



**BRSE  
CONFERENCE  
2019**  
**DECEMBER 12-15, 2019**  
Walt Disney's Yacht Club Resort, FL



## **Welcome to the 2019 20th Annual Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Conference at Walt Disney World!**

This year's program is designed to **EMPOWER - INSPIRE - CONNECT!** Our premier national education event is intended to meet the needs of today's educators and encourage your support of the whole child.

We truly appreciate your time and know that your resources are precious. We challenge everyone who attends to use this conference as an opportunity to extend your network and expand your thinking. Take time to reflect and consider how you'll take your learning experiences from this week back to your schools and districts for maximum impact in your communities. When we share exemplars, insight, knowledge, and best practices, we collectively strengthen the education profession so it can continue to improve and prosper.

Celebrate with us as we honor schools that have achieved a new level of professional recognition in their journey to continuously improve education for each and every student. Our Blue Ribbon Lighthouse Schools and National Blue Ribbon Schools embody Disney's philosophy of always dreaming and always improving. Through the Blue Ribbon process, schools have engaged their entire community to identify and build on strengths and overcome challenges. This is how schools continue to grow and excel. Blue Ribbon school leaders are committed to sharing their experiences and supporting all educators along the improvement journey.

Enjoy your time in this special setting. Recommit to creating world-class schools and classrooms that are exciting, engaging, creative and challenging for all students.

Bart Teal, President, BRSE

Dr. Judy Warden Fields, Chief Executive Officer and Conference Chair, BRSE

Dr. Mike Hall, Board Chair, BRSE

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

### DAY ONE

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019**

**11:00 AM - 7:00 PM**

**REGISTRATION OPENS**

**Location:** Cape Cod Registration Desk

**2:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

**PRE-CONFERENCE**

**7:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

**EXHIBIT HALL OPENING**

**Location:** GH Ballroom South and North

**8:30 PM**

**WALK TO EPCOT**

**Location:** Meet outside GH Ballroom South and North

**9:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

**EPCOT FOREVER DESSERT PARTY**

**Location:** Isle de France, Epcot

*(\*Entrance is included in registration. Group departs from the Exhibit Hall North at 8:30 pm.)*

### DAY TWO

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019**

**7:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**REGISTRATION**

**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST AND VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**Location:** Grand Ballroom South and North

**9:00 AM - 10:30 AM**

**OPENING SESSION**

**10:45 AM - 11:45 AM**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS A**

**11:45 AM - 1:15 PM LUNCHEON**

**Location:** GH Ballroom South and North

**1:15 PM - 1:45 PM**

**VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**Location:** GH Ballroom South and North

**1:45 PM - 2:45 PM**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS B**

**3:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS C**

**DAY THREE****SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019****7:30 AM - 4:00 PM****REGISTRATION****8:00 AM - 9:00 AM****CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST /VISIT EXHIBITORS**

Location: GH Ballroom North

**9:00 AM - 10:00 AM****CONCURRENT SESSIONS D****10:15 AM - 11:15 AM****CONCURRENT SESSIONS E****11:15 AM - 11:45 AM****VISIT EXHIBITORS**

Location: GH Ballroom South and North

**11:45 AM - 1:15 PM LUNCHEON****1:15 PM - 1:45 PM****VISIT EXHIBITORS**

Location: GH Ballroom South and North

**1:45 PM - 2:45 PM****CONCURRENT SESSIONS F****3:00 PM- 4:00 PM****CONCURRENT SESSIONS G****DAY FOUR****SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019****8:00AM - 1:00 PM****REGISTRATION****8:00 AM - 8:30 AM****COFFEE AND MUFFINS****8:30 AM - 9:30AM****CONCURRENT SESSIONS H****9:45 AM - 10:45 AM****CONCURRENT SESSIONS I****11:00 AM - 1:00 PM****CELEBRATION LUNCHEON**

Location: GH Ballroom South and North

**DAY ONE**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019**

**11:00 AM - 7:00 PM REGISTRATION OPENS**

**Location:** Cape Cod Registration Desk

**2:00 PM - 3:15 PM PRE-CONFERENCE**

*The Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Showcase of Award Winning Schools.* Continuous improvement in schools is an ongoing process, not an event. Continuous improvement in the highest performing schools involves all your stakeholders guiding the direction of the school. Hear from award winning schools from across the nation who has moved their schools forward using the BRSE process and other practices. The Blueprint for Excellence is a comprehensive school assessment designed to assist all schools at all levels. The process assesses the quality of school programs and assists in developing a school-wide action plan to ensure measurable student achievement and school improvement. Learn more about the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence process in this session.

