintendent, River Trails School District 26, Mount Prospect, IL

ROOM 514

HOW NYC DOE IS SHIFTING CULTURE TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND OUTCOMES

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

There is a mantra in many corporate circles: “Culture eats strategy for breakfast.” The saying also holds true for school systems that struggle with trust-depleting factors such as political posturing, blame-game mentality and inter-personal tensions. Such issues have the potential to reduce efficiency, lower student achievement and thwart even the best strategies to make schools as good as they can be. New York City has taken a giant leap forward in addressing culture through a series of initiatives focused on rebuilding trust, reducing implicit bias and fostering human-centered leadership at the central administration level. The research is already showing powerful outcomes, including higher productivity, better quality work, more inspired employees, increased innovation, and more joy in teaching and learning. Leave with concrete ideas for how to begin shifting culture in your setting and strategies for overcoming historical trust challenges.

Presenters:
Dara Barlin, Founder, DARE Consulting, Los Angeles, CA
Richard A. Carranza, Chancellor, NYC Department of Education, Brooklyn, NY
Tomás Hanna, Chief Human Resources Officer, NYC Department of Education, Brooklyn, NY
Yvonne Soto, Executive Director, Office of Organizational Development and Effectiveness, NYC Department of Education, Brooklyn, NY
Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
School leaders regularly use data to make critical decisions regarding student achievement. How do education leaders know that assessments are aligned with learning standards? How do they know that educators use assessment data effectively to inform practice? How can leaders enhance educators’ data literacy and collaboration around data use? To answer these questions, leaders at Lynwood Unified School District partnered with Hanover Research to conduct a multi-methodological study that explored teachers’ perceptions of district assessment data and identified areas of interest in district support, then tested the correlation between students’ performance on district assessment benchmarks and performance on other assessments. Learn about the study and the district’s plan to develop a best practices toolkit to support educators’ data literacy and promote collaboration grounded in the use of student assessment data.

Presenters:
Gudiel Crosthwaite, Superintendent, Lynwood Unified School District, Lynwood, CA
Marriam Ewaida, Senior Research Advisor, Hanover Research, Arlington, VA
Leila Nuland, Managing Content Director, Hanover Research, Arlington, VA
Geraldine Rescinito, Principal, Lincoln Elementary School, Lynwood Unified School District, Lynwood, CA

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Research shows that a 1 percentage-point increase in a student’s score on the motivation index is associated with a 6-point increase in reading achievement. Wonder Media Story Maker is a transformative project-based writing solution with which students collaborate, plan, research and write original stories and bring those stories to life in animation. The “animation studio” concept immerses students in a STEM-fueled work environment, providing hands-on experience to develop vital 21st-century skills such as communication, critical thinking and problem solving. Stories are powerful learning tools that inspire personal growth, empathy and the motivation to succeed. Add animation as the creative outlet and you will notice a difference in students’ approach to learning. As the former CEO of Klasky Csupo — the studio that created “Rugrats” and “The Wild Thornberrys” — Terry Thoren is an expert on quality storytelling through animation and shares his insight. A panel of distinguished educators also discuss their success stories.

Presenter:
Terry Thoren, CEO, Wonder Media, Encino, CA

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Nationwide, there is a pattern of racial and ethnic disparities in student discipline. Review the legal issues involved in such disparities, address both legally problematic practices and lawful methods for trying to reduce disparities, and gain practical guidance.

Presenters:
John Borkowski, Partner, Husch Blackwell LLP, Chicago, IL
Demetrius Peterson, Senior Counsel, Husch Blackwell LLP, Kansas City, MO
Aleksandra Rushing, Attorney, Husch Blackwell LLP, St. Louis, MO

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
AASA’s legislative portfolio is diverse and the opportunity for impacting federal education policy in the new Congress is deep. This session covers AASA’s 2019 legislative agenda priorities, including Perkins implementation, IDEA, vouchers, higher education, rural education, E-Rate, appropriations, school nutrition, privacy and more.

Presenters:
Noelle Ellerson Ng, Associate Executive Director, AASA, Alexandria, VA
Sasha Pudelski, Advocacy Director, AASA, Alexandria, VA
ROOM 511B
HOW TO PERSONALIZE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS

**Focus Zone: Professional Learning**

We often talk about personalizing learning for students, but how do we ensure that teachers and principals also have personalized pathways for learning and development? Personalized professional development is essential to model the type of teaching and learning we want to see in our classrooms and to ensure each educator gets the customized support they need. Learn how Metropolitan School District of Warren Township (IN), Kenai Peninsula Borough (AK), Harry County Schools (SC) and Wake County Schools (NC) have designed and implemented district-wide systems to provide customized professional learning based on the individual needs of their teachers and principals. This session shares lessons learned and concrete resources so that attendees can launch and deepen personalized professional learning in their own districts. Leave with specific examples of how to personalize professional learning in your district, from professional development pathways to customized coaching and micro-credentials.

**Presenters:**
- Sean Dusek, Superintendent, Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, Soldotna, AK
- Tim Hanson, Superintendent, Metropolitan School District of Warren Township, Indianapolis, IN
- Brian Kingsley, Assistant Superintendent for Academics, Wake County Public School System, Cary, NC

ROOM 511C
HOW RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SUCCEED IN TAKING THE DIGITAL LEAP

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

More than half of the school districts and nearly one-third of the public schools in the United States are in rural areas. Rural districts have unique challenges, ranging from poverty and vast travel distances to a lack of affordable Internet access. However, rural districts also have unique opportunities due to their smaller size and community connections. Join in the conversation with four superintendents as they share the challenges and opportunities that come with leading a small or rural school district. Discover the strategies these superintendents use to address a variety of issues, including funding, personnel, technology tools for learning, broadband access, changing teachers’ instructional strategies, community engagement and more.

**Presenters:**
- Kristin Cuilla, Senior Director, District and School Development, New Tech Network, Napa, CA
- Ann Linson, Superintendent, East Noble School Corporation, Kendallville, IN
- Chris Marczak, Superintendent, Maury County Public Schools, Columbia, TN
- Randall Squier, Superintendent, Coxsackie-Athens Central School District, Coxsackie, NY

ROOM 513
CLOSING THE AP/IB EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY GAP IN HIGH SCHOOLS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Iowa City Community Schools (IA), Glenbard District 87 (IL) and Santa Anna Unified School District (CA) were all committed to students graduating exceptionally prepared for college, career and citizenship. To do so, the districts had to confront the participation/opportunity gap (race and income) that existed in the AP/IB programs. The districts partnered with Equal Opportunity Schools, a mission-driven nonprofit organization, to develop strategies for students of color and low-income students to be identified and engaged with for AP/IB enrollment. The districts experienced a significant increase in AP/IB enrollment and shifts in the district adults’ mindset on student belonging. Learn how each district identified and recruited underserved students into rigorous academic programs.

**Presenters:**
- David Belcher, Superintendent in Residence, College Professor, Equal Opportunity Schools, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO
- David Larson, Superintendent, Glenbard District 87, Glen Ellyn, IL
- Stephen Murley, Superintendent, Iowa City Community School District, Iowa City, IA

ROOM 507
FAIRFAX COUNTY’S PROJECT MOMENTUM: DELIVERING EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE FOR ALL CHILDREN

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Learn from Fairfax County Public Schools personnel about their model for equity and school improvement and explore the results of the initiative in its first three years. This project is based on tight focus, strategic and equitable deployment of resources, and removal of barriers to student achievement, all in a differentiated framework. Learn how you can help improve equity across your divisions and improve results at struggling schools in your district. Explore a district-level equity and school improvement model and the impact of a strategic focus, learn the tools used for equity at a school level and district level, and learn about specific strategies used for school turnaround and how they were implemented in a large suburban district.

**Presenters:**
- Scott Brabrand, Superintendent, Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA
- Francisco Duran, Chief Equity and Academic Officer, Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA
- Brendan Menuey, Executive Principal for School Improvement, Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA
- Fabio Zuluaga, Assistant Superintendent for Region 2, Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA
ROOM 512
AASA PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES FORUM

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

The candidates for AASA President-Elect have the opportunity to respond to questions from the Chair of the AASA Election Committee as well as members attending the National Conference on Education.

Moderator:
Gail Pletnick, Superintendent, Dysart Unified School District 89, Surprise, AZ

ROOM 511A
TEACHING AND LEARNING AFTER TEXTBOOKS: MAKING THE TRANSITION TO DIGITAL CONTENT

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction

We are in the midst of an evolution in instructional content. Curricular materials are moving from print to digital, from stale, static, monolithic content to fluid, on-demand, relevant and inclusive sources. The potential is tremendous, but the pitfalls are out there. How can we as district leaders confidently plan, pilot, scale and sustain our vision for teaching and learning during this critical transition? Join Newsela Co-Founder Dan Cogan-Drew and guest leaders for a timely panel discussion on the content evolution. This session addresses best practices from district leaders that are paving the way toward 21st-century learning.

Presenters:
Dan Cogan-Drew, Co-Founder and Chief Product Officer, Newsela, New York, NY
Katie Novak, Assistant Superintendent, Groton-Dunstable Regional School District, Groton, MA
Ryan Saxe, Superintendent, Cabell County School District, Huntington, WV
Kelly Watts, Assistant Superintendent, Cabell County School District, Huntington, WV

newsela

ROOM 505
DEPLOYING EDTECH EFFECTIVELY — HOW TO MAXIMIZE IMPACT WHILE MINIMIZING RISK

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction

The pace and scale of educational technology adoption is accelerating, often ahead of the capabilities of many school districts to capture the full benefits and/or mitigate the inherent risks. As tempting as a “wait and see” or “go slow” approach may sound, that is not the answer. Come hear education industry expert and advisor Tony Miller, former deputy secretary and chief operating officer for the U.S. Department of Education, discuss ways EdTech organizations are working with schools to build capabilities and achieve impact.

Presenter:
Tony Miller, Former Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, U.S. Department of Education; Board Member, GoGuardian, Los Angeles, CA

11:30AM – 12:30PM

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE THEATER
GETTING YOUR SCHOOL BOARD ON BOARD WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

What’s one of the most important things you need before developing your school district’s social media presence? Board buy-in. Hear from superintendents who have done the legwork, wooed their school boards and are now using social media platforms that were once deemed “too risky” as powerful tools for engagement, positivity and collaboration.

Presenter:
Deanna Atkins, Digital Content Manager, AASA, Alexandria, VA

If you are interested in reviewing two new books during the coming year for School Administrator magazine, please let the editor know at magazine@aasa.org. Anyone who is a current member of AASA is eligible.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

12:15 – 2:15PM

ROOM 515A
DR. EFFIE H. JONES MEMORIAL LUNCHEON — FROM WHENCE WE CAME TO WHERE WE BE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Dr. Effie Jones believed that knowing the past better prepares one for the future. In Jones’s spirit, Dr. Charles H.F. Davis III, chief strategy officer at the USC Equity and Race Center, addresses the historical and habitual (un)doing of equity in U.S. schools. Drawing upon longstanding and contemporary data, policies and practices, he addresses important questions regarding the ongoing dynamics and relationships of power in school (and its social contexts). Leave this engaging, interactive session with practical, imaginative interventions for rethinking education in classrooms and beyond.

Presenter:
Charles H.F. Davis III, Chief Strategy Officer, USC Equity and Race Center, Los Angeles, CA

Tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and can be purchased in the AASA Registration Area for $70.

12:45 – 1:45PM
Roundtable Sessions | See page 98 for details

ROOM 501A
THINKING OUTSIDE THE LUNCH BOX

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
No matter what side of the education equation you sit on, putting kids first is our collective top priority. To make this a reality, every side needs to have the ability to provide focused expertise on things that truly make an impact. When it comes to providing the best possible learning environment for our students, educators are pulled in many directions. Worrying about food and nutrition shouldn’t be one of them. We discuss how working with a professional foodservice management company can provide this expertise at an incredible value, allowing educators to get back to doing what they do best — setting our students up for success in the classroom.

Presenter:
Marc Sosne, Former School Superintendent, Wilmington, NC

ROOM 504
BOND: BUILDING OUR NETWORK OF DIVERSITY... IT’S OKAY IF IT’S TWISTED

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
How do you thrive when your teacher corps is only 3% diverse? You BOND! Learn how Montgomery County Public Schools has advanced efforts to support and retain male African-American and Latino educators who represent approximately 3% of the teacher workforce by creating the BOND Project. BOND (Building Our Network of Diversity) focuses on creating leadership, mentorship and networking opportunities for African-American and Latino male educators by pairing veteran educators with educators new to the district. BOND focuses on uplifting our kids, our culture and our craft.

Presenters:
Daman Harris, Assistant Principal, Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD
Daryl Howard, Counselor, Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD
Inger Swimpson, Equity Specialist, Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD

ROOM 501B
A SYSTEMS APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTING PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The SOAR Network of pioneering school systems across Ohio are taking collective action to redefine success to ensure every student is prepared as a lifelong learner and contributor in the 21st century. These visionary leaders are anchoring their system transformation by engaging their broader communities in developing their Portrait of a Graduate, a collective vision of the community’s aspirations for all students. Whether or not a community’s Portrait of a Graduate becomes a reality for every student depends on the coherent alignment of the education system and how educators within that system perceive their role in achieving the vision. Through a coherent systems approach, SOAR Network leaders are cultivating enduring, equitable practices and outcomes for every student. In this interactive session, participants engage, share insights and explore component parts of a Portrait of a 21st-Century Educator and a Portrait of a 21st-Century Education.

Presenters:
Karen Garza, President and CEO, Battelle for Kids, Hilliard, OH
Jamie Meade, Chief of Staff, Battelle for Kids, Hilliard, OH
ROOM 505
A NO-HOLDS-BARRED CONVERSATION WITH FEMALE SUPERINTENDENTS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
This panel of successful women superintendents from across the country make themselves available to answer any and all questions about the road to the superintendency from a female perspective. This session is for women leaders who want to get an insider’s view on serving as an education CEO in a field that is male dominant at the highest leadership levels.

Presenters:
Veronica Conforme, Former Commissioner, Education Achievement Authority, Detroit, MI
Sharon Contreras, Superintendent, Guilford County Schools, Greensboro, NC
Lupita Hightower, Superintendent, Tolleson Elementary School District, Tolleson, AZ
Barbara Jenkins, Superintendent, Orange County Public Schools, Orlando, FL
Christina Kishimoto, State Superintendent, Hawaii Department of Education, Honolulu, HI
Carey Wright, State Superintendent, Department of Education, Jackson, MS

ROOM 501C
SUPERINTENDENTS’ ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Learn about the new opportunities and efforts to advance environmental education (EE) in school systems. The Superintendents’ Environmental Education Collaborative seeks to create robust, real-world learning experiences that bolster STEM learning and civic engagement, and prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st-century workforce. Discuss grant opportunities, best practices for systemic EE, models in school systems, potential partnerships with EE providers and strategies for implementation.

Presenters:
Daniel Curry, Superintendent, Calvert County Public Schools, Prince Frederick, MD
Sean McPhetridge, Superintendent, Alameda Unified School District, Alameda, CA
Brendan Menuey, Superintendent, Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA
Aaron Spence, Superintendent, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Virginia Beach, VA

ROOM 512
ENGAGING WITH STUDENT ACTIVISM AFTER PARKLAND: FIRST AMENDMENT AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR SCHOOL LEADERS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Since the tragic February 14 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL, students across the country have taken to the streets. Students have met with lawmakers, engaged in protests and staged school walkouts. As school leaders nationwide consider whether, under what circumstances, and how to address student activism, this session discusses best practices for planning ahead and engaging with students, parents and other stakeholders in terms of the First Amendment and operational considerations.

Presenters:
Shawn Joseph, Superintendent, Nashville Public Schools, Nashville, TN
Maree Sneed, Senior Counsel, Hogan Lovells US LLP, Washington, DC
Michelle Tellock, Senior Associate, Hogan Lovells US LLP, Washington, DC

ROOM 511C
PUTTING KINDNESS INTO MOTION

Focus Zone: School Environment
Kindness in Motion is Regional School District 7’s own $100 mini-grant program for students to plan and implement a project that will improve the lives of others. This program is completely student led and driven. Participating students feel empathetic about a societal need that they would like to help address. Their grant is used as seed money to have a bigger impact on those they seek to help. Projects run from large, like drilling a well in South Sudan, to small, like rebuilding an elderly neighbor’s deck. Some projects are sparked from classroom learning, others from current events. All of this work is done outside of school and involves the communities.

Presenters:
Fran Amara, Middle School Principal, Regional School District 7, Winsted, CT
Judith Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, Regional School District 7, Winsted, CT
12:45 – 1:45PM

ROOM 513
EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS MOST — A CALL TO ACTION

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Early childhood education matters most because it is the most impact you can possibly have on a child’s academic future and success in life. Every dollar spent on a child in early education yields a $17 annual “return on investment.” The AASA National Cohort for Early Learning has been convening for the past two years to work with leading experts in early childhood to discover why “Early Childhood Matters Most.” It is time for a national Call to Action to improve the future of education. The leadership team from the Early Learning Cohort discusses how their views have evolved and showcase the actions they’ve taken to improve early learning in their schools and communities. Don’t miss this pivotal Call to Action for all school leaders to take on this important work and learn specific actions that can be done at the local level to strengthen community.