**PRESENTERS:** Bart Teal, President, BRSE, South Carolina; Dr. Mike Hall, President, BRSE Board Chair and Senior Assessor, Georgia; and Jayne Ellspermann, BRSE Board Vice Chair and Senior Assessor, Florida.

**FACILITATOR:** Dennis Bega, Senior Assessor, BRSE, Georgia.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**3:20 PM - 4:20 PM PRE CONFERENCE**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Create a Positive Learning Environment with Restorative Practices.* Do you want to increase student achievement and reduce classroom discipline? This session is for you! Learn how you can create a positive learning environment for all students while minimizing student disruption. Classroom teachers will learn how to incorporate restorative circles as part of their social emotional learning practices. School administrators will learn how restorative conferences can be used to change student behavior and create student ownership of positive solutions. School-wide applications of restorative practices will be explored. With a few shifts in practice you can create a positive change in the culture of your school.

**PRESENTER:** Jayne Ellspermann, BRSE Vice Chair, 2015 National Principal of the Year, Educational Consultant, Leadership Coach, and Trainer, Florida.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon II

**4:30 PM - 5:30 PM PRE-CONFERENCE**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Teacher Evaluation: Moving Beyond Compliance.* Several years have passed since individual state codes began requiring reporting of teacher evaluation data by individual school corporations. This presentation addresses the utilization of this data collected by schools to drive professional development, encourage teacher growth and retention, and ultimately improve instruction for students by creating a feedback rich culture in your school.

**PRESENTERS:** Todd Whitlock, CEO of Standard For Success, spent 20 years in public education. He served as a classroom teacher, coach, and district administrator overseeing technology, curriculum, testing, and early college programs before co-founding Standard For Success, a software company specializing in teacher evaluation. Todd was recognized as the TechPoint 2012 Bridge Builder Award Recipient, was the 2008 winner for contributions to K-12 education, and was recognized as a National School Board Association “20 to Watch” school leader.

Dr. Kelly Andrews is a retired principal from Indiana who served as President of IASP in 2015. Dr. Andrews’ published research on the evaluation of principals in Indiana was presented at the American Educational Research Association in Washington DC in 2016. She has also served as an adjunct professor in Educational Leadership. Dr. Andrews currently serves as the Executive Director of Doctors Charter School of Miami Shores, Florida. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon II

**7:30 PM - 8:30 PM EXHIBIT HALL OPENING**

**Location:** GH Ballroom South and North

**8:30 PM CONFERENCE ATTENDEES WALK TO EPCOT**

**Location:** Meet outside GH Ballroom South and North

**9:00 PM - 10:00 PM EPCOT’S FOREVER PRIVATE FIREWORKS AND DESSERT PARTY**

“Epcot Forever” is an all-new, limited-time spectacle of fireworks, music, lighting, lasers and choreographed, special effects kites. The show will take us on a journey through the past, present and future of Epcot. Featuring a stirring collection of songs that paint a colorful picture of the park, this nighttime extravaganza will offer both a trip down memory lane and a look towards the future and all the magical possibilities still to come.”

**Location:** Isle de France, Epcot

***\*Entrance is included in registration. Group departs from the Exhibit Hall South and North at 8:30 pm.***

**DAY TWO**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019**

**7:30 AM - 4:00 PM REGISTRATION**

**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM BREAKFAST AND VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**Location:** Grand Ballroom South and North

**9:00 AM - 10:30 AM OPENING SESSION**

**Master of Ceremony** – Dennis W. Bega, Senior Assessor, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence

**Presentation of Colors**

Cadet Major Bryce Angulo

Cadet Second Lieutenant Alexa Espinoza

Cadet Second Lieutenant Sebastian Melendez

Cadet Second Lieutenant Antonio Fontanez

Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy R. Soles, USAF (Ret), and Senior Aerospace Science Instructor,  
 Celebration High School

**Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem**

**Special Music**

Celebration K-8 School, Wind Ensemble, Osceola County School District

James K. Cochran, BSME, MME Band Director

**Welcome** - Dr. Judy W. Fields, CEO and Conference Chair, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence

**Purpose** – Bart Teal, President, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence

**Keynote Address** - Dr. Lucas “Luke” Clamp, 2019 NASSP Principal of the Year

Dr. Lucas “Luke” Clamp



Dr. Lucas “Luke” Clamp, principal of River Bluff High School in Lexington, South Carolina, is a native of Williston, SC, fulfilling his calling as principal and educational leader in public education. Born and raised in Williston, SC, education is a family affair as his mother is a retired teacher, principal and public school superintendent. He is a graduate of both Clemson University and the University of South Carolina earning a bachelor’s degree in Science Teaching from Clemson and Master’s degree and Education Specialist degree in Educational Leadership and a Doctoral degree in Curriculum Studies from USC.

His career in education began as a science teacher and coach at Irmo High School in 2002. In 2004 he was chosen as Dean of Students at Irmo High. In 2006 he became an assistant principal at Lexington High School and in 2011 was chosen as River Bluff High School’s founding principal leading the design and construction of an innovative EL Education school thinking in a new direction in Lexington County School District One.

In 2018 Dr. Clamp was selected as South Carolina's Secondary Principal of the year and then in the fall of 2019 was announced as the 2019 NASSP National Principal of the Year. Later that same year River Bluff was announced as South Carolina's 2019 Palmetto's Finest High School by SCASA, awarded to the top high school annually in the state. Since being chosen as the founding principal of River Bluff in 2011, with doors opening in 2013, Dr. Clamp has fostered a culture of leadership and engagement. Through the unique desire to connect with each person—whether student or staff—Dr. Clamp is devoted to developing individual skills and talents that ultimately lead to a collective contribution that will change the world.

#### **10:45 AM - 11:45 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS A**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *A Conversation with Award Winning National High School Principals.* NASSP National Principal of the Year program recognizes outstanding middle level and high school principals who have succeeded in providing high quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession. This is an opportunity to bring your current challenges and issues to an informal session with **three national awarding-winning high school principals.**

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Lucas Clamp, 2019 National Principal of the Year, South Carolina; Dr. Akil Ross, 2018 National Principal of the Year, South Carolina; and Jayne Ellspermann, 2015 National Principal of the Year, Florida.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Seven Steps to Leading Change: "The Way to Get Started is to Quit Talking and Begin Doing" Walt Disney.* Understand and prototype the core elements of a successful school-wide implementation plan around personalized learning.

Understand three personalized learning (PL) implementation models (PBL, BL, and pathways created with student-voice), including what has worked well and hasn't.

Workshop your own PL implementations and come away with strong next steps for pushing your own implementations forward including how to authentically engage students.

**PRESENTERS:** Andrew Anderson, Principal, Barrington Middle School; Dr. Paula Dillon, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Barrington Public Schools; and Patricia Tolento, Principal, Primrose Hill Elementary School, Rhode Island.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Inside Out: Learning In and Out of the Classroom.* Today's Blue Ribbon Schools understand that learning continues throughout the school day. Teachers and staff utilize an understanding of brain development to make connections across curriculum. This presentation will provide information of how teachers outside of the regular curriculum can support and expand learning, from areas such as physical education, music/art and the library. Hands-on activities that support higher-level learning will be shared with participants.

**PRESENTERS:** Belinda C. Hill, Superintendent/Principal; Sarah Honza, Physical Education Teacher; Deb Henson, Music Teacher; and Jessica Carsrud, Library/Maker Spaces, Giant City CCSD130, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Under the C: The Seven C's to a 21st Century #HappySchool.***

Research suggests students attending schools where teachers are more supportive and have higher morale are less likely to be low performers. At East Elementary, we look beyond the components of 21st century education - critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity. Being a #HappySchool matters. In this presentation, we will describe our seven C's to creating a 21st century school. We will show data to support positive behavior results in the past five years. We scored a 95 on the State report card, proving our effectiveness in creating a 21st century environment. East Elementary has been awarded the BRSE Lighthouse Award three times!