Presenters:
Peter Finch, Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning, West Valley School District 208, Yakima, WA
Dawn Linden, Executive Director of Elementary Education, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI
Edward Manuszak, Superintendent, Dundee School District, Dundee, MI
Colleen Timm, Superintendent, Unified School District of Antigo, Antigo, WI

ROOM 507
INSURANCE RECOVERY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

The first part of this session reflects on the background and credentials of the National Fire Adjustment Co., Inc. (NFA) from its inception in 1922. We discuss the importance of NFA’s role when school districts are affected by insured or catastrophic losses, including what financial/community obstacles can be encountered, what burdens are put on district staff, and the importance of obtaining insurance recovery services, as they pertain to first-party coverage as well as potential FEMA (public assistance) recovery, if applicable. The second part of the session focuses on a case study of Joplin Schools (Joplin, MO) as it relates to the May 22, 2011, EF5 tornado. NFA represented Joplin Schools with their first-party insurance recovery and maximized their recovery efforts. Learn about the step-by-step process that took place and the outcomes that were achieved.

Presenters:
John Donnelly, Executive Director, National Fire Adjustment Co., Inc., Amherst, NY
Joanne Harrell, Director of Special Operations, National Fire Adjustment Co., Inc., Amherst, NY

ROOM 511B
REID’S STORY…CHANNELING GRIEF INTO KINDNESS

Focus Zone: School Environment

Superintendent Mark Adler and his wife, Joni, discuss the journey from the day their freshman son, Reid, shared with them that he had suicidal thoughts to just over one month later when on January 7, 2016, Reid took his own life and changed the lives of many others forever. Reid was the victim of intimidation and cyberbullying, a situation his parents knew nothing about until after his passing. Since this tragedy, the Adlers have presented to more than 20,000 people about suicide, depression, bullying, appropriate use of social media and, most of all, how important it is to #BeKind. The Adlers, along with Millard Public Schools Superintendent Jim Sutfin, have organized an Omaha Metropolitan area #BeKind campaign culminating in several city councils passing proclamations for #BeKind Day on Friday, August 24, 2018.

Presenters:
Joni Adler, Wife/Mother, Ralston Public Schools, Ralston, NE
Mark Adler, Superintendent, Ralston Public Schools, Ralston, NE
Jim Sutfin, Superintendent, Millard Public Schools, Omaha, NE

ROOM 510
E-RATE AND YOUR DISTRICT: LEVERAGING FEDERAL DOLLARS TO EXPAND DISTRICT CONNECTIVITY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

E-Rate Speed Date: Changes to the E-Rate program have yet to reach their full impact. Hear from an E-Rate expert, a superintendent and an ed-tech director on the opportunities and obstacles schools and the E-Rate program face in their work to expand school connectivity. Come ready to think and hear about additional ways your school can access E-Rate dollars to bolster your district connectivity.

Presenters:
Nick Ceglarek, Superintendent, Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District, Traverse City, MI
Aleck Johnson, Founder, EdTech Strategies, Washington, DC
Hamilton McDermott, Information Technology, Fallbrook UESD, Fallbrook, CA
ROOM 511A
TRANSFORMING THE AFTERSCHOOL HOURS IN OUR DISTRICTS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
A growing body of research highlights the significant positive impact on children who participate in quality afterschool programming. New research released by the Afterschool Alliance in 2018 showed that, after going to afterschool programs, 65% of students improved their homework completion and class participation, and nearly 60% saw improvements in classroom behavior. In addition, one in two students improved their grades in math and reading. Students who regularly participate in quality afterschool programs develop stronger social skills, have better school day attendance and higher graduation rates. Join a panel of leading superintendents as they share how they aligned afterschool programs with district objectives, increased enrollment and generated additional revenue, while navigating the politics of change.

Presenters:
Brian Barnhart, Superintendent, Western Springs School District 101, Western Springs, IL
Michael Lonergan, Superintendent, Longwood Central School District, Longwood, NY
Mark Rothschild, Founder and CEO, Right At School, Chicago, IL
David Vannasdall, Superintendent, Arcadia Unified School District, Arcadia, CA
Tim Yeomans, Superintendent, Puyallup School District, Puyallup, WA

ROOM 506
LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE NEWTOWN TRAGEDY

Focus Zone: School Environment
School communities across the country have worked diligently to enhance school safety, but the process is ongoing for school leaders. The recently retired Newtown (CT) superintendent of schools shares lessons learned from Newtown. This interactive session discusses best practices, the importance of high-level partnerships pertaining to safety, and the critical need to have safety information updated and understood by everyone within the district. Gain a digital no-cost management plan of all safety information; a sound understanding of proactive initiatives to maximize school safety; response protocols during a crisis; optimal reunification protocols; and strategies for managing the district post-emergency.

Presenters:
Daniel Cottner, School Safety and Security Program Manager, Abilene Independent School District, Abilene, TX
Joe Erardi, Former Superintendent, Newtown School District, Newtown, CT
Bill Reynolds, Vice President of Sales/Co-Founder, CrisisGo, Marion, IL
**Focus Zone: School Environment**

For leaders in the Detroit Public Schools Community District, building trust with the community and developing effective school leadership are critical to their vision of district improvement. In this session, Superintendent Nikolai Vitti and Chief Strategy Officer Elizabeth Cutrona share their experiences in using research-backed surveys to collect feedback from students, families, teachers and staff members, and equip school leaders with a rich source of data for school improvement. This session highlights how district leaders can collect and use survey data about school climate, safety, engagement and instructional leadership. Using examples from the district, these leaders share their strategies for building buy-in with stakeholders, understanding and analyzing results, and using data-informed professional development to guide effective school leadership. Detroit Public Schools Community District and other districts across the country partner with Panorama Education to administer stakeholder feedback surveys and access interactive data reports and dashboards.

**Presenters:**
- Elizabeth Cutrona, Chief Strategy Officer, Detroit Public Schools Community District, Detroit, MI
- Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent, Detroit Public Schools Community District, Detroit, MI
- Eric Weisman, Head of Account Management, Panorama Education, Boston, MA

**1:45 – 2:15PM**

**Snacks in NCE Exhibit Hall | WEST HALL B**

**2 – 2:30PM**

**SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE: MILSTONE C**

**NCE EXHIBIT HALL**

**SHAPING FUTURE STEM LEADERS**

Declining innovative motivation is an enduring problem in corporate America. Milestone C closes the loop between industry professionals and educators to address the root cause.
3:45 – 4:45PM

THOUGHT LEADER
ROOM 515B
HOW TO EMBRACE HIGH SCHOOL RANKINGS AND NOT HATE YOURSELF IN THE MORNING

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
How to embrace high school rankings and NOT hate yourself in the morning. The story of the creative administrators who inspired Jay Mathews to start the Washington Post's America’s Most Challenging High Schools list and break the stranglehold of test scores on school assessments.

Presenter:
Jay Mathews, Columnist, Washington Post, Pasadena, CA

ROOM 507
MEET YOUR DIGITAL EQUITY GOALS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE FUNDING OPTIONS

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Digital learning environments are dependent on current, quality devices that allow for online and offline access, giving each and every student the opportunity to create and produce products that demonstrate their learning no matter if they have Internet access at home. Districts of every size have found the means in limited budgets to use the residual value of their Apple devices to supplement device purchasing budgets in a sustainable, multi-year way. Explore tools to learn the value of your Apple equipment and the best time to trade them in.

Presenters:
Vicki Lyons, Chief Alliance Officer, Diamond Assets, Milton, WI
Tim Schigur, Superintendent, Milton School District, Milton, WI

ROOM 505
HOW TO CREATE AN EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Focus Zone: School Environment
When students participate in community service, they create powerful connections and gain skills to succeed. But too often, students and staff get bogged down by tracking and verifying these experiences with paper-based processes. One central Iowa school district ditched pencil and paper and implemented a digital system that not only captures community service, but also empowers students and celebrates their impact. Learn how the district created a powerful community service program using data and insights that help them better understand public education’s economic impact in the local communities and tout the volunteering achievements of their students without putting a bigger burden on staff. This is especially timely as tracking and reporting community service is now required for many states under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Presenter:
David Schuler, Superintendent, High School District 214, Arlington Heights, IL

ROOM 514
BEHIND EVERY DATA POINT — A CHILD, A JOURNEY AND A STORY

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
The Washoe County School District has made great strides in tracking graduation success through an Early Warning System and Graduation On-Track monitoring. However, what was missing was the student connection and the students’ rich stories. Learn how a 65,000-student district uses data and personal engagement to begin relevant relationships with all students on their pathway to graduation. Using success indicator data along with engagement strategies like graduation invitation magnets, personalized letters, swag, lunch visits by the superintendent, student voice and personal student highlight documentaries, the district commits to the belief that “behind every data point, there is a child, a journey and a story.”

Presenters:
Traci Davis, Superintendent, Washoe County School District, Reno, NV
Ben Hayes, Chief Accountability Officer, Washoe County School District, Reno, NV
Irene Payne, Chief Community Engagement Officer, Washoe County School District, Reno, NV
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

3:45 – 4:45PM

ROOM 501C

WOMEN AT THE FOREFRONT: LEADING THE FIGHT FOR EQUITY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

This session, presented by three successful former superintendents and current mentors and instructors in the AASA-USC Rossier Urban Superintendents Academy, engages participants in developing their skills to lead the challenging and courageous work of building equitable organizational cultures committed to the success of all students, staff and communities. Although strides have been made, there is a compelling sense of urgency to develop women as system leaders, especially during today’s national conversation around equity and access. Data demonstrate that women continue to lag behind in positions of leadership across the country. Participate in interactive activities that include application of a leadership rubric from the book A Culturally Proficient Society Begins in School: Leadership for Equity. After each activity, share your assessments and what actions you might launch in your own organization as a result of having used this tool.

Presenters:
Carmella Franco, Mentor, AASA-USC Rossier Urban Superintendents Academy, Whittier, CA
Maria Ott, Director and Lead Faculty Member, AASA-USC Rossier Urban Superintendents Academy, Los Angeles, CA
Darline Robles, Professor, AASA-USC Rossier Urban Superintendents Academy, Los Angeles, CA

ROOM 512

CREATING SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS THAT PROMOTE WELLBEING AND SAFETY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

School-based health care is a powerful investment in the health and academic potential of children and adolescents. This model delivers convenient, accessible and wide-ranging primary and mental health care services to students where they already spend most of their time: in school. At the heart of the model is the partnership between the schools and community health organizations, working in common cause with students and families, to create and foster the systemic conditions — values, beliefs, norms, policies, practices, programs, services and partnerships — that promote health and enable all children to thrive.

Presenters:
Pia V. Escudero, Executive Director, Division of Student Health and Human Services, Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles, CA
Maryjane Puffer, Executive Director, The L.A. Trust for Children’s Health, Los Angeles, CA

ROOM 504

VOICE FROM THE SCHOOL: GRADING REFORM IN ACTION

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Grading reform is one of the most volatile issues in education. While the potential for impact on student achievement is great, the potential for disaster is also great, with parents and community groups virulently opposed to grading reform. Case studies presented during this session — high school, middle school and elementary school — prove that reform is possible in grading and homework. The session includes practical ideas for community engagement and faculty support for improved grading and homework policies.

Presenter:
Douglas Reeves, Founder, Creative Leadership Solutions, Boston, MA

ROOM 501A

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FOR OUR TIMES: CYBERSECURITY AND DATA PRIVACY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Educators and policymakers increasingly recognize the power and impact of using student data to make informed decisions. However, balancing technology advances with the need to protect student privacy and data is an ever-growing challenge. Additionally, school districts must be proactive in safeguarding the full scope of their technology infrastructure from intentional or accidental cyber attacks. Three superintendents and CoSN’s CEO review current laws and policies around data privacy and cybersecurity and share strategies and resources for school leaders to protect their networks and information security, analyze their current status, validate what they are doing well, and know how to respond when confronted with a violation of data privacy and/or network security.

Presenters:
Juan Cabrera, Superintendent, El Paso Independent School District, El Paso, TX
Keith Krueger, CEO, Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), Washington, DC
Donna Wright, Director of Schools, Wilson County Schools, Lebanon, TN
Randy Ziegenfuss, Superintendent, Salisbury Township School District, Allentown, PA
ROOM 501B
SOLVING THE CHALLENGES OF DIGITAL EQUITY — THE SUPERINTENDENT’S PERSPECTIVE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Nearly $4 billion in E-Rate funding is dedicated each year to improving Internet access to schools, yet a digital divide remains. Five million households with school-age children do not have high-speed Internet service at home. Low-income households — especially Black and Hispanic homes — make up a disproportionate share of that five million. According to a 2014 Pew Research Center study, 75% of school systems surveyed did not have any off-campus strategies for providing connectivity to students at home and after school. Engage in conversation with four innovative superintendents to learn how they successfully meet the challenges of digital equity in their school districts in order to narrow the access gap through innovative strategies and partnerships with business and community groups.

Presenters:
Michael Lubelfeld, Superintendent, North Shore School District 112, Highland Park, IL
Kamela Patton, Superintendent, Collier County Public Schools, Naples, FL
Nick Polyak, Superintendent, Leyden High School District 212, Franklin Park, IL
William Shields, Superintendent, Community Consolidated School District 93, Bloomingdale, IL

ROOM 511C
THE SCIENCE OF ADOLESCENT LEARNING: SYNAPSES FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Focus Zone: School Environment
Adolescence is a time of transition characterized by rapid physical, emotional, social, psychological and cognitive development. As students move toward adulthood, their bodies and minds change, and those changes impact how they learn. Fortunately, there is increasing interest in aligning education policies and practices with scientific research on adolescent learning and development. By doing so, educators can create learning experiences that capitalize on the unique opportunities that adolescence offers. The Alliance for Excellent Education shares information from its science of adolescent learning initiative, focused on translating, disseminating and facilitating discussion of adolescent learning to impact school improvement, especially for secondary schools serving historically underserved students. Mary Sieu, superintendent of ABC Unified School District in Cerritos, CA, and a finalist for AASA’s 2018 National Superintendent of the Year shares her district’s efforts.

Presenters:
Mary Sieu, Superintendent, ABC Unified School District, Cerritos, CA
Winsome Waite, Vice President, Policy to Practice, Alliance for Excellent Education, Washington, DC
ROOM 513
EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE ARE NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Believing that the lack of people of color in administrative roles is negatively affecting student experiences, the New York State Council of School Superintendent’s Commission on Diversity and Inclusivity is focused on cultivating excellence and equity by increasing diversity among professional educators to reflect changing student demographics by garnering strategies and emerging best practices to recruit/retain staff of color and build a pipeline; fostering and facilitating the skills needed to be culturally responsive districts and schools; changing institutionally racist/classist policies and practices; and championing efforts to engage in difficult conversations to yield increased equity in opportunities and outcomes for students. The thought-provoking session is focused on changing the culture of school districts, policies and practices.

Presenters:
Luvelle Brown, Superintendent, Ithaca City School District, Ithaca, NY
Lorna Lewis, Superintendent, Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District, Plainview, NY
Roberto Padilla, Superintendent, Newburgh City School District, Newburgh, NY

ROOM 506
SAVE LIVES BEFORE HELP ARRIVES

Focus Zone: School Environment
When a violent incident happens on school grounds, there is an inevitable and unavoidable delay before EMS personnel are able to provide professional medical care. It is during these critical early minutes that the only resources available are the teachers and students. A critical care medical specialist and former flight medic in the U.S. Army who has been an active member of two SWAT teams shares the simple actions that anyone can take during and immediately after a violent incident. Learn how you can help save lives and tend to the injured before professional rescuers arrive, including how to recognize and treat life-threatening bleeding. Hear about the CitizenAID program and partnerships that have been used to deploy the system cost-free in school districts across the country.

Presenters:
Bob Otter, Fire Captain and Founder/CEO, CitizenAID, Granville, OH
Perry Walton, Critical Care Specialist, Singing River Health System-Pascagoula Ocean Springs, Ocean Springs, MS
AASA FOCUS GROUPS: Preparing FOR THE Future

AASA has an opportunity to assist corporate partners and superintendents in preparing for the future! It is our goal to create and provide a deeper networking opportunity for our corporate partners and raise awareness on behalf of superintendents regarding emerging products and services. Join us at the 2019 AASA Focus Groups!

Benefits for AASA Members
All participants will engage in meaningful dialogue about major educational issues, and much of the discussion will revolve around ways public and private partnerships can improve k-12 education. Our members have the chance to give open, honest feedback which will in turn shape the future of what is brought to the marketplace to improve and enhance student success.