**PRESENTERS:** David Wiggins, Principal; Lindsay Brannon, Curriculum Coach; Amber Hembree, Counselor; and Lacy Sharpton, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, East Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Enrichment for All. The Academy of Talented Scholars (TAOTS) "Brooklyn's Best Kept Secret."***

PS 682, The Academy of Talented Scholars (TAOTS) was the recipient of the 2015 National Blue Ribbon School Award and in 2017 received The Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Lighthouse Award. Today, TAOTS will share their ideas and secrets of success on how they provide ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES for their entire student body. You will learn how your school can incorporate the School-wide Enrichment Model of education. Specifically, you will be taught "step by step" how to develop, create and implement successful Student Driven Enrichment Clusters. In addition, you will learn about scheduling, budgeting and tapping into resources. You will walk away feeling knowledgeable and full of practical ideas to bring back to your school. TAOTS provides enrichment opportunities for ALL students by growing students' ideas, tapping into their interests and cultivating their talents resulting in GREATNESS for ALL students. TAOTS is a NYC public elementary school educating a diverse group of students from the Bensonhurst/Bay Ridge area of Brooklyn, New York. TAOTS continues to thrive because of the strong foundation that was created and laid out by the school's founding principal, Josephine Sportella-Giusto, in her 2008 NYCDOE New School Proposal. TAOTS has become one of NYC's most sought after public elementary schools. Every year TAOTS receives over 500 kindergarten applications with only 50 seats to offer.

**PRESENTERS:** Josephine Sportella-Giusto, Founding Principal, and Stacy Butsikares, Assistant Principal, The Academy of Talented Scholars, New York.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Creating a Magical Formula for Student Success.***

Haysville Unified School District #261 has created a magical formula that ensures student success. Combining the best parts of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, a healthy portion of Capturing Kids Hearts, a pinch of Second Step, and a sprinkling of trauma informed care creates the foundation that allows students to thrive and learn to high levels. As the saying goes, before students can do Bloom's they must first do Maslow. PBIS provides the students with a process for learning routines and procedures that are helpful in succeeding in school. Capturing Kids Hearts encourages students and staff to treat each other with mutual respect. Second Step promotes students' social, emotional, and academic success. Trauma informed creates an understanding by teachers whereby they understand the reasons behind student behavior while letting them know they are loved and cared for. With these items in place, teachers can teach and students can learn to high levels.

**PRESENTERS:** John Burke, Superintendent; Shari Burke, Kinder Camp Lead Teacher; and Jennifer Reed, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services, Haysville Unified School District #261, Kansas.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Creating the Ultimate School/Community Partnership***

**Program: *Welcome to the Fab Lab.*** A lifetime educator with years of experience creating unique technology learning environments and middle to high school transition programs, Dr. Hall will provide participants in this session with a blueprint for an out-of-the-box program that promotes school and community partnerships. The Houston County Fab Lab is a working model in Houston County, Georgia, that is constantly hosting visitors from schools and communities around the United States for its creative strategies of operation. The lab provides both students and adults with access to unique career programs and resources. This is one example of how schools can tap into resources to make programs that are beneficial to all and get adults that would not otherwise come to the school heavily involved. This is a must attend session!

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Mike Hall, Board Chair, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, Georgia.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *The Magic in a Kingdom Comes With a Strategic Plan.*** Magic in public schools only comes when the work is intentional and focused. Through the development and implementation of a district strategic plan, Eagle Mountain-Saginaw is experiencing increased growth and achievement. Come join this session to see how you can create and take your strategic plan so it serves as the compass for the core work. Dr. Parker and the EMS ISD leaders will take you through the kingdom of EMS ISD and introduce you to the magic that is occurring. Participants will leave with a knowledge of how to align a large school system in the core work and a desire to see additional EMS ISD sessions that will take learners to the very heart of the realm of our work so our students are prepared for their future.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Linda Parker, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Dana Barnes, Executive Director of Educational Services; Lisa Dunn, Executive Director of Elementary; Stacy Summerhill, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction; and Karen Miller, Director of Professional Development and Continuous Improvement, Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District, Texas.

**Location:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *The Holistic Approach to School Safety & Social Emotional Learning.*** Bloomfield Schools has taken an informed, collaborative and innovative approach to school safety, incorporating a holistic approach to also address the social emotional needs of our students. We will discuss in details how we went from step one to becoming a nationally recognized district for innovatively addressing the social emotional needs of our student population.