Benefits of Becoming a Focus Group Corporate Partner
All corporate partners will have rare opportunity to participate directly in the process of improving public education and to network with a focused group of prominent, knowledgeable superintendents. In addition to the rooms where the focus groups will take place, all attendees (partners and members) will be able to socially engage and get to know each other on a more personal level.

Ultimately, every attendee will benefit by creating meaningful and memorable experiences with fellow superintendents and/or corporate partners; all in the field of improving public education.

For more information contact Heidi Schmidt, Director, Corporate & Strategic Partnerships: 703-635-4089 or hschmidt@aasa.org
AASA’s Children’s Program Department is centered on work that drives systems change and increases educational equity. We are committed to equity in educational opportunities and outcomes, reducing racial disparity, and aiding and assisting those children most in-need.

**Special Screening and Conversation “America to Me”: Examining Education, Equity and Race**

Thought Leader Session
Moderated by Dr. LaRuth Gray, The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools, New York University

**Thursday, February 14**
10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Room 502A

**DR. EFFIE H. JONES MEMORIAL LUNCHEON**

**Celebrating Equity and Excellence**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019**
12:15 P.M. - 2:15 P.M., ROOM 515A

*Tickets are required and can be purchased at registration for $70.*

**Crisis, Adversity, Tragedy: Leading from the Inside Out**

Thought Leader Session
Rosa Atkins - Charlottesville White Nationalist Rally
Janet Robinson - Sandy Hook Elementary School Shooting
Valeria Silva - Puerto Rico’s Devastation after Hurricane Maria
Steve Herrington - California Wildfires
Moderated by David Schonfeld - National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement, University of Southern California

**Friday, February 15, Room 502A**
3:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Thursday, February 15, Room 512**
♦ Teaching Kindness: Uncommon Solution to Common Middle School Challenge
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

♦ Combating Inequalities and Building Successful Systems of Integrated Student Supports
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Friday, February 15, Room 512**
♦ AASA Building Support for ‘Breakfast After the Bell’
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

♦ Creating School and Community Health Partnerships that Promote Wellbeing and Safety
3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Twitter: @AASATotalChild
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http://www.aasa.org/Childrens-Programs/
## SATURDAY CONFERENCE SESSIONS-AT-A-GLANCE

### 7 – 9AM
- **Shuttle Service Available**

### 7:30AM – 12NOON
- **Registration Hours** | WEST HALL LOBBY
- **Bookstore Hours** | WEST HALL LOBBY

### 8 – 9AM
- **ROOM 505**
  - DREAM Teams: Innovation in Coordinated Mental and Behavioral Health

- **ROOM 506**
  - Navigating the Digital Transformation: Learning from a Premier School District

- **ROOM 511B**
  - Becoming a New School Superintendent: Examining the Tyro Transition

- **ROOM 504**
  - PL Coast to Coast: Igniting Innovation!

- **ROOM 511C**
  - Investing in Children’s Health: Exemplary Health Care—School District Partnership

- **ROOM 511A**
  - Aim for Excellence: Transforming to a Culture of Joy

- **ROOM 507**
  - Leading Through Choice

- **ROOM 501A**
  - Student Voice: From Invisible to Invaluable

- **ROOM 501B**
  - Making Your District Message Real in the Fake News Age

- **ROOM 501C**
  - Using Disciplined Continuous Improvement Cycles to Advance Teaching and Learning

### 9:15 – 10:15AM
- **ROOM 512**
  - Best Practice in Superintendent Evaluation — Nashville Case Study

- **ROOM 504**
  - Greening Schoolyards for Student, Staff and Community Benefits

- **ROOM 505**
  - Using Benchmark Reports and StudentTracker to Report on Postsecondary Outcomes

- **ROOM 506**
  - Action Plan to Implement Successful Innovative Practices — From Concept to Reality

- **ROOM 510**
  - Supporting and Affirming Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth

- **ROOM 511B**
  - Addressing Mental Health Issues in a Small Wyoming School District

- **ROOM 511C**
  - SAM LPLP — Personalized Professional Learning for School Administrators Done Right!

- **ROOM 511A**
  - Librarians as a Lever for Systemic Instructional Change

- **ROOM 507**
  - Overseas Schools Opportunities: Employment, School-to-School Partnerships and More

- **ROOM 501A**
  - Teachers Who Look Like Us: Strategies for Diversifying Our Staff

- **ROOM 501B**
  - Strategies for Developing Curriculum in a Small Rural School District

### 10:30AM – 12NOON
- **Closing General Session** | WEST HALL B

### 11:45AM – 12:30PM
- **Shuttle Service Available**

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## FOCUS ZONES

- Administration and Leadership
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Professional Learning
- School Environment
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

7 – 9AM
Shuttle Service Available

7:30AM – 12NOON
Registration Hours | WEST HALL LOBBY
Bookstore Hours | WEST HALL LOBBY

8 – 9AM

ROOM 505
DREAM TEAMS: INNOVATION IN COORDINATED MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Focus Zone: School Environment
In the wake of recent tragedies in Florida and Texas schools, the need to address student mental and behavioral health has never been more apparent. This session details a unique approach to behavioral health management adopted by a district northwest of Chicago, where 100 elementary students with adverse childhood experiences have improved their academic performance and health. Through the DREAM Academy, District 300 and Invo Healthcare’s IMPACT Team deployed a cadre of social workers, behavioral therapists and mental health and substance abuse counselors to support students who’d experienced significant childhood traumas. After six months of individualized instruction and intensive therapy, over half of students showed 1.5+ years’ growth in reading performance standards, and truancy rates and occurrences of maladaptive behaviors declined. Learn how early psychological traumas impact children’s brain development, and how districts can simultaneously support academic achievement, school safety, and positive culture and climate.

Presenters:
William Edwards, Director, Clemson University Center for Behavior Analysis, Clemson, SC
Fred Heid, Superintendent, District 300, Algonquin, IL
Andrew Post, Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health, Invo Healthcare, Tampa, FL

ROOM 506
NAVIGATING THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION: LEARNING FROM A PREMIER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Our educational world is rapidly transforming through technology. Today’s leaders face challenges to successfully integrate technology in a cost-effective, impactful and measurable way. Georgia’s Oconee County Schools (OCS) is in the top 2% of districts nationwide for innovative use of technology, per the Center for Digital Education and the National School Boards Association. Successful implementation of technology, curriculum and instruction led to the district’s multiple accolades, including multiple STEM-certified and Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, a 96% graduation rate, a Title I highest-performing district and top 2% of high schools nationwide. Recently, OCS embarked on a digital transformation to craft engaging learning environments that enhance academic achievement. OCS’s superintendent and chief academic officer share how they deliver a robust technology infrastructure, acquire 1:1 devices, implement a learning management system, deliver digital curriculum and provide professional learning.

Presenters:
Jason Branch, Superintendent, Oconee County Schools, Watkinsville, GA
Claire Buck, Chief Academic Officer, Oconee County Schools, Watkinsville, GA

ROOM 511B
BECOMING A NEW SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: EXAMINING THE TYRO TRANSITION

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The role of a superintendent is constantly changing and now encompasses more roles and responsibilities than ever before. While states continue to revamp superintendent preparation programs, many of the skills and traits needed to successfully address the transition to a superintendency still remain unaddressed. This session evaluates the experiences of five superintendents transitioning to their first superintendency. They present documented challenges and successes during their first year through journals of their experiences. Additionally, they analyze traits superintendents demonstrate during their tyro transition to overcome challenges of a first-year superintendent.

Presenters:
Terry Brenner, Superintendent of Schools, Grand Forks Public Schools, Grand Forks, ND
Rupak Gandhi, Superintendent of Schools, Fargo Public Schools, Fargo, ND
Teresa Lance, Superintendent of Schools, Thornton Fractional High School District 215, Lansing, IL
Brandon Lunak, Superintendent, Moorhead Area Public Schools, Moorhead, MN
Carlos Ramirez, Superintendent, Eagle County Schools, Eagle, CO
ROOM 504
PL COAST TO COAST: IGNITING INNOVATION!

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Curious about personalized learning? Come hear how three districts coast to coast implement personalized learning. Explore PL frameworks, examine emerging research and see PL in action — customized to various grade levels and contexts, K-12. Bring your questions and leave with answers to innovate and scale PL in your district.

Presenters:
Michelle Benham, Director of Innovation in Teaching and Learning, Dysart Public School District, Surprise, AZ
Liz Freeman, Assistant Superintendent for Innovative Learning, Teaching and Tech, Fremont 79 Intermediate School District, Mundelein, IL
Jillian Gildea, Superintendent, Greenwich Public Schools, Greenwich, CT

ROOM 511A
AIM FOR EXCELLENCE: TRANSFORMING TO A CULTURE OF JOY

Focus Zone: Professional Learning
Feed the teachers or they will eat the kids. If there is any truth to this adage, then leaders must be intentional in their efforts to show their teachers and staff that they are valued. A positive district culture depends on this! In this interactive session, learn how a high-poverty district infused core values such as excellence and joy into everyday expectations to encourage, motivate and empower teachers, leaders and staff. Through the use of strategic planning, social media and strong community partnerships, Selma City Schools overcome low employee morale after an unusual high turnover rate of superintendents and is now on a journey to excellence.

Presenters:
Courtney Washington, Community Engagement Specialist, Selma City Schools, Selma, AL
Avis Williams, Superintendent, Selma City Schools, Selma, AL

ROOM 511C
INVESTING IN CHILDREN’S HEALTH: EXEMPLARY HEALTH CARE–SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
School districts seeking to address a full range of health-related supports often are met with the barrier of insufficient resources. Thus, partnerships and collaboration with community agencies are essential to helping schools/school districts secure the resources and support necessary to address the health-connected needs of students and families. Savannah-Chatham Public School System (SCCPSS) in Georgia is committed to providing school environments that use a holistic approach to promote and protect children’s health, wellness and ability to learn. Learn how SCCPSS established an exemplary partnership with a local nonprofit health care organization to provide comprehensive preventive, primary and mental health care for school-aged youth at designated elementary and secondary schools in distressed neighborhoods. This strong partnership demonstrates how school districts can leverage support from a community agency to support health and academic success and how local health care agencies can strategically engage with schools as a key community partner.

Presenters:
Vallerie Cave, Executive Director for Elementary and K–8 Schools, Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, Savannah, GA
Albert Grandy, CEO, Curtis Cooper Comprehensive Health, Savannah, GA
M. Ann Levett, Superintendent, Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, Savannah, GA

ROOM 507
LEADING THROUGH CHOICE

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Three innovative Missouri school districts have collaborated to reimagine education and advance school choice within their communities. Learn how schools have broken the mold of traditional learning experiences by fostering learner agency, collaboration, creativity and engagement. Hear how learning experiences are provided across all grade levels to connect students and their interests with professionals through mentoring and internship programs. Learn about engaging the community in casting vision, creating a culture of innovation and risk-taking, personalizing the learning experience, shifting pedagogy toward the 4Cs, taking stock of innovative learning opportunities within your schools, increasing experiential learning opportunities, and showcasing each school’s strengths and accomplishments.

Presenters:
John DeWalle, Director of College and Career Readiness, Mehlville School District, Saint Louis, MO
John Jungmann, Superintendent of Schools, Springfield Public Schools, Springfield, MO
Jeremy Tucker, Superintendent of Schools, Liberty Public Schools, Liberty, MO
ROOM 501A
STUDENT VOICE: FROM INVISIBLE TO INVALUABLE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Today’s leaders need to connect with students for success. Using their book Student Voice: From Invisible to Invaluable as the backdrop, the presenters explain how student voice is often invisible and that may be why schools have changed little since the 19th century. From digital citizenship to teacher evaluation, they submit that the voice of students needs to be amplified. They share how to elevate the power and influence of student voice in the transformation and leadership of our schools.

Presenters:
Michael Lubelfeld, Superintendent of Schools, North Shore School District 112, Highland Park, IL
Nick Polyak, Superintendent, Leyden School District 212, Franklin Park, IL

ROOM 501B
MAKING YOUR DISTRICT MESSAGE REAL IN THE FAKE NEWS AGE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Anyone with a smart phone and an opinion has the capability to ignite a following that can undermine your district’s next major initiative. As a superintendent, what can you and your team do to minimize the impact of negative blog streams and social media storms? Learn from two superintendents and their chief communications officers how they and their teams built trust and credibility in the face of fake news and misinformation campaigns. While you may not be able to prevent or squash all the negativity in the blogosphere and your surrounding community, you can diminish its power and impact by engaging ambassadors in your community who will help you tell your story.

Presenters:
Rich Bagin, Executive Director, National School Public Relations Association, Rockville, MD
Catherine Carbone Rogers, Chief Communications Officer, Highline Public Schools, Burien, WA
Susan Enfield, Superintendent, Highline Public Schools, Burien, WA
Steve Webb, Superintendent, Vancouver Public Schools, Vancouver, WA

ROOM 501C
USING DISCIPLINED CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT CYCLES TO ADVANCE TEACHING AND LEARNING

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction

American Institutes for Research (AIR) collaborated with four districts to consider opportunities for improving the use of evaluation system data to more effectively support teachers and improve instruction. Together, the districts identified and addressed a problem of practice within each district’s teacher evaluation and professional growth systems utilizing plan-do-study-act inquiry cycles. This session briefly shares the work of the districts, describing the overall structure of the project as well as the tools and resources AIR used to guide districts through inquiry cycles, and then dive deeply into the story of one district’s efforts to improve and its lessons learned. Learn about continuous improvement cycles as a mechanism for addressing specific problems of practice, but also as a way to create an evidence-base for school improvement.

Presenters:
Kelly Burgess, Assistant Superintendent, Kannapolis City Schools, Kannapolis, NC
Amy Feygin, Senior Researcher, American Institutes for Research, Washington, DC
Courtney Rowland, Principal Technical Assistance Consultant, American Institutes for Research, Washington, DC
Cara Wolford, District-Wide Curriculum Coach, Kannapolis City Schools, Kannapolis, NC

ROOM 512
BEST PRACTICE IN SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION — NASHVILLE CASE STUDY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

During the 2017–2018 school year, the Metro Nashville Board of Public Education sought to develop a comprehensive evaluation tool to support the growth and development of the superintendent (known in Nashville as “Director of Schools”) and to accurately communicate to the public the school district’s key performance indicators that drive MNPS’s strategic plan. This session discusses the journey the school board’s Director Evaluation Committee took with their director of schools to move to an evaluation system that is data-driven, objective and communicates the school board’s commitment to excellence for all students and staff within Metro Nashville Public Schools. Specifically, the session reviews the resulting evaluation instrument developed with high-quality and independent technical assistance and next steps to ensure that the process is institutionalized within the district to ensure a strong evaluation process in the years to come.

Presenters:
Sharon Gentry, Board Chair, Metro Nashville Public Schools, Nashville, TN
Shawn Joseph, Director of Schools, Metro Nashville Public Schools, Nashville, TN
ROOM 504
GREENING SCHOOLYARDS FOR STUDENT, STAFF AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Focus Zone: School Environment
Cities and school districts across the country are starting to develop their schoolyards as places for outdoor learning, physical activity and play during the school day and as community parks during out-of-school time. School districts and city governments like those in Grand Rapids, MI, and Austin, TX, are working together to equitably transform their schoolyards into green schoolyards, sharing land, funding and use to meet their communities’ needs. Learn about green schoolyards basics and how these partners are meeting their priorities by reaping the multiple benefits of green schoolyards.

Presenters:
Paul Cruz, Superintendent, Austin Independent School District, Austin, TX
Teresa Weatheral Neal, Superintendent, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids, MI
Jaime Zaplatosch, Director, Green Schoolyards for Healthy Communities, Children & Nature Network, Minneapolis, MN

ROOM 505
USING BENCHMARK REPORTS AND STUDENTTRACKER TO REPORT ON POSTSECONDARY OUTCOMES

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
It’s estimated that each school report card mandated by Every Student Succeeds Act will rely on more than 2,100 data elements, on average. For even the savviest districts, this is a daunting number. Join the National Student Clearinghouse as we discuss how to use our Benchmarks Reports and StudentTracker reporting capabilities for postsecondary outcomes to measure success across schools, districts, states and nationally. The National Student Clearinghouse is the nation’s largest repository of College and University enrollment and degree data, reporting on postsecondary enrollments, transfers and completion for more than 98% of the nation’s college students. StudentTracker provides visibility into two-year, four-year, public, private, in-state, and out-of-state enrollments and degrees, for up to eight years after high school graduation.

Presenters:
Jill Indugula, Product Manager, National Student Clearinghouse, Herndon, VA
Glenn Rosenberg, Manager, K12 Development, National Student Clearinghouse, Herndon, VA
John Schiappa, Product Manager, National Student Clearinghouse, Herndon, VA

ROOM 506
ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT SUCCESSFUL INNOVATIVE PRACTICES — FROM CONCEPT TO REALITY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
This session provides both a framework and specific strategies from the nation’s most rapidly improving districts for implementing successful, innovative practices that will improve student performance. Participants create a districtwide action plan that pinpoints responsibilities for classroom teachers, building-level administrators, central administrative staff and the board of education to achieve a common goal.

Presenters:
Bill Daggett, Founder and Chairman, Successful Practices Network, Rexford, NY
Ray McNulty, President, Successful Practices Network, Rexford, NY

ROOM 510
SUPPORTING AND AFFIRMING TRANSGENDER AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING YOUTH

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
According to the GLSEN, 75% of transgender and gender-nonconforming (GNC) youth feel unsafe at school because of their gender expression and identity. Many educational leaders believe that ensuring safety for transgender and GNC students expands, rather than compromises, their commitment to all students, but most have not received training that allows them to support this vulnerable population. In this session, gain understanding about transgender and gender-nonconforming youth, dispelling common misconceptions; explore policy, practices and resources for states, districts and schools to ensure an inclusive setting for this population; and identify key intersections between this population and other issues of education equity.

Presenters:
Vanessa Ford, Board Member/Educational Consultant, The National Center of Transgender Equality, Washington, DC
Becca Mui, Education Manager, GLSEN, New York, NY
**ROOM 511B**

**ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN A SMALL WYOMING SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Focus Zone: School Environment**

In this time of budget cuts and shortages, learn how a rural district in Wyoming is partnering and collaborating to create safe, supportive, validating environments for students, families and school personnel. It’s time to team up to decrease stigma and increase mental wellness.

**Presenters:**
- **Carlos Saucedo**, Board Trustee, Goshen County School District 1, Torrington, WY
- **Lynette Saucedo**, Certified Prevention Specialist, Goshen County School District 1, Torrington, WY

**ROOM 511C**

**SAM LPLP — PERSONALIZED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS DONE RIGHT!**

**Focus Zone: Professional Learning**

Learn about the School Administrators of Montana Leaders Professional Learning Program (SAM LPLP). The program provides a unique and innovative approach to professional learning for school leaders to receive student-focused, solution-based professional development designed to be responsive to the challenges and issues administrators face each day. Connecting new, experienced and aspiring administrators, SAM LPLP’s multi-faceted blended learning approach offers a rich online resource center complete with a vast collection of books, articles, videos, websites and activities organized around the 10 Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL); collegial learning networks designed to be dynamic, allowing participants to focus on specific areas of interest; and personal learning networks, including coaching/mentoring with experienced providers. Goals of the SAM LPLP are to provide intentional, personalized professional learning resulting in improvements in job satisfaction, administrator longevity, and ultimately increased student achievement through quality of instruction positively impacting the education of students across the nation.

**Presenters:**
- **Laurie Barron**, Superintendent, Evergreen School District, Kalispell, MT
- **Kirk Miller**, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana, Helena, MT
- **Godfrey Saunders**, SAM LPLP Program Director, Saunders Education Consulting, Bozeman, MT
- **Tom Unwin**, SAM LPLP Program Director, JK Thomas & Associates, Pitt Meadows, BC, Canada

**ROOM 511A**

**LIBRARIANS AS A LEVER FOR SYSTEMIC INSTRUCTIONAL CHANGE**

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

In the midst of the largest 1:1 implementation in the state of Illinois, Indian Prairie School District 204 made an intentional decision to leverage their 31 librarians by reimagining their role to help move the district forward. Using a collaborative leadership model, they created a shared vision that eliminated silos and aligned the library programming to the district vision of #FutureReady204. Learn how, with no additional funding, Indian Prairie was able to empower their librarians to be the catalyst for instructional change by focusing on relationships not resources. With instructional partnerships the primary focus, the librarians have kept the emphasis on pedagogy as the driver and technology as the accelerator. Knowing that innovation does not have a finish line, the district continues to be purposeful by empowering their librarians to push themselves and the district toward continuous instructional improvement.

**Presenters:**
- **Alan Davenport**, Director of Innovation and Instructional Leadership, Indian Prairie School District 204, Aurora, IL
- **Laura Nylen**, Instructional Specialist, Indian Prairie School District 204, Aurora, IL
- **Karen Sullivan**, Superintendent, Indian Prairie School District 204, Aurora, IL

**ROOM 507**

**OVERSEAS SCHOOLS OPPORTUNITIES: EMPLOYMENT, SCHOOL-TO-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS AND MORE**

**Focus Zone: Professional Learning**

Learn more about the role of the American Overseas Schools, including employment opportunities and school-to-school partnerships. Receive literature and materials, including fact sheets, school directories and recruitment information.

**Presenter:**
- **Larry Hobdell**, Regional Education Officer, Office of Overseas Schools, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC
ROOM 501A
TEACHERS WHO LOOK LIKE US: STRATEGIES FOR DIVERSIFYING OUR STAFF

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The percentage of educators of color diminishes at every stage along the professional pathway: from enrollment in education preparation programs to entry into the workforce and ultimately longevity in the profession. As district leaders, we must develop effective strategies to attract and retain high-quality educators of color in our schools. This is critical particularly in richly diverse, economically challenged districts like Highline Public Schools in Burien, WA, a state where public schools have three times as many students of color as teachers of color. Learn how Highline’s human resources team tripled the number of diverse teachers hired by shifting their focus from management of transactions to workforce planning and development. District leaders also share other successful strategies, including the development of a teacher profile aligned to their strategic plan and their bilingual fellows program that provides bilingual paraprofessionals with training to become certified teachers.

Presenters:
Susan Enfield, Superintendent, Highline Public Schools, Burien, WA
Trevor Greene, Executive Director for Workforce Planning and Development, Highline Public Schools, Burien, WA
Steve Grubb, Chief Talent Officer, Highline Public Schools, Burien, WA

ROOM 501B
STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPING CURRICULUM IN A SMALL RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Small school districts face challenges to developing and aligning curriculum documents with limited resources. Learn how one Texas district found innovative ways to work with teachers to develop a curriculum in PK–12. This session includes templates, timelines and access to the district’s curriculum documents.

Presenters:
Kristin Brown, Assistant Superintendent, Lyford Consolidated Independent School District, Lyford, TX
Eduardo Infante, Superintendent, Lyford Consolidated Independent School District, Lyford, TX

10:30AM – 12NOON
CLOSING GENERAL SESSION
WEST HALL B
SINGING SUPERINTENDENTS PERFORMANCE
AASA PRESIDENT-ELECT ADDRESS
Presenter:
Deb Kerr, Superintendent, Brown Deer School District, Brown Deer, WI

KEYNOTE: ADAPT: OVERCOMING ADversity
Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
ADAPT. To continue to move toward our goals, we must be willing to adapt — to change and mold ourselves in order to meet the obstacles in our way. Using ADAPT as an acronym you can put together a powerful set of words that stand alone in their significance, but also string together like a chain in an amazing way.

A - Adjustability
D - Determination
A - Accountability
P - Perseverance
T - Trust

Presenter:
Jim Abbott, Former Professional Baseball Player, Claremont, CA

11:45AM – 12:30PM
Shuttle Service Available
LEAD SERIOUS CHANGE

MID-CAREER DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

We invite you to join a select national network of experienced leaders through an intensive, cohort-based, 3-year doctoral program in educational leadership. The MID-CAREER DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP brings together diverse leaders from across the nation, and from all sectors of P12 education. They meet in Philadelphia for one weekend per month and one week each summer while continuing to work in their distinctive home communities.

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Produced by: AASA
THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION
This format is meant to be highly interactive. Each session is geared toward a specific topic, so please read the descriptions carefully and come prepared to participate! Presentations last 30 minutes, are limited to eight participants and are run back to back. Check the times below carefully and be sure to reference the table number. All presentations take place in the NCE Exhibit Hall in the designated Roundtable Area.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

9 – 10AM

TABLE #1
WHAT I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT BULLYING BY VISITING 400 SCHOOLS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

This update to her previous presentation in 2018 details the experiences that Lizzy Sider continues to build on and learn about with respect to bullying at elementary and middle schools, including why it happens, how to help kids cope with it, and how to help administrators and faculty leaders support bully prevention programs, efforts and initiatives.

**Presenter:**
Lizzie Sider, Founder, Nobody Has The Power To Ruin Your Day, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

TABLE #2
FROM INSIGHT TO INTERVENTION: LEADING WITH DATA ANALYTICS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Learn how district leadership teams are combining disparate datasets into a single system to improve student outcomes and develop action plans in real time. Aggregated visual dashboards are allowing school leaders to quickly combine and analyze in-house data, including metrics such as attendance, discipline, co-curricular activities, workplace learning, GPA, standardized test results, specific demographic data and other variables. This type of analysis allows for a better understanding of the whole student by gaining insights that may lead to intervention opportunities and further ensure student success. The session covers data and analytics related to College and Career Readiness initiatives as well as “readiness” metrics for elementary and middle school students.

**Presenters:**
Michael English, President/CEO, Forecast5 Analytics, Naperville, IL
Daniel Gallagher, Superintendent, Bound Brook School District, Bound Brook, NJ

TABLE #3
USING MONTESSORI PRINCIPLES: CREATING A SAFE AND RESPECTFUL SCHOOL CULTURE

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

School safety is a primary concern as students deal with intolerance, bullying, violence and racism. Leaders struggle to find resources to address this critical concern. Maria Montessori believed that values such as global citizenship, personal responsibility and respect for diversity must be a part of every child’s education. We must first address our students’ fundamental needs prior to focusing on student achievement. These issues are addressed by implementing peace education into the daily curriculum. Consistent expectations and values are expected, taught and modeled. Specific elements include student autonomy, self-discipline, conflict resolution, respectful approach to discipline, focus on the whole child, student engagement, critical thinking and relational skills. Explore Montessori’s philosophy, the process of integrating peace education into schools, and the growing possibility of creating public Montessori schools.

**Presenters:**
Melinda Harris, Principal, Community Montessori School, Jackson, TN
Marilyn Horan, Principal, Carroll Creek Montessori Public Charter, Frederick, MD
Tim Purnell, Executive Director, American Montessori Society, New York, NY

TABLE #4
WHY EQUITY IN WASHOE COUNTY?

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

The presentation addresses the setup, structure, successes and challenges of boldly leading equity work in Washoe County School District. It covers the development of policy, design of professional learning and the process of implementing equity work, while addressing cultural competency to include addressing system barriers of implicit bias, cultural awareness and systems change.

**Presenters:**
Traci Davis, Superintendent, Washoe County School District, Reno, NV
Tiffany Young, Equity and Diversity Coordinator, Washoe County School District, Reno, NV
TABLE #5
THE BEST OF THE BEST — FREE ONLINE RESOURCES FOR YOUR STUDENTS AND YOUR CLASSROOMS

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

Publilius Syrus said it best: “Practice is the best of all instructors.” That is why ACT launched ACT Academy, the go-to place to get free, personalized practice for the ACT. Students and teachers have access to the best resources for free, no matter what subject or publisher, all presented in a variety of ways to best meet differentiated learning styles and ranked by efficacy. ACT Academy is built using the world’s leading collection of online learning resources, including NASA, Khan Academy, GeoGebra, Flocabulary, PBS and many more. Bring your personal device to this session to learn all about ACT Academy so you and your students can start using ACT Academy in your schools.

**Presenter:**
Lisa Wolf, Director K–12 Partnerships, ACT, Inc., Iowa City, IA

TABLE #6
LEARNER-CENTERED SCHOOL DESIGN USING A GLOBAL COMPETENCE FRAMEWORK: AN OAKLAND CASE STUDY

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

Are you planning to open a new school or re-design an existing one in your district? Join us to hear how a global competence framework can support the implementation of learner-centered education strategies. We all know that students need new skills to succeed in the global economy and when a school is being transformed or newly launched, there is a unique opportunity to design it intentionally with this reality in mind. For many districts, the idea of adopting learner-centered approaches that emphasize project-based learning, personalized learning, authentic assessment and student choice is a top priority. When Oakland Unified School District’s newest school was being designed, the team chose to use global competence as the framework through which their core goals — social-emotional literacy, strong academic performance through personalized learning, bilingualism, cultural humility and student agency — would be applied. Learn how this innovative model has resulted in a popular school that is supporting district enrollment goals and ultimately providing an effective route to college and career readiness in the 21st century.

**Presenter:**
Tony Jackson, Director, Center for Global Education at Asia Society, New York, NY

TABLE #7
USING INSTRUCTIONAL ROUNDS TO SUPPORT STANDARDS-ALIGNED INSTRUCTION

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

In the early stages of aligning instructional practice to Tennessee’s rigorous college and career-ready ELA standards, the Sullivan County Department of Education in Tennessee committed to providing teachers with high-quality instructional materials. They quickly learned that effective leadership would be critical to driving the success of this curriculum work. They now bring 11 leaders together at a school once a month to walk classrooms, observe practice using Student Achievement Partners’ Instructional Practice Guide, debrief what they observed, and determine next steps for district and school support. These regular, focused conversations about the alignment of instruction have allowed them to highlight barriers to learning, prioritize needs and identify clear steps to improve learning opportunities for students. As a result, they have seen a significant number of students move out of the bottom quartile of performance and a significant number of students move into the top quartile of performance (as measured by our Benchmark Assessment, AimsWeb).

**Presenters:**
Kate Glover, Project Manager, TNTP, Brooklyn, NY
Robin McClellan, Supervisor of Elementary Education, Sullivan County Department of Education, Blountville, TN

TABLE #8
WHERE, WHEN AND HOW TO MAKE YOUR NEXT MOVE: TIMING IS EVERYTHING

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Regardless how long you have been in your leadership position, your next move is always on the radar. Deciding when, where and how are often the first questions asked. Developing a “next move” strategy may seem daunting. Learn tips and techniques that address where to start, how to find the next best career fit and when to pull the trigger. Get answers to many “internal” questions such as family vs. financial and profession vs. politics. The session is interactive, so come with comments and questions!

**Presenters:**
Stacey Adams, President, W.H. Adams & Associates, LLC, Manahawkin, NJ
William Adams, Vice President, Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, Naples, FL

TABLE #9
COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES FOR SAFE SCHOOLS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

School safety is continuously a topic of concern and practice for school leaders. Educators, parents and the public agree that when school doors open, all stakeholders must be in a safe learning environment. In light of recent events in the U.S., there is much focus on gun control, student and staff safety. Collaborating with police authorities, having plans for various types of school events, and communicating those plans effectively to all stakeholders can result in positive outcomes should a traumatic event occur. This presentation addresses the needs in PreK–12 school settings and identifies systemic approaches to all aspects of school safety. Successful approaches to addressing this issue are discussed and shared.

**Presenters:**
Fern Aefsky, Director of Graduate Education, Saint Leo University, St. Leo, FL
Jodi Lamb, Associate Director of Graduate Education, Saint Leo University, St. Leo, FL
TABLE #10
SCHOOL NUTRITION AND THE WHOLE CHILD APPROACH

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

School nutrition programs are the key to unlocking healthier students and better learners. Hungry kids can’t learn. Evidence shows that hunger due to insufficient intake is associated with lower grades, higher rates of absenteeism, repeating a grade and an inability to focus. Review the evidence-based connection between the consistent availability of healthy school meals and academic success. Discover methods of working with your district’s school nutrition professionals to support this critical component of the whole schools, whole community, whole child approach.

Presenter:
Gay Anderson, District Director, Child Nutrition Services, Brandon Valley School District, Brandon, SD

TABLE #11
USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO STRATEGICALLY PROMOTE YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

The strategic use of social media creates a greater sense of connection and transparency within the school community and with the students we serve. Learn how Dearborn Public Schools uses social media to promote the school district to complement its community engagement plan with an emphasis on visibility in the schools and community. Strategies are presented for using social media to engage the students, staff and community. Learn how to use Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, iBlog, ifttt.com and YouTube as tools to promote your superintendence and your school district. We also provide timesavers to ensure that your social media outreach is manageable regardless of the size of your district.

Presenters:
Glenn Maleyko, Superintendent, Dearborn Public Schools, Dearborn, MI
David Mustonen, Director of Communications and Public Relations, Dearborn Public Schools, Dearborn, MI

TABLE #12
THE DIGITAL DOMINO: HOW ONE INITIATIVE RESTRUCTURED A DISTRICT

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

During the 2015–16 school year, the district office at Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401 investigated the technology initiatives of several Chicagoland school districts to develop one that would meet the needs of the changing landscape for its own students and educators. The initiative they planned and implemented led to a complete structural change throughout the district that included a complete realignment of the core curriculum grades K–12, expansion of community outreach and engagement. This session provides an overview of the initiative and how it was implemented as well as a timeline of events and discussions that led to other systemic changes. Ancillaries include district materials, resources and communication.