**PRESENTER:** Joseph Fleres, Assistant Superintendent, Bloomfield Schools, New Jersey

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

### 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM LUNCHEON

**Master of Ceremony** – Dennis W. Bega, Senior Assessor, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence

**Introduction of Speaker** – Craig Martin, Executive Director, Pegasus Springs Education Collective and Blue Level Sponsor

**Keynote Address** – Dr. Marcia Tate, Developing Minds, Inc.

***Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites – 20 Instructional Strategies That Engage the Brain.*** "If students don't learn the way we teach them, then we must teach them the way they learn."

Experience 20 brain-compatible strategies that maximize understanding and memory. Use music, metaphor, and movement to increase academic achievement for all students. Explore research that shows why these strategies are preferable to others. Ensure that brains retain key concepts, not only for tests but also for life!



**Marcia L. Tate, EdD**, is the former Executive Director of Professional Development for the DeKalb County School System, Decatur, Georgia. During her 30-year career with the district, she has been a classroom teacher, reading specialist, language arts coordinator, and staff development executive director. She received the 2001 Distinguished Staff Developer Award for the State of Georgia and her department was chosen to receive the Exemplary Program Award for the state.

Marcia is currently an educational consultant and has taught over 500,000 administrators, teachers, parents, and business and community leaders throughout the world. She is the author of the following best-sellers: *Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites: 20 Instructional Strategies that Engage the Brain*; *"Sit & Get" Won't Grow Dendrites: 20 Professional Learning Strategies that Engage the Adult Brain*; *Reading and Language Arts Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites: 20 Literacy Strategies that Engage the Brain*; *Shouting Won't Grow Dendrites: 20 Techniques to Detour Around the Danger Zones*; *Mathematics Worksheets Don't Grow*

*Dendrites: 20 Numeracy Strategies That Engage the Brain*; *Preparing Children for Success in School and Life: 20 Ways to Increase Your Child's Brain Power*; *Science Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites: 20 Instructional Strategies That Engage the Brain*; *Social Studies Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites: 20 Instructional Strategies That Engage the Brain*; *Formative Assessment in a Brain-compatible Classroom: How Do We Really Know They're Learning?*; and her latest two books: *100 Brain-Friendly Lessons for Unforgettable Teaching and Learning K-8* and *100 Brain-Friendly Lessons for Unforgettable Teaching and Learning 9-12*. Participants in her workshops refer to them as *the best ones they have ever experienced* since Marcia uses the 20 strategies outlined in her books to actively engage her audiences.

Marcia received her bachelor's degree in psychology and elementary education from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. She earned her Master's degree in remedial reading from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, her specialist degree in educational leadership from Georgia State University and her doctorate in educational leadership from Clark Atlanta University. Spelman College awarded her the Apple Award for excellence in the field of education.

### 1:15 PM - 1:45 PM VISIT EXHIBITORS

**Location:** GH Ballroom South and North

**1:45 PM - 2:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS B****SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Creating a Brain-compatible Environment***

Students should be talking and moving while learning—not just sitting! Teachers should be *guides on the side* and not *sages on the stage*. Regardless of the grade level or content area, increase student achievement, reduce behavior problems, and make teaching and learning fun by creating a brain-compatible classroom environment. Experience ten characteristics of an unforgettable classroom where students can retain information long after tests have been given! This session has been called informative and so much fun!

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Marcia Tate, Developing Minds, Inc., Georgia.