Presenters:
Jessica Iovinelli, Director for Instructional Technology, Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, Elmwood Park, IL
Nicolas Wade, Superintendent, Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, Elmwood Park, IL

TABLE #13
GROWING CAPACITY BY BUILDING A CULTURE OF COMMITMENT

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

In our modern era of rapid-fire mandates from both federal and state-level bureaucracies, it can become easy to fall into the trap of focusing on compliance rather than commitment to learning at high levels for all. What if we could develop school cultures that assimilate mandates into the school culture rather than having the mandates drive the school culture? This presentation focuses on how to accomplish this in a school and/or district. Learn about one district’s collaborative journey to build capacity of stakeholders to develop and stay focused on guaranteeing learning for all students. Included in this process is the district’s effort to utilize federal and state mandates to accomplish this goal. Districts can replicate this in small collaborative teacher teams, in a school within the district, or throughout the entire district.

Presenters:
Steve Bliss, Retired Director of Technology, Unadilla Valley Central School District, New Berlin, NY
Frank Johnson, Retired Principal, Unadilla Valley Central School District, New Berlin, NY
Robert Mackey, Superintendent, Unadilla Valley Central School District, New Berlin, NY

TABLE #14
BEYOND UNIVERSAL PREK — SERVING THE UNSERVED CHILDREN

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Even with state-funded PreK, Head Start and universal PreK, states still struggle to serve eligible children. Yet, when children enter kindergarten they are immediately assessed on literacy and numeracy. Explore how and why the legislature in the state with the lowest per-pupil spending in the nation chose to serve over one-third of all four-year-olds with at-home school readiness services, tools and support. Now, other states are following this lead and the scientifically based research results are exciting.

Presenter:
Claudia Miner, Chief Upstart Officer, Waterford Institute, Sandy, UT

TABLE #15
BRANDING YOUR DISTRICT TO CONNECT YOUR EDUCATION COMMUNITY

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Competing for enrollment is a rapidly growing challenge for district leaders. Alternatives abound, including virtual and online courses, home school choices and more. Leaders must consider ways to maintain a strong brand for the district to retain current enrollment and attract new families and students. Explore best practices to effectively compete for student enrollment, new families, new teachers and business partners. The superintendent of Baldwin Schools shares strategies, lessons learned and valuable insight into why branding may be much more important than we realize! This interactive session discusses resources and examples of streamlining your efforts around branding.

Presenters:
Shari Camhi, Superintendent, Baldwin Schools, Baldwin, NY
Chris O’Neal, K12 Solutions, Blackboard K12, Tampa, FL
TABLE #16  
THE MEASURE OF MUSIC: IMPACTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH MUSIC-BASED LEARNING

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
As districts across the country focus on student achievement, they often neglect to take advantage of a powerful tool: the arts! Music class is the perfect setting to develop well-rounded students and make a tangible impact on student achievement in other subjects. Explore music-based learning, an approach used in the music classroom to enhance student understanding in other subject areas. Through hands-on activities and discussion, walk away inspired to tap into this powerful tool in your classrooms!

Presenter:  
Alice Rolli, Vice President, Sales, QuaverMusic.com, Nashville, TN

TABLE #17  
TRANSFORMING CORE INSTRUCTION: STUDENT ACADEMIC TEAMING FOR SEL AND RIGOR

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Grand Island Public Schools embarked on a shift from teacher-centered instruction, where a diverse student population typically were passive learners, to rigorous team-centered instruction, where students actively take responsibility for their own — and their peers’ — daily learning. Learn about the method and progression of this transformation of core instruction with data from schools and how the superintendent led instructional transformation in her district, bringing about extraordinary positive effects on students’ empathy, sense of belonging, interpersonal skills, resilience and authentic engagement. The classroom evidence is amazing to see the transformation and impact on students’ social and emotional learning. Walk away with increased knowledge about the relationship between core instruction to academic success of students and to crucial social-emotional and behavioral skills development in students.

Presenters:  
Tawana Grover, Superintendent, Grand Island Public Schools, Grand Island, NE  
Michael Toth, Author and Founder of Learning Sciences International, West Palm Beach, FL

TABLE #18  
EVIDENCE-BASED HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
The Institute for Student Achievement (ISA) is a non-profit high school redesign organization dedicated to improving the achievement of traditionally underserved students across America. ISA partners with high schools to provide whole-school reform, redesign assistance and school improvement services so that all students graduate ready for college and careers and is recognized in the What Works Clearinghouse and by the White House. Independent studies found: ISA students are diverse; 95% are students of color and 75% are eligible for free and/or reduced price meals. African-American male students outperformed their non-ISA school peers. African-American male students in ISA schools had higher average daily attendance rates in grades 9–11, were promoted to the next grade at significantly higher rates, and had lower dropout rates.

Presenter:  
Stephanie Wood-Garnett, President, Institute for Student Achievement, Washington, DC

TABLE #1  
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY AND BUILDING STUDENT VOICE THROUGH LITERACY

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Discover how an urban school district is aggressively addressing long-term deficiencies in literacy to empower students to develop and define their voices as learners. This session focuses on the logistics of the comprehensive literacy plan that South Bend Community School Corporation has implemented on both a proactive and reactive basis for students K–12. Learn how this focus on comprehensive literacy is transforming the learning community while ensuring that students authentically reach college and career lexile levels.

Presenters:  
Kay Antonelli, Assistant Superintendent, South Bend Community School Corporation, South Bend, IN  
Julia Cordova-Gurule, Director of Bilingual Services, South Bend Community School Corporation, South Bend, IN  
Karla Lee, Directory of Secondary Schools, South Bend Community School Corporation, South Bend, IN

TABLE #2  
ACHIEVING EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE WITH KHAN ACADEMY

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
The Centennial School District is pioneering open educational resources, including an emphasis on Khan Academy to close equity gaps that exist in the national literature. Brown and black children are falling behind as are young women in the STEM fields, especially in mathematics. Centennial is creating a wave, with data to support this claim, that is closing those gaps and allowing each child to learn and grow based on an intense personalization of the mathematics curriculum. Using an articulated K–12 curriculum that is then intentionally personalized, students are growing and moving forward at their own rates. The Centennial School District had two schools finish in the top 30 (and one of them was top 3) out of 10,000 schools in the Khan Academy Learn Storm Competition in 2017. Learn how this groundswell of support for open educational resources is changing a district for the better.

Presenters:  
David Bough, Superintendent, Centennial School District, Warminster, PA  
Jennifer Polinchock, Assistant Superintendent, Centennial School District, Warminster, PA

TABLE #3  
DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE SCHOOL–MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER PARTNERSHIP

Focus Zone: School Environment
This presentation showcases how a mid-sized urban school district embraced a partnership to embed mental health providers within each school. This program was developed with minimal cost to the district and had a positive impact on student behavior and mental health. This was done while the district was also implementing Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS). Overall critical discipline incidents decreased by 67% and mental health-related incidents were reduced by 62%. The number of individual students who were suspended was reduced over 23% during the project.

Presenter:  
Steven Baule, Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Superior, Muncie, IN
ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATIONS: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

AASA's National Conference on Education

### TABLE #4
**THE ELM PROJECT: BUILDING CAPACITY FOR IMPROVED ENGLISH LEARNER ACHIEVEMENT**

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

As school districts prepare themselves for the rollout of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), greater attention will be paid to English learner academic growth at the building level. Therefore, it is imperative for administrators to consider ways to utilize existing building expertise. K–12 English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers are school-based language experts. The research-based English Learners in the Mainstream (ELM) Project is a model designed to help schools and districts build capacity by harnessing the professional expertise of ESL teachers. The ELM Project provides a framework for professional development delivery and peer coaching to ensure that all teachers are utilizing best practices for English learners across classrooms and content areas. Learn how the ELM Project model can help you to capitalize on the resources within your teaching faculty in order to attend to increased building-level accountability under ESSA.

**Presenters:**
Michelle Benegas, Assistant Professor, Hamline University, Saint Paul, MN
Amy Stolpestad, Executive Director, Center for English Learners in the Mainstream, Hamline University School of Education, Saint Paul, MN

### TABLE #5
**CATALYZING CHANGE IN HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS: LEADERSHIP, CONVERSATION AND CHANGE**

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

Catalyzing Change in High School Mathematics: Initiating Critical Conversation, from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, identifies and addresses critical challenges in high school mathematics to increase opportunities for all students. The focus on high school mathematics education stems from flat achievement over the last 30 years compared to progress made at the elementary and middle levels. Systemic challenges include broadening the purposes for teaching high school mathematics; dismantling structural obstacles that limit opportunities; implementing equitable instructional practices; identifying what mathematics is essential for all students; and organizing the high school mathematics experience. Catalyzing Change should spur and support all individuals, including superintendents and district and school leaders with a stake in all students learning mathematics in the serious conversations that must take place. This session discusses practical ways in which you can initiate discussion.

**Presenters:**
Robert Q. Berry III, President, National Council of Teacher of Mathematics, Reston, VA
Matt Larson, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln, NE
John W. Staley, Director, PreK–12 Mathematics, Baltimore County Public Schools, Towson, MD

### TABLE #6
**BUILDING INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP CAPACITY THROUGH TALENT MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Building strong principals and district leaders is paramount to student success. At times of administrator shortages, future-ready school districts employ successful talent management practices and systematic professional learning to develop and grow all leaders within their organization. In this interactive session, presenters share one district’s successful talent management strategies, as well as current research around systematic and systemic learning for administrators. Leave with new ideas and strategies that will help you build better leadership capacity and align resources to the achievement of district priorities.

**Presenters:**
Dawn Benaitis, Director of Professional Learning, Discovery Education, Silver Spring, MD
Dan Bridges, Superintendent, Naperville Community Unit School District 203, Naperville, IL

### TABLE #7
**SUPPORTING ACTIVE SCHOOLS IN YOUR DISTRICT: BECAUSE ACTIVE KIDS LEARN BETTER**

**Focus Zone: School Environment**

Active Schools is a national movement of 90+ organizations that help schools create active school environments through physical education and before-, during- and after-school physical activity opportunities, including classroom movement. Learn about free resources, grants, toolkits and awards — and conduct campaigns such as Take Your Parent to PE Week.

**Presenter:**
Charlene Burgeson, Executive Director, Active Schools, Oakton, VA

### TABLE #8
**EMPOWER YOUR DISTRICT WITH AN INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM**

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Late in the 2017–18 school year, Haysville (KS) Unified School District 261 announced an Innovation Grant Program. The pump was primed by having district book studies of Teach Like a Pirate, Lead Like a Pirate and The Innovator’s Mindset. The district brought in George Couros, author of The Innovator’s Mindset, for a day to ramp up the energy. Then, it was announced that Innovation Grants would be available for amounts up to $20,000 each. The results have been amazing! Leave with a toolkit that will help you replicate this kind of program in your districts.

**Presenters:**
John Burke, Superintendent, Haysville Unified School District, Haysville, KS
Clint Schutte, Assistant Superintendent, Haysville Unified School District, Haysville, KS
Teresa Tosh, Assistant Superintendent, Haysville Unified School District, Haysville, KS
TABLE #9
DIVERSITIES OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
Based on the work of Juana Bordas, *Salsa, Soul and Spirit*, participants examine their leadership styles regardless of their title (teacher, principal, district administrator) in the context of cultural identities. The eight principals Bordas writes about will allow participants to clarify their own leadership identities and how these strengths can support their work in diverse educational settings.

**Presenter:** Maria Campanario, Retired District Administrator/Consultant, Springfield, MA

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TABLE #10
ENSURING ACADEMIC SUCCESS THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GRADUATION INTERVENTION SPECIALIST MODEL

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**
Dearborn Schools is committed to ensuring that all students are career and college ready. In 2011, the district’s graduation rates were on a five-year decline at 76%. With fewer students graduating, changing demographics and increasing enrollment, district leadership collaborated with high school principals to find a solution. The district implemented a new model and focus on graduation rates that included the creation of a graduation intervention specialist at the high school level. The implementation of this model has resulted in district graduation rates that peaked at 95% with dropout rates less than 2%. Graduation intervention specialists intervene early and often with high school students who fail classes and/or struggle to meet the demands of high school.

**Presenters:**
Glenn Maleyko, Superintendent, Dearborn Public Schools, Dearborn, MI
Shannon Peterson, Executive Director of Student Achievement, Dearborn Public Schools, Dearborn, MI

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TABLE #11
WHERE TO BEGIN? EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN PREDOMINANTLY WHITE SCHOOLS

**Focus Zone: School Environment**
Predominantly white school districts are increasingly expected to raise competencies and accountability with respect to equity, diversity, inclusion and social justice. It is an effort that takes long-term commitment and investment. Lasting change benefits marginalized and privileged students, teachers, staff and families by removing barriers to learning through increased awareness, skills and action. What are the most critical topics to focus on for increased awareness? What barriers stand between well-meaning teachers and staff and the actualization of inclusive classrooms and schools? How can the district attend to culture change on individual, group and institutional levels? Participants in this engaging, interactive session follow the Peninsula School District as they share their journey, finding answers and even more questions. Gain insight into what it takes to develop leaders whose curriculum, activities, engagement and infrastructure are examined and improved through an equity lens.

**Presenters:**
Rob Manahan, Superintendent, Peninsula School District, Gig Harbor, WA
Mollie Monahan-Kreishman, Speaker, Trainer, Consultant, Coach, Social Justice Kids, Gig Harbor, WA
Sonia Nicholson, Director of English Language Learning Program and Chair of the District Equity and Diversity Committee, Peninsula School District, Gig Harbor, WA
Kathleen Weymiller, Director of Community Outreach and Chair of the District Equity and Diversity Committee, Peninsula School District, Gig Harbor, WA

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TABLE #12
SERVANT LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
Learn about Servant Leadership as a primary leadership role in education. The session covers basic principles, culture and mindset shifts, modeling and implementation of Servant Leadership practices. Develop a solid understanding of the importance of matching the cultural expectations of 21st-century learners with your lead facilitators and role models. There is a focused discussion on acknowledging the direct correlation between student success/delivering students what they need and providing healthy, engaged, dedicated and supported educators.

**Presenter:** Misty Malone, Owner, Genius Power Productions, Montgomery, TX

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**Conference News Coverage**
Stories about presenters and award winners, short video clips and blog postings about this year’s AASA conference in Los Angeles are added daily to the Conference Daily Online site. Visit AASA’s home page to access.
TABLE #13
CREATING COHERENCE WITH INSTRUCTIONAL ROUNDS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
The practice of instructional rounds is based on the medical model and involves teams of practitioners visiting classrooms and collaborating around predetermined instructional priorities. In District 205, rounds have been more than a tool for administrators to verify instructional practices that support district priorities—it has provided process data that drives school improvement planning and professional learning, and has supported a collaborative culture that ensures that administrators can also learn and grow together by promoting dialogue focused on student growth and instructional improvement. Attend this session and learn how the practice of rounds can create coherence throughout the whole system, practices that have led to tangible improvement, and suggested do’s and don’ts based on one district’s “real-life” experiences.

Presenters:
- Mary Henderson, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Leadership Development, Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205, Elmhurst, IL
- Dave Moyer, Superintendent, Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205, Elmhurst, IL

TABLE #14
PARALYSIS BY DATA ANALYSIS? UNCOMPlicated STRATEGIES TO TRANSFORM YOUR DATA CULTURE

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**
The key to successfully implementing multiple interventions for schools and districts is understanding where students are and what they need to get to the next level. To support educators in making these decisions, numerous partners offer to help give us more data to inform our decisions. So much data are now available that interpreting it can and does become an impairment to growth. Join us as we guide you through the current research, proven strategies and our experience in successfully supporting schools from paralysis into action. This session showcases how to use data as an opportunity to understand your learning communities’ current successes, areas of need and gaps in instruction; monitor program implementation; support student growth and attainment; and determine whether or not a program/vendor is supporting your learner population as intended.

Presenter:
- Keith Palz, Managing Partner/Executive Director, School Transformation, Atlantic Research Partners, Chicago, IL

TABLE #15
THE POWER OF A STRONG ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM—BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
When the superintendent and administrative team members are in sync, their relationship positively impacts the entire school district. This engaging and interactive session focuses on strategies that help your administrative team develop stronger relationships while becoming more effective and efficient.

Presenter:
- Randy Russell, Superintendent, Freeman School District, Rockford, WA

TABLE #16
CREATING AN EVIDENCE-BASED CULTURE: IT STARTS WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT!

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
Effective leadership is the key to implementing the systemic use of data and analytics to improve student outcomes. This session highlights the leadership from two high-performing suburban school districts in the state of Illinois who successfully created an evidence-based culture. Both districts perform in the top 3% on state assessments and have schools honored with National Blue Ribbon awards. ECRA Group is proud to support these two districts by providing analytics, consulting and technology to evaluate the impact that policies, programs, personnel and interventions have on student outcomes. ECRA’s theory of action is rooted in the belief that if schools have better visibility into the whole-child for every child, THEN schools can more effectively scaffold differentiated and tiered systems of support tailored to the unique needs of students. Come learn about how these superintendents and their leadership teams focus on evidence-based continuous improvement!

Presenters:
- Anthony McConnell, Superintendent, District 109 Deerfield, Deerfield, IL
- Katie Sheridan, Director of Language and Early Literacy, Kildeer Countryside CCSD 96, Buffalo Grove, IL
- Eleni Speron, Senior Associate, ECRA Group, Schaumburg, IL

TABLE #17
MASTERY-MINDED GRADING IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**
In Solon, IA, teachers’ gradebooks describe students’ current level of learning, supplanting the usual potpourri of scores. Discover how district administrators leveraged a grass-roots, standards-based grading movement into a multi-year shift in secondary schools. Understand the most pressing concerns of parents, teachers, students and the community.

Presenters:
- Sam Miller, Former Superintendent/Chief Administrator, Solon Community Schools/Central Rivers Area Education Agency, Cedar Falls, IA
- Matt Townsley, Director of Instruction/Assistant Professor, Solon Community Schools/University of Northern Iowa, Mount Vernon, IA

3 – 4PM

TABLE #1
CREATING A CULTURE OF MUTUAL RESPECT

**Focus Zone: School Environment**
This interactive session entices you to participate in learning activities that will help you improve the culture of your schools. By combining Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, Capturing Kids Hearts and Energy Leadership, Haysville Unified School District 261 has created the perfect recipe for improving school culture at every level.

Presenters:
- John Burke, Superintendent, Haysville Unified School District 261, Haysville, KS
- Jennifer Reed, Assessment Coordinator, Haysville Unified School District 261, Haysville, KS
- Teresa Tosh, Assistant Superintendent, Haysville Unified School District 261, Haysville, KS
TABLE #2
IMPROVING SPECIAL EDUCATION;
UNDERSTANDING
THE KEY CONCEPTS OF PERSON, PROCESS AND PROGRESS

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
This session, featuring a nationally recognized education law attorney who litigates and lectures about special education law across the country, explores the key best practice factors of person, process and progress to understand the primary system weaknesses affecting our schools today, to enable superintendents to not only improve systems and avoid (or win) legal claims but, more importantly, to better enable our disabled students to learn and overcome the barrier of disability.

Presenter:
John Comegno, President and Founder, Comegno Law Group PC, Moorestown, NJ

TABLE #3
EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS MOST — CHOOSING TO INVEST

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Leading economists have identified the investment made in children and students prior to second grade as having a return on investment of $17 to every $1 spent. A panel of members and partners of the AASA Early Childhood Learning Cohort share how they have worked through their district and state funding allocations to provide more opportunities for early learning education for more children. Engage with leading superintendents who have chosen to invest in their youngest learners and understand how this was accomplished. Bottom line: Stop asking IF we should invest in early childhood and starting thinking HOW to make it happen.

Presenters:
Benjamin Heuston, President, Waterford Institute, Sandy, UT
Kyle Mayer, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Service, Ottawa Intermediate School District, Holland, MI

TABLE #4
G. R. E. A. T. LEADERSHIP = QUALITY ORGANIZATIONS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
What are your organization’s goals? What role(s) do your leaders play in bringing about innovation and positive change? What expectations do you have for your organization’s culture? What leadership attitude exists in your organization? Do you have the tools to bring about this change? Transform your organization by enhancing its quality, strengthening your leadership capacity, and advancing a positive, innovative culture for your stakeholders! Baldridge’s Framework for Excellence and Quality Tools are embedded with the principles of distributive leadership, communication, coaching, visioning, goal setting, managing complex change and motivation to create the G.R.E.A.T. framework for school improvement. Let’s talk about these principles and more to be G. R. E. A. T.!

Presenter:
Ronald Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, Mt. Lebanon School District, Pittsburgh, PA

TABLE #5
A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SCHOOL SECURITY — HARDENING, TECHNOLOGY, TRAINING & PERSONNEL

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Hector Delgado, a retired Navy SEAL with 29 years of combined active and reserve service, also served as a special agent with the Department of Homeland Security Investigations and had conducted hundreds of active shooter seminars well before active shooter incidents became an epidemic in our nation. He presents a comprehensive security approach to securing schools in America, including an overview of the recently formed school safety and security committees in Florida and Texas and designated by the governors to evaluate and assess the future of safety and security solutions for schools. He also provides information and a live demonstration of a new active shooter response threat alert system currently operational in South Florida.

Presenter:
Hector Delgado, President, ASR Alert Systems, Juno Beach, FL

TABLE #6
19-20-21: DEALING WITH 19TH-CENTURY PEDAGOGY IN 20TH-CENTURY FACILITIES WITH 21ST-CENTURY LEARNERS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Education has changed more in the past six years than it has in the last 60. New technology is here along with a subjection to new edu-buzzwords. One essential question remains: How do we meet the needs of today’s students and prepare them for tomorrow? Join us for a dynamic discussion and a collection of free resources.

Presenter:
Jason Eitner, Assistant Superintendent, Williston Township Public School District 1, Williston, ND

TABLE #7
LEADING THE CHANGE: BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE MATERIALS ADOPTION

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Effective school leaders are intensely engaged in curricular issues that directly affect student achievement every day. Yet, in a market flooded with materials claiming their alignment to standards and instructional shifts, how can leaders realize their vision of preparing all students for college and career? This session addresses how one district engaged in a transparent, data-driven, comprehensive approach to the selection of new math curricular materials that were aligned with standards and practices, as well as focused on specific district needs.

Presenters:
Shannah Estep, Outreach Specialist, EdReports, Fresno, CA
Elizabeth Maki, Program Manager, Pivot Learning, Oakland, CA
ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATIONS: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

3 – 4PM

**TABLE #8**

**EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY 101 FOR SUPERINTENDENTS**

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Attendees are introduced to technology, social media and apps that can be utilized effectively with school leadership. Attendees also have the chance to actively engage with the presenter using such media and apps. Gain a greater sense of innovative ways to utilize technology with students, staff, parents, community members and business owners.

**Presenter:**

Denver Fowler, Professor, PK–12 Leadership, Franklin University, Columbus, OH

**TABLE #9**

**POWERFUL STUDENT VOICES: THE FUTURE OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

**Focus Zone: School Environment**

Are you working in a predominantly white school district engaging in equity and diversity efforts? Who are the voices guiding your work? Predominantly white school districts are increasingly being called on to address inclusion and social justice. Some focus on achievement gaps for marginalized students; others center efforts on teaching cultural competencies to students and teachers in need of increased awareness and skills. Efforts are often led by districtwide equity and diversity teams. Too often student voices are left out of the conversation. In this engaging, interactive session, gain inspiration and insights from the voices of students who help set the diversity and equity initiatives for an entire district. Through video clips of student participants, presenters share the journey from philosophy to full engagement, and the resulting benefits for students, teachers and families.

**Presenters:**

Rob Manahan, Superintendent, Peninsula School District, Gig Harbor, WA

Mollie Monahan-Kreishman, Speaker, Trainer, Consultant, Coach, Social Justice Kids, Gig Harbor, WA

Sonia Nicholson, Director of English Language Learning Program and Chair of the District Equity and Diversity Committee, Peninsula School District, Gig Harbor, WA

Kathleen Weymiller, Director of Community Outreach and Chair of the District Diversity and Equity Committee, Peninsula School District, Gig Harbor, WA

**TABLE #10**

**MOVING FORWARD: A DISTRICT’S STORY IN ITS RESTRUCTURING FOR CHANGE**

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, the only unit district in Cook County and only two square miles, has undergone significant change since late 2016 in its overhaul of vision and goals and prioritization of resources. The Illinois district is facing a dramatic shift in student demographics, stagnant standardized test scores, lack of programmatic options for students in need or who are accelerated, aging facilities and deficit spending. To address these concerns, the district restructured its administrative hierarchy, expanded technology services and tools, articulated the four core content areas in grades K–12, reevaluated its services and supports for students and staff, and developed a comprehensive facilities program. This session shows how the district researched, planned and enacted a comprehensive vision that will produce an end product that will significantly change the learning environment and function of the district for all stakeholders.

**Presenters:**

Leah Gauthier, Director for Curriculum and Instruction, Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, Elmwood Park, IL

Jessica Iovinelli, Director for Instructional Technology, Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, Elmwood Park, IL

Kari Smith, Director for Student Services, Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, Elmwood Park, IL

Nicolas Wade, Superintendent, Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, Elmwood Park, IL

**TABLE #11**

**GOING DEEP: ALIGNING THE RIGHT ACTIONS AND INVESTMENTS TO ACHIEVE OUR PRIORITIES**

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

In the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District, leaders and community members developed an ambitious five-year strategic plan to improve student outcomes across the system. As implementation began, financial challenges threatened to delay improvement, but with careful adjustment and an ever-tighter focus on high leverage work in equity, instructional practice, and engaging employees through feedback and shared leadership, the district has stayed the course and begun to see results. Presenters share their processes for developing leaders and teachers, monitoring progress and adjusting along the way, the annual approach to organizational learning, and deeper implementation of highly effective practices.

**Presenters:**

Martin Lexmond, Superintendent, West Allis-West Milwaukee School District, West Allis, WI

Melissa Matarazzo, Leader Coach, Studer Education, Pensacola, FL

Deidre Roemer, Director of Leadership and Learning, West Allis-West Milwaukee School District, West Allis, WI
Michael Paolucci, curriculum.

by looking for creative ways to broaden its integration into the
inspire educators to place a higher value on astronomy in education
rebuild society’s connection to the night sky and, in the process,
and rocket scientists. And yet all people wonder what is out there.
world beyond our making. Space is daunting, the purview of Einstein
this lost realm, and with it our sense of perspective regarding the
which our ancestors had far more appreciation. We aspire to reclaim
have blinded us to an important aspect of our environment, one in
Light pollution and the concentration of population in modern cities

BELONGS ON THE CURRICULUM

THE CURSE OF COPERNICUS: ASTRONOMY

TABLE #14

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Light pollution and the concentration of population in modern cities
have blinded us to an important aspect of our environment, one in
which our ancestors had far more appreciation. We aspire to reclaim
this lost realm, and with it our sense of perspective regarding the
world beyond our making. Space is daunting, the purview of Einstein
and rocket scientists. And yet all people wonder what is out there.
Science leads the way. But space also appears in our art and in
our stories, in our music and in our dreams. Slooh’s mission is to
rebuild society’s connection to the night sky and, in the process,
inspire educators to place a higher value on astronomy in education
by looking for creative ways to broaden its integration into the
curriculum.

Presenters:
Paige Godfrey, Director of Education, Slooh, Washington, CT
Michael Paolucci, CEO, Slooh, Washington, CT

TABLE #15

REDEFINING READY & VISION 2025: STRATEGICALLY
PLANNING STUDENTS’ FUTURE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Mansfield Independent School District has experienced incredible growth in
student achievement by applying the district’s continuous improvement process,
Cadence of Accountability (COA), to its innovative one-page strategic plan, Vision 2020. MISD is now taking the COA process to the
student level through the development and implementation of Vision 2025. Vision 2025 encompasses the essence of Redefining Ready by
guiding each of the 35,000 students through an individualized plan
to ensure each is life and college or career ready. Students, parents,
counselors, teachers and administrators work together to plan and track
progress through the student’s digital scorecard. Vision 2025 aligns the
district MVVG with the goals, aspirations and dreams of each student.

Presenters:
Kimberley Cantu, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources,
Mansfield Independent School District, Mansfield, TX
Sean Scott, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability, Mansfield Independent School District, Mansfield, TX
Jim Vaszauskas, Superintendent, Mansfield Independent School District, Mansfield, TX

TABLE #16

NEXTWORK — A CAREER AND WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM FOR ALL STUDENTS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
NextWork is a platform designed collaboratively by K–12 educators
and business leaders and supported by government officials and
foundations to provide opportunities for students to participate in
career/workforce development activities and for businesses to offer
career opportunities to students. Through NextWork, students may visit
worksites, hear from professional speakers, complete job shadowing and
internship experiences, and apply for career/internship opportunities.
Businesses work directly with schools to recruit local talent and provide
opportunities to students and school districts. Together, business and
education have developed collaborative partnerships to help students
become future ready. NextWork simplifies the communication processes
that are used to connect school and business.

Presenters:
Julie Ramos, Director of Strategic Innovation, Wickliffe City School
District, Wickliffe, OH
Joseph Spiccia, Superintendent, Wickliffe City School District,
Wickliffe, OH

TABLE #17

CREATING RESOURCE EQUITY IN OUR SCHOOLS
AND SYSTEMS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Resource equity refers to the allocation and use of resources (people, time,
money) to create student experiences that enable all children to reach
empowering and rigorous learning outcomes — no matter race or income.
ERS leads this session on defining resource equity and sharing learnings from
district leaders who have engaged in measuring, communicating and
taking action to promote greater resource equity. Topics include:
What is resource equity? How does it relate to outcome equity? How do I
know if I have resource equity? What are ways to measure it in my district?
What are levers to improve resource equity? How can I both increase
resource equity for those with the largest gaps and raise the bar for all?
How do I best engage others in this conversation?

Presenter:
Joe McKown, Partner, Education Resource Strategies (ERS),
San Francisco, CA
## TABLE #1
### THEY’RE ALL SPECIAL — CREATING EQUITABLE AND EXCELLENT EDUCATION FOR ALL

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Unsustainable cost, legal challenges and entitlements saddle today’s special education. It’s time for school leaders — general and special education — to think anew about how to build programs for all students. A school attorney, superintendent and special education director share their views, values and vision to engage participants in asking: What if we designed schools that truly focus on equitable high-quality education for all? What steps forward can we take now? What if we challenge school and community leaders to focus on BIG ideas, dreams and fundamental change, not just little tweaks of the current broken system? With our “coast-to-coast” experts, we invite you to celebrate the 40+ year-old special education history, explore current realities and challenges with data, and courageously contemplate and create solutions for a better way forward.

**Presenters:**
- Anne Delfosse, Executive Director, Student Services, Capistrano Unified School District, San Juan Capistrano, CA
- Dianne Helprin, Superintendent, Union 69, Five Towns School District, Hope, ME
- Miriam Kurtzig Freedman, Attorney, Author, School Law Pro Counsel, Stoneman, Chandler & Miller, Palo Alto, CA

## TABLE #2
### WHAT TEACHING PRINCIPALS IN JORDAN TAUGHT US ABOUT 21ST-CENTURY SKILLS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

A team of Connecticut educators, working in collaboration with Queen Rania Teacher Academy in Amman, has provided advanced training to three cohorts of government school principals in the Kingdom of Jordan over the past three years. All practicing superintendents as well as adjunct instructors in the principal preparation program at UConn, these leaders were supported by instructional coaches as they brought their experience and their expertise to principals working in the government schools of the Kingdom through a train-the-trainer-program. Hear the story of this work and the lessons learned about leadership work in their home districts from the superintendents who served as instructors.

**Presenters:**
- Jason Culbertson, President, Insight Education, Encino, CA
- Paul Freeman, Superintendent, Guilford Public Schools, Guilford, CT

## TABLE #3
### ADDRESSING CIVILITY ONE CHILD AND ONE SCHOOL AT A TIME

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Meeting the leadership challenge of developing a healthy school culture and community that promotes civility begins with how we engage with our students and school communities. In this workshop, hear accounts from a school superintendent that worked directly with teachers and students to develop two specific approaches to promoting the concept of civility. The first approach involves training students and teachers about how to conduct effective student-led class meetings. When implemented with fidelity, these meetings encourage students to take responsibility to articulate issues in a democratic discourse. The second approach involves implementing a student TV broadcasting program. Broadcasts air on a website, thereby promoting digital citizenship beyond the walls of the school. Civility is promoted throughout the schoolhouse as content is always considered.

**Presenter:**
- David Gamberg, Superintendent of Schools, Southold Union Free School District/Greenport Union Free School District, Southold, NY

## TABLE #4
### THE SCIENCE OF EFFECTIVE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

The Science of Effective School Leadership highlights the power of positive, systematic and incremental changes that are “doable” for the busy school leader. Instead of trying to improve schools through a few large, rapid and disruptive redesigns, this approach to school leadership focuses on incremental change involving the implementation of small — but meaningful and cumulative — changes that positively impact climate, culture and student achievement. This approach to school leadership is rooted in the science of human behavior as applied to organizational settings and focuses on the small steps that leaders can do to immediately invoke positive changes that are sustainable.

**Presenters:**
- Anika Costa, Coordinator of School Improvement, Positive Behavior Supports, Corp., Stuart, FL
- Paul Gavoni, Director of School Improvement, Positive Behavior Supports, Corp., Stuart, FL

## TABLE #5
### CANARY IN THE COAL MINE: ANTICIPATING A COMMUNICATIONS CRISIS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

It’s inevitable. Every school leader will face a communications crisis. Possessing the skills and knowledge to see it coming will mean the difference between suffering serious reputation damage and emerging unscathed. In the social media age, a crisis can spread like wildfire, which means school leaders must act swiftly before a potential threat becomes a full-blown crisis. The best time to respond to a communications crisis is before it happens. Learn from real-life examples about how to assess risks, manage messages and leverage relationships with influencers and the media. This session gives you the tools to minimize a potential crisis and get back on track sharing good news from your district.

**Presenter:**
- Rebekah Grim, Manager of Communications and Print Services, St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, Canton, NY
TABLE #6
THE TRANS4MATIONAL LEADER: LEADING FROM THE INSIDE OUT

**Focus Zone:** Administration and Leadership

Turning around America’s most challenging and failing schools has been at the forefront of conversations and debates for the past decade. Besieged by failing test scores, community challenges, and sometimes inadequate resources and funding, failing schools often lack the structures needed to successfully transform over time. Too often, the strategies implemented are random, shallow and lack systemic structures for long-term progress and sustaining power. This presentation examines the four essential components of school transformation and demonstrates how to successfully transform the most challenged school from the inside out. Explore the four essential components of effective and sustained transformation beginning with the most essential element of leadership.

**Presenters:**
Michelle Hairston, Founder/CEO, Hairston Education Consulting, LLC, Midlothian, VA
Kimberly Tuttle, Education Consultant, Hairston Education Consulting, LLC, Matthews, NC

TABLE #7
IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL LEARN! CREATING DISTRICT-DRIVEN, PRINCIPAL-INVOLVED SYSTEMS FOR EQUITABLE CURRICULUM

**Focus Zone:** Curriculum and Instruction

Learn how the 20,000-student Bethel School District in Washington state engaged the entire organization to create a system of support that generates an ongoing interaction between principals, teachers and district office leaders. This new framework for curriculum implementation is responsible for rapidly turning principals into connected and confident instructional leaders who increase teacher capacity to successfully implement curriculum aligned to the Common Core Standards.

**Presenters:**
Kelley Boynton, Executive Director of Elementary Schools, Bethel School District, Spanaway, WA
David Hammond, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools, Bethel School District, Spanaway, WA

TABLE #8
SCHOOL DISTRICT RECONFIGURATION IN RESPONSE TO DECLINING ENROLLMENT AND LOSS OF OPERATING REVENUE

**Focus Zone:** Administration and Leadership

The Chardon Local School District is facing a projected 10% enrollment decline in the next 10 years along with loss of state financial support. In response, the district closed two of four elementary school buildings and restructured grade-level assignments in remaining schools to achieve greater operational efficiency without cutting academic programs. This presentation explores methods used to engage staff, community and students around the issue of district reconfiguration in order to preserve and extend academic programs and to think creatively about the assignment of students to new schools. Projected savings resulting from reconfiguration will be approximately $2 million on a $35 million annual operating budget. In addition, district leadership discuss strategies used to successfully pass a new tax issue for operating expenses that further stabilizes the fiscal projection in this 3,000-student school district.

**Presenters:**
Michael Hanlon, Superintendent, Chardon Local Schools, Chardon, OH
Edward Klein, Assistant Superintendent, Chardon Local Schools, Chardon, OH

TABLE #9
THE CONCEPT OF ACCESS IN GLOBAL EDUCATION: STRATEGIES FOR INCLUSIVENESS

**Focus Zone:** Curriculum and Instruction

In the field of global education, some critics claim that programming is not geared toward the mainstream, raising concerns about exclusivity and elitism. This mindset can lead to lackluster support of initiatives in the community. This presentation offers strategies to district leaders seeking to improve inclusive practices in the field in order to offer global education for all in their organization. Presenters share their experiences in making global education a district priority in a 100% free lunch community with a higher-than state average of students in special education programming. They highlight the work they are doing in collaboration with sister schools in a dozen countries across six continents, that all students are able to access. Further, they demonstrate multi-modal methods of implementation that have led to a steady source of additional revenue for the district, as well as to the district’s recognition the field.

**Presenters:**
Maureen Manning, Director of Global Education, Wareham Public Schools, Wareham, MA
Johan Schersten, International Educational Consultant in Global Education, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Superintendent of Schools, Wareham Public Schools, Wareham, MA
TABLE #10
WHEN EVERYONE GETS PERSONALIZED COACHING — ADULT LEARNING FOR COLLECTIVE EFFICACY

Focus Zone: Professional Learning
Imagine a school in which every teacher every year has an instructional coaching plan to help create what John Hattie calls “collective efficacy” of a teaching staff. See how Maine Township High School District 207 developed a teacher-led instructional coaching model to support continuous growth and improvement of teachers to help create better student success. The result: the district attained its highest levels of student achievement despite rising student poverty and diversity. District 207’s 2018 graduates are perhaps the first U.S. students to attend a high school in which every teacher every year has an instructional coaching plan. Innovation in adult learning is at the center of the district’s efforts to improve student achievement. Learn about our adult learning model and develop action steps you can take to build collective teacher efficacy.

Presenters:
Jill Geocaris, Coordinator of Innovative Adult Learning, Maine Township High School District 207, Park Ridge, IL
Ken Wallace, Superintendent, Maine Township High School District 207, Park Ridge, IL

TABLE #11
BRIDGING GAPS OF THE HEART, HEAD, HAND IN A VOLATILE TIME

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Safe schools with powerful career pathways for prosperity created for our students are clear, industry-driven and a reality for our schools, starting with site visits, professional speakers series, service learning, high school-level industry-recognized credentials, college credits and/or paid internships for all seniors. Head: Knowledge is power. Staff, students and others need to practice how to run, hide, fight and communicate during an emergency. Hand: We partner with the St. Louis Police Athletic League to teach boxing and self-defense to students and support more SROs in schools, Active Shooter Action Teams of voluntary staff members in each school with the continuum of force at key places.

Presenter:
Art McCoy, Superintendent of Schools, Jennings School District, Jennings, MO

TABLE #12
TELL YOUR OWN SUCCESS STORIES!

Focus Zone: School Environment
In this session, learn how to flip the conventional and outdated communication model to empower your schools and district office to tell their own success stories. Learn how district-created School Communication Roadmaps turned teachers into classroom journalists called #Tweetchers and mobilized storytellers district-wide to produce a tidal wave of positive news that drowned out the false narratives. Receive the blueprints to build a powerful communications system in your district!

Presenters:
Tammy Caraker, Associate Superintendent, Collier County Public Schools, Naples, FL
Kamela Patton, Superintendent, Collier County Public Schools, Naples, FL

TABLE #13
IMPLEMENTING FORT WORTH’S “INSTRUCTION DRIVES CONSTRUCTION” FOR COMMUNITY IN THE CLASSROOM

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Fort Worth Independent School District initiated its Long-Range Master Facilities Plan: Innovative Learning for Our Future process to plan facilities based on their vision for instruction. After engaging the community to design the FWISD Learning Model, the district was able to pass the largest bond in the county’s history, with a 78% vote in favor of the $750 million bond. Then, FWISD rolled out the Learning Model with training and individualized, job-embedded coaching for all educators. This innovation pairs the intentionally designed learner experience with facilities design and construction. Intentional design ensures learners develop the life-ready skills they need for an unpredictable future. The responsible roll-out design of implementation ensures teachers, leaders, coaches and the entire school system have the capacity and expertise to create this enhanced, engaging learner experience. FWISD is maximizing return on investment and truly transforming the educational experience of all stakeholders.

Presenters:
Khechara Bradford, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Fort Worth Independent School District, Fort Worth, TX
Shannon Buerk, CEO, engage2learn, Portland, TX

TABLE #14
PUTTING YOUR STRATEGIC PLAN ON A DIET FOR EXTRAORDINARY RESULTS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Seven years ago, Coxsackie-Athens began moving from being a good district to one that inspires extraordinary success. In this session, learn the six questions that led to immediate and now sustained positive results in graduation, reading, community service and mastery of life-ready skills for students. Their story shares the actions they took that resulted in graduation rates improving an average of 16% over the past six years. Take away strategies to simplify your strategic plan to gain better results by understanding the key questions your leadership team must ask and come to agreement on the answers to, in order to build clarity and greater success within your schools and help your districts achieve the growth and results in areas that matter to them.

Presenter:
Randall Squier, Superintendent of Schools, Coxsackie-Athens Central Schools, Coxsackie, NY
TABLE #15
SELF-INSPIRED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING TO ACHIEVE DISTRICT GOALS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Come and learn how one district created a conceptual design and implementation strategy for a self-directed professional learning model for all teachers. Presenters share framework and organizational strategies regarding how to design and implement this idea in order to achieve district goals, standards and priorities. Leave the session with practical ideas and strategies on how to bring this unique approach back to your districts.

Presenters:
Matthew Silverman, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, River Trails School District 26, Mt. Prospect, IL
Nancy Wagner, Superintendent, River Trails School District 26, Mt. Prospect, IL

11:15AM – 12:15PM

TABLE #3
BUILDING LEADERSHIP CAPACITY USING A MULTI-DISTRICT COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
How do you build the capacity of aspiring leaders who have finished formal leadership certification programs and are awaiting opportunities in your district? Learn how superintendents from across a single county worked with their regional educational service agency to launch a leadership development fellowship program. Using a cohort model, formal or informal leaders who have already earned their certification come together for five full-day sessions on topics including instructional leadership and culture and community. Cohort members investigate these topics through a practical lens that is also specific to the needs of the county. Superintendents throughout the county support this program by nominating aspiring leaders, presenting on identified topics, and granting interviews for leadership positions to cohort members. If you are concerned about developing and retaining strong leaders within your district or region, this session provides ideas to develop your own cohort.

Presenters:
Mark Hoffman, Executive Director, Bucks County Intermediate Unit 22, Doylestown, PA
Rachel Holler, Director of Programs and Services, Bucks County Intermediate Unit 22, Doylestown, PA

TABLE #1
DELIBERATE COACHING: A TOOLBOX FOR ACCELERATING TEACHER PERFORMANCE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
District and school leaders often serve as coaches as they seek to bring out the best in their teachers and students. Deliberate coaching refers to a special type of coaching in schools that is precise, purposeful and systematic. While common coaching approaches applied by leaders might include a scatter shot approach, deliberate coaching requires focused observation, measurement and feedback to shape socially valid, high-impact teacher performance. Deliberate coaching, while drawing a clear distinction between the development of skills (training) and transfer of skills (coaching) into the school and classroom, is conducted with the specific goal of increasing student achievement by improving the performance of teachers, grade groups and the school as a whole.

Presenters:
Anika Costa, Coordinator of School Improvement, Positive Behavior Supports Corp., Stuart, FL
Paul Gavoni, Director of School Improvement, Positive Behavior Supports Corp., Stuart, FL

TABLE #2
BUILDINGS WITHOUT FOUNDATIONS: THE LACK OF EARLY LITERACY IN SCHOOLS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
While there are many worthy topics and skills we strive to impart to the rising generation, literacy alone lies at the heart of education and is an undisputed requirement for a competitive workforce and a functioning democracy. The recently released NAEP 2017 reading scores continue to underscore that roughly 2/3 of America’s children are behind in elementary school and that they, despite our best efforts, will not catch up over time. We know how literacy is best acquired, we know what each child needs to be successful, we have good data on approaches and 21st-century tools that can help, but we lack a common vision and commitment to getting there. It is vital that we both individually and collectively move with urgency to put a greater emphasis on early literacy for every child.

Presenter:
Benjamin Heuston, President and CEO, Waterford Institute, Sandy, UT

TABLE #4
BALANCED SCHOOL CALENDAR: THE RELATIONSHIPS, RESEARCH AND THE REALITY

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
One of the few constants in education of the past 150 years has been the 180-day school calendar and the 12-week summer intermission. With levels of accountability at an all-time high, school leaders are searching for ways to impact student achievement. The balanced school calendar offers continuous access to instruction and educational resources, which research shows is especially important in preventing summer learning loss. The long summer vacation requires on average four to eight weeks of re-teaching each fall. As a result, teachers now only have 140 school days to help their students achieve a year of academic growth. School districts across the state are spending millions of dollars each year attempting to close the gaps created by the traditional school calendar. Join Superintendent David Hornak and the National Association for Year-Round Education as he unpacks the relationships, research and the reality of the Balanced School Calendar.

Presenters:
Anne M. Hornak, Professor, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI
David G. Hornak, Superintendent, Holt Public Schools, Holt, MI
11:15AM – 12:15PM

**TABLE #5**

**STARTING A MOVEMENT: SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING IN ACTION**

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

Social-emotional learning (SEL) is key to ensuring that every child is healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. Developing SEL skills in students requires systematic districtwide implementation. However, embedding SEL into your school culture takes more than a plan — it takes a movement. Join this interactive exploration into how one district utilized transformational leadership to start their SEL movement. Engage in a variety of hands-on activities that model explicit instruction and integration of social-emotional skills into content and explore how these strategies can be embedded into unique professional learning structures for long-term sustainability.

**Presenters:**
- Dan Bridges, Superintendent, Naperville School District 203, Naperville, IL
- Christine Igoe, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Naperville School District 203, Naperville, IL
- Lisa Xagas, Director of Student Services, Naperville School District 203, Naperville, IL

**TABLE #6**

**GROUNDING FACILITY DESIGN IN THE FUTURE OF TEACHING AND LEARNING**

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**

Staying true to its master plan promise (Your Voice Matters), the Upper Arlington Board of Education has continued to engage its community and staff in a uniquely transparent and participatory design planning process. Taking cues from numerous community engagement sessions, the team sought to cultivate a vision for the future of teaching and learning in Upper Arlington. This session explores the various elements of the design phase and how to authentically engage a diverse array of constituents in a dialogue about the types of facilities that will best prepare students of today and tomorrow for their futures.

**Presenters:**
- Aimee Eckmann, K–12 Practice Leader, Associate Principal, Perkins+Will, Chicago, IL
- Paul Imhoff, Superintendent, Upper Arlington Schools, Upper Arlington, OH
- Kathy Jenney, Associate Superintendent, Upper Arlington Schools, Upper Arlington, OH
- Steven Turckes, K–12 Education Global Practice Leader, Principal, Perkins+Will, Chicago, IL

**TABLE #7**

**ANXIETY, TRAUMA AND EMOTIONAL DYSGREGULATION: WHERE LEARNING STOPS**

**Focus Zone: School Environment**

When working with learners of any age, it is imperative that educators have a basic understanding of how stress, anxiety, trauma and an individual’s unique method of emotional regulation impact behavioral and learning outcomes. With school climates becoming increasingly volatile and even dangerous, districts across the nation are looking for answers: How do we best serve a diverse population of students when mental, emotional and physical needs are so varied? This presentation provides introductory education on the neuroscience behind the human stress response, coping behaviors and guiding the development of healthy emotional regulation skills in learners at all educational levels. Participants are guided through the process of recognizing signs and symptoms of problematic distress, connecting the human stress response to challenging behaviors displayed by students, and understanding how traditional methods of responding to such distress in educational settings often exacerbate the problem and negatively impact outcomes.

**Presenter:**
- Natalie James, Licensed Professional Counselor and Educational Consultant, DreamBranch Education, Bend, OR

**TABLE #8**

**DISTRICT REDESIGN AND PIPELINE: LEVERAGING PARTNERSHIPS**

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

Richland Parish and TNTP are partnering to implement a top-tier curriculum and talent pipeline across Richland Parish, a rural district of 2,800 students in Northeastern Louisiana. Richland Parish Schools is collaborating with TNTP to deliver a comprehensive three-year development plan for the five most high-need schools. As key levers for delivering quality core academics for their students, Richland Parish Schools will focus their improvement plan on ensuring high-quality curriculum, assessments and instructional leadership working in consort to improve effectiveness of teachers and increase student achievement across the board. Learn about the key goals, data points and adjustments that have been achieved in year one. Understand the vision of excellent instruction, analysis of student work and the shift in mindset necessary to move student achievement. The connection to building a robust talent pipeline in a rural area is also addressed.

**Presenters:**
- Shelley Crawford, Title 1 Supervisor, Richland Parish Schools, Rayville, LA
- Rebecca Freeland, Talent Pipeline Lead, Richland Parish Schools, Rayville, LA
- Sheldon Jones, Superintendent, Richland Parish Schools, Rayville, LA
- Elizabeth Suarez, Project Director, TNTP
TABLE #9
RECONSIDERING COMMUNITY: LOOKING BEYOND TOWN LINES TO BUILD CONNECTIONS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
In this interactive session, participants are asked to redefine their concept of community in order to encompass a global view of partnerships. The Wareham Public Schools’ comprehensive global education programs have become a model for myriad other school districts. Presenters lead participants in engaging activities that take them through the process of creating or enhancing their global education program — from classroom activities that foster global connectedness to student exchange programs to action steps for establishing sister schools. They share strategies that assist participants in using community assets mapping to create action steps that will help lay a foundation for creating partnerships locally, nationally and globally. Develop strategies that will enable you to move from “random acts of community involvement” to meaningful, ongoing global engagement. Presenters demonstrate proven methods that have led to additional revenue for the district and their recognition in the field.

**Presenters:**
Maureen Manning, Director of Global Education, Wareham Public Schools, Wareham, MA
Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Superintendent, Wareham Public Schools, Wareham, MA

TABLE #10
CROWD-BASED INNOVATION: JOIN THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT!

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
There are nearly 14,000 school districts in the U.S. and most lack professional tools to engage staff, challenge the status quo and inspire lasting change. With the power of crowd-based innovation, Fortune 100 companies have made impressive gains in staff empowerment, cost-savings and enduring, mission-based innovation as they effectively engage frontline staff in organizational transformation while delivering bottom-line results. Join the growing number of schools and districts harnessing the power of crowd-based innovation — a process that fully engages staff, students and community members in the development of lean solutions through a unique application of human-centered design. Minnetonka has used this toolkit for the past eight years, and now these powerful tools are available to all future-focused education leaders. Join this session to find out how your district can join the 2019–20 InnovateK12 cohort!

**Presenters:**
John Alberts, Executive Director of Educational Services, Austin Public Schools, Austin, MN
Eric Schneider, Associate Superintendent, Minnetonka Public Schools, Minnetonka, MN

TABLE #11
THE PRODUCTIVE PROGRESSION: FROM SIMPLE REPETITION TO CREATIVE INQUIRY

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**
Moving students from the simple repetition of facts and simple sentences to the formulation of complex inquiries and statements is critical. This session demonstrates how to Push! students through 12 distinct phases of student production in a hierarchical system known as the Productive Progression. Teachers will return to their classrooms excited to get students who have traditionally struggled to respond to complex questions or formulate simple questions of their own to producing academic discourse with greater complexity and sophistication.

**Presenter:**
Bradley Williams, Director of Operations, Clark Consulting & Training Inc., Surprise, AZ

TABLE #12
SUCCESSFUL INNOVATIVE PRACTICES — FOCUS ON STUDENTS RATHER THAN CONTENT

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
The recent AASA and Successful Practices Network study found that the most innovative districts are beginning to focus more around student support and learning principles and less around content. All of us in education need to adapt to the changing learning needs in the 21st century. Our agenda as leaders in education should be clear and simple: we must create a new and vibrant educational system for all learners, ensuring both college and career readiness. Explore the case for this needed change as well as ideas and strategies to guide the transformative journey we must embrace.

**Presenter:**
Ray McNulty, Executive Chairman, Successful Practices Network, Rexford, NY

TABLE #13
SYSTEMS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT: THE CRITICAL ROLE OF TEACHER LEADERS

**Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership**
School and district leaders know the importance of teachers learning and improving their practice through opportunities for collaboration and support. This session walks through steps district leaders can take to establish effective learning teams and strong instructional coaching. The session outlines critical steps districts should take to develop an infrastructure of teacher leaders who serve as key participants in school leadership teams and deliver quality professional learning, coaching and follow-up for teachers. Leave with an understanding of the power of formal teacher leadership and action steps for improving your own teacher leadership structures.

**Presenters:**
Kevin George, Superintendent, St. John the Baptist Parish Public School System, Reserve, LA
Patrice Pujol, Co-President and Chief Strategy Officer, National Institute for Excellence in Teaching, Baton Rouge, LA
AASA’s National Conference on Education

TABLE #14
STEM AND PBL ARE NOT NEW, BUT THEY ARE THE FUTURE

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Newton was doing science 300 years ago. Da Vinci was a technologist. Roman aqueducts are still paragons of engineering. Algebra goes back to the Babylonians. And for most humans, learning to walk, talk and survive your first date are project-based learning experiences. So why the buzz? Because the ubiquity of low-cost, portable, connected devices has altered how we live and communicate and is revolutionizing how we learn. Hear how one teacher’s students led him to try project-based learning and ended up transforming a school. Hear how a new project-based program has allowed students from across the socio-economic spectrum to learn in a truly differentiated environment. Hear from refugees and students in poverty how PBL provides equity. Get steps for implementing PBL in any subject. BYOD, because whether you are an administrator, elementary teacher or high school writing coach, you’re going wire a circuit and write some code.

Presenter:
Matthew Shields, Teacher, Shields Lab, Charlottesville, VA

TABLE #15
EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS MOST — 10 ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Stories are shared from two districts in Washington state that have used a simple, 10-step framework to partner with early learning providers, aligning instructional practices and professional development to get results. Use a rubric for the 10 steps to analyze your current practice and plan for next steps.

Presenters:
Peter Finch, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, West Valley School District 208, Yakima, WA
Linda Sullivan-Dudzic, Director of Elementary Education and Special Programs, Bremerton School District, Bremerton, WA

TABLE #16
ACHIEVING EQUITY THROUGH MASTER SCHEDULING

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Schools are more complex than ever before. With an ever-growing number of school programs and activities, it’s no surprise that 72% of principals believe that they lack the necessary resources, such as time and staff support, to accomplish all that is required to lead the school effectively. All of this activity comes to a head in the school’s master schedule — where everything needs to fit together into a finite number of minutes. Increasingly, school leaders find it difficult to design and manage a master schedule that meets the unique needs of all students — especially struggling students or students capable of more advanced course work. Presenters share innovative master scheduling strategies used by three large, diverse school districts (San Diego, San Antonio, NYC) to directly address equity and explore how you can build on their success.

Presenters:
Christina Casillas, Principal, Roosevelt Middle School, San Diego, CA
Pauline Dow, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, San Antonio Independent School District, San Antonio, TX
Lee Fleming, Head of School, Samuels Academy, Santa Ana, CA
Chris Walsh, Head of Growth and Impact, Abl, San Francisco, CA

TABLE #1
WORDS MATTER: HOW TO ENGAGE YOUR STAKEHOLDERS TO SUPPORT PERSONALIZED LEARNING

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Schools across the country are transitioning to personalized learning, and from these pioneers we have learned how critical strategic communication is for success. Education leaders must prepare thoughtful and effective messages and deliberate approaches to gain buy-in and overcome misinformation. Receive national message testing results, develop your own key messages, and share lessons learned from recent district and state efforts to communicate about personalized learning.

Presenters:
Amy Jenkins, COO, Education Elements, San Carlos, CA
Kira Keane, Partner, The Learning Accelerator, Princeton, NJ

TABLE #2
MAXIMIZING SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING WHILE CONTROLLING COSTS

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Learn how to compare your special education costs and student achievement results to objective local comparables as well as state and national standards; identify areas of commendation and opportunities for improvement fiscally and programmatically; and avoid due process claims and litigation while designing and implementing a plan for the district to provide the highest quality instruction at the lowest costs to taxpayers for students with disabilities.

Presenters:
Jerry Brodsky, Lead Consultant, American Educational Consultants, Lyndhurst, OH
Keith Kelly, Superintendent, Mayfield City Schools, Mayfield Heights, OH
Valerie McKenney, Superintendent, Epping School District, Epping, NH

TABLE #3
THE FUTURE OF LEARNING: MEETING THE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
All students are entitled to a high-quality education. As much as the field of education has been ever-changing, in many ways it has still remained the same. Will the concepts of today’s education be enough to prepare students for the world of tomorrow? The future of education has infinite possibilities, but what does that mean? It is essential we think beyond the classroom and without limitations when it comes to teaching and learning for the future. With the digital age upon us, there are more opportunities than ever to provide every student what is needed to be an active, thriving and empowered learner in the classroom. This interactive session challenges you to consider the myriad possibilities for the future of education.

Presenter:
Dawn Benaitis, Director of Professional Learning, Discovery Education, Silver Spring, MD
TABLE #4
DESIGN PROCESS FOR CREDIT RECOVERY

Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction
Participants review the design process for systematic organizational improvement, analyze systems and purpose of credit recovery systems, and apply the design process for systematic organizational improvement with the implementation of credit recovery strategies. The presenters provide an overview of the design process employed at Chardon High School to implement a systematic credit recovery program. They highlight establishing, articulating, communicating and refining the purpose; collaborating with stakeholders; and bringing the organizational change to fruition — all while empowering students and staff, and reinforcing organizational core values. Consider the design process used in this example to your own settings and consider the implications and purpose for credit recovery programming.

Presenters:
Michael Hanlon, Superintendent, Chardon Local Schools, Chardon, OH
Edward Klein, Assistant Superintendent, Chardon Local Schools, Chardon, OH

TABLE #5
IDENTIFYING THOUGHTFUL LEADERS: THE KEY TO ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT!

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Within every school system it is essential to recognize the people who are powerful conduits for positive change as well as those who are not. Truly understanding people and leading them more effectively requires a different approach to organizational development. Are you a Visionary Leader, a Primary Leader or a Thoughtful Leader? Do you have Bandwagonizers or Naysayers within your district? This actionable model defines the various personalities that reside within every organization and presents a strategic approach to developing your talented, yet diverse people. Wisconsin’s 2017 State Superintendent of the Year shares how to recognize your strengths and weaknesses and identify the strengths and weaknesses of others. Understand the values that drive those in leadership. Maximize your time in a fast-paced educational culture. Develop a strategy for implementing positive change. When leaders get better, everyone benefits. This session is a must for those who yearn for larger leadership impact!

Presenter:
Damian LaCroix, Superintendent, Howard-Suamico School District, Green Bay, WI

TABLE #6
SCHOOL BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT BEHAVIOR MODEL

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
This session is based on the most comprehensive research in the world on board/superintendent behaviors. Boards and superintendents are well trained, but for some reason, many do not implement what they learn. Their behaviors are the key indicators for their success. As the tenure of superintendents nationwide shrinks, boards can’t grasp the cause of these negative relationships. Their behavior can be detrimental to the success of the district. This session offers solutions for improving negative behaviors and a detailed plan of action. Focus is on how to exhibit behaviors that will generate maximum results.

Presenters:
Miranda Beard, School Board Member and Past President of NSBA, Laurel City Schools, Laurel, MS
David Lee, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, The University of Southern Mississippi, Tylertown, MS

TABLE #7
INTERESTED IN GETTING A LEARNING RETURN ON YOUR DIGITAL INVESTMENTS?

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Turn your digital infrastructure into a place where students reach their true potential. The secret sauce is tactical planning, grounded in the learning sciences and carefully orchestrated to create pathways of progress in classrooms. Join this session to watch innovative thinking in action — where the presenter transforms challenges from the audience into smart tactical plans that will work to accelerate, improve and deepen learning. Walk away with insights into how your schools can use tactical planning to leverage digital environments into learning accelerators.

Presenter:
Cheryl Lemke, CEO, Metiri Group, Marina del Rey, CA

TABLE #8
STRATEGIES THAT WORK: RURAL EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Focus Zone: Professional Learning
This engaging, interactive session focuses on the successful strategies currently in use to recruit and retain quality educators in rural Colorado and the U.S. Share your ideas and learn more about successful, innovative recruitment and retention efforts happening in rural school districts that take into account leveraging community resources and stakeholders. Expect to take away new knowledge and ideas for applying these strategies in your own rural settings.

Presenter:
Denille LePlatt, Director of Rural Services, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO

TABLE #9
ESCAPING “DEATH BY A THOUSAND CUTS”: HELPING SCHOOLS WORK BETTER

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership
Perhaps the toughest challenge facing public managers in all fields — but especially education — is how to produce the best results possible in an era of ever-tightening budgets. In this session, national experts on education leadership and public-sector performance explain how school districts can obtain additional funds and save money without cutting staff or programs. Learn how districts and schools around the country are using structured efficiency reviews to reduce unneeded expenditures, increase efficiency and free up resources for use on higher priorities — like educating your students — all while helping empower teachers to teach and educational leaders to lead. Performance reviews include a variety of methodologies, including data review, benchmarking against peer districts, staff and parent surveys, interviews and focus groups, open parent and community meetings, and the nationwide use of best practices and metrics. Such reviews can include developing the documentation needed to claim additional federal funds.

Presenter:
Eric Schnurer, President, Public Works LLC, West Chester, PA
TABLE #10
THE FUTURE OF COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELING IS HERE

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Maine Township High School District 207 has re-invented how it does college and career counseling for its students into a model that applies Project Lead the Way research to every career field of interest for its students. The district has developed a Return on Investment (ROI) Career and College Counseling model that uses workplace and education cost data to inform student and family decision making to increase students’ chances of finishing their post-high school education in less time and at a lower cost in a career that matches both their interests and aptitudes to help increase the chances of success in life. The district has established a strong business partner model to help every student gain relevant career experience before making a post-high school decision. This work is crucial to address rising U.S. underemployment and student debt by improving career match strategies.

Presenter: Ken Wallace, Superintendent, Maine Township High School District 207, Park Ridge, IL

TABLE #11
SUPERINTENDENTS SUPPORTING SUPERINTENDENTS: THE SUBURBAN STUDY COUNCIL

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

The Suburban Schools Study Council is a regionally-based professional learning council consisting of serving and retired superintendents from two counties outside of Philadelphia. The council has been meeting regularly for over 50 years, and its mixture of retired, experienced and new superintendents creates a unique support system for its members. This strong leadership network promotes communication, problem solving and educational reform. Members of the Suburban Schools Study Council take turns hosting meetings where successful educational programs and practices are highlighted, often putting students in the forefront. During these site visits, Study Council members can see the best educational programs in the region in action. These meetings result in collaborative initiatives that bring school district leaders together to share additional information and expand implementation of new programs. Learn how the Suburban Schools Study Council is an effective way for outstanding educational models to be shared across the region.

Presenter: Joseph O’Brien, Executive Director, Chester County Intermediate Unit, Downingtown, PA

TABLE #12
IMPROVING STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH: LEARNING FROM ORGANIC ONLINE BROWSING BEHAVIOR

Focus Zone: School Environment

With students increasingly living and interacting online, student well-being, cyberbullying and school security threats occur within their browser around the clock. GoGuardian finds students often use their school-provided device to search the Internet to look for methods and means to hurt themselves, ways to support suicidal friends and access mental health services. Using one of the largest and most unique data sets in the world (5.7M students), GoGuardian has learned invaluable lessons about student mental health and well-being. Using data science, GoGuardian will compare CDC self-reported data against GoGuardian’s aggregated organic data generated by students searching the Internet naturally. By elevating insights from our unique dataset, we hope to identify best practices and surface need-to-know trends for school leaders.

Presenters:
Nickelle Presley, Product Manager, GoGuardian, El Segundo, CA
Michelle Ramos, Strategic Initiatives Manager, GoGuardian, El Segundo, CA

TABLE #13
BEYOND REFORM: LINDSAY USD’S PERFORMANCE-BASED SYSTEM

Focus Zone: Administration and Leadership

Lindsay Unified School District transformed its tradition system into the performance-based model that is uncompromisingly learner centered, competency based and personalized. The results, after almost 10 years of data, demonstrate great success and promise. If it works in this small district with 4,200 learners, 100% who receive free and reduced-price lunch, can it work for you?

Presenter: Barry Sommer, Director of Advancement, Lindsay Unified School District, Lindsay, CA
**TABLE #14**

**SUCCESS-FOCUSED COLLEGE COUNSELING: HELPING STUDENTS MAKE SMARTER COLLEGE CHOICES**

**Focus Zone: Curriculum and Instruction**

Most students choose their postsecondary institution based on familiarity, proximity, and the likelihood of being admitted. Success-focused college counseling is an approach that guides students toward effectively analyzing and considering graduation outcomes by student attribute (gender, race, income, etc.) when making their college choice. This equips every student with critical information and shifts individual counseling conversations from centering on the postsecondary institution to focusing on what’s best for each student. Learn how to implement districtwide policy and procedural changes that will guide students toward making more informed postsecondary choices.

**Presenters:**
Kimberly Hanauer, Director, College Preparedness Programs, District of Columbia Public Schools, Washington, DC
Pete Talbot, Managing Director of Strategic Research, EAB, Washington, DC

**TABLE #15**

**EMPOWERING THE VILLAGE**

**Focus Zone: School Environment**

This session provides research-based structures for supporting parent engagement. Parents are our first partners in this work and we need them to be strong. There must be a concerted effort to provide parents with the same quality professional development that we provide teachers. Parents have the desire to get involved, and we have the ability to build their capacity to effectively engage.

**Presenters:**
Karla Lee, Director of Intermediate Centers, South Bend Community School Corporation, South Bend, IN
Carmen Williams, Principal, South Bend Community School Corporation, South Bend, IN

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<td>ACA FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST</td>
<td>JW Marriott I Olympic II</td>
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<td>ANNUAL BREAKFAST FOR URBAN SUPERINTENDENTS MEMBERS</td>
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<td>HML ANNUAL MEETING</td>
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<td>3 – 4PM</td>
<td>REGULAR MEETING OF USAA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</td>
<td>JW Marriott I Olympic II</td>
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<td>5 – 7PM</td>
<td>NEW YORK STATE AND CONNECTICUT RECEPTION</td>
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<td>5:30 – 7PM</td>
<td>RECEPTION HONORING THE 2019 ILLINOIS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR</td>
<td>JW Marriott I WP24 – Nest Lounge</td>
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<td>5:30 – 7:30PM</td>
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