**LOCATION:** Grand Ballroom South and North

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Cooling Off with S.T.E.A.M.*** This presentation will provide information on how a school can run a summer S.T.E.A.M. Camp in an effort to grow the STEM or STEAM program within the school. The Kilby Summer STEAM Camp had a four-folded purpose. 1) Many students at the Kilby Laboratory School have parents that are faculty members at the University of North Alabama where the school is housed. Consequently, many parents worked through the summer that created the need for childcare. The STEAM Camp met that need. 2) The Laboratory School serves as a practice site for preservice teachers and student education majors at the University. The STEAM Camp counselors were aspiring teachers who gained valuable experience and hands-on practice with STEAM instruction and curriculum planning. 3) Faculty members from Kilby served as lead teachers, which gave them embedded professional development in STEAM instruction and best practice ideas for science technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics. 4) The STEAM Camp, by design, helped generate additional funds that were used to purchase supplies and equipment for more STEAM-related activities for the upcoming school year.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Eric Kirkman, Director/Assistant Professor, Kilby Laboratory School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *BE OUR GUEST: Making the Lunchroom a Vital Part of Your School's Climate and Culture.*** In Cullman City Schools, the lunchroom has become a vital component in the promotion of a positive school culture and climate. Each CNP (Child Nutrition Program) team works in cooperation with the school principal to advocate for student participation in breakfast and lunch programs. This collaboration not only increases student participation, but it also serves to create a place where students want to be during the school day. Simply stated, students love their time in the lunchroom. The most noticeable benefit to the Cullman City Schools Child Nutrition Program is the 'feel' when you enter the lunchroom. The staff is happy to be at work, the students feel welcomed and appreciated by the staff, and the students want to participate in such in an environment.

**PRESENTERS:** Russell Raney, CNP Director, Cullman City Schools and David Wiggins, Principal, East Elementary School, Alabama

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Leadership for Equity: Successful Strategies for Closing the Opportunity Gap for Underrepresented Student Participation in AP/IB Programs.*

This session will feature work of EOS school districts and first-hand experiences from EOS district partners.

- The first part of the program will be conversation on the topic of equity and excellence in American high schools.
- The second part will provide an overview of the data-driven survey tools used by schools to develop outreach to underrepresented students, engage staff to collaborate on equity of enrollment of students in AP course work, and the development of support structures and instructional change to support first-time course takers.
- Finally, the third part will be conversation about the topic of equity and change management.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Nicholas D. Wahl, Superintendent-in-Residence, Equal Opportunity Schools, Washington.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *A Student Centered Response to Literacy.* With so many different programs and resources available to schools, it can be overwhelming to know what will fit best for your unique student population. Our approach has been to create a successful data driven school culture utilizing programs and resources that we have tailored and will continue to tailor to meet the diverse needs of our students. We strive to ensure that our school stakeholders are equipped to analyze and evaluate meaningful student data to support our students in reaching their full learning potential. Our goal at Gail N. Chapman Elementary School is to involve teachers, students, parents, and administrators in utilizing multiple student data points to help close individual student learning gaps. Our literacy initiative will ultimately increase student achievement in literacy.

**PRESENTERS:** Kristy Carlson, Principal, Gail N. Chapman Elementary School, Michael Cipolla, Director of Instruction and Operations, and Kourtney Almeida, Director of Pupil Services, Randolph Central School District, New York.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Social and Emotional Success For All Learners: A New Way of Learning and Being Together.* What if you created a safe and caring learning environment in your school where everyone respected individual differences and celebrated diverse cultures? At The Academy of Talented Scholars (TAOTS), in the heart of Brooklyn, New York, we reach this goal through TRIBES. Using an innovative democratic process, TRIBES serves as a vehicle that allows our school community to explore what sets us apart and what brings us together in a safe space. Through fun and interactive activities, students and staff learn more about their own thoughts, feelings, and actions, while simultaneously learning about others' experiences through collective sharing. Developing and maintaining 21st Century skills in a healthy school climate are at the core of TRIBES at TAOTS.

This highly interactive presentation will support you in learning how to build community and increase collaboration through three stages of group development, using four agreements: Attentive Listening, Appreciations/No Put Downs, The Right to Pass/Participate, and Mutual Respect. You will engage in a journey along the "Tribes Trail" and leave with implementation strategies, best practices, resources, and professional development opportunities to bring back to your school.

**PRESENTERS:** Josephine Sportella-Giusto, Founding Principal; Stacy Butsikares, Assistant Principal; Michelle Dragisics - ASD Nest Coach/NYCDOE Principal Intern; and Dr. Manal Zoabi, School Psychologist, The Academy of Talented Scholars, New York.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Using Picture Books to Enhance Social and Emotional Development in the Classroom.* During this session, participants will learn about the advantages of using children's literature, more specifically picture books to build social and emotional development. They will discover how to choose the right book, using specific criteria, and turn it into a teachable moment. Participants will learn the three-step process to follow when using picture books to enhance social and emotional learning. We will talk about the importance of the "teacher's role" in engaging the students in higher level emotional thinking through carefully constructed dialogue. Participants will be led through an established lesson, demonstrating the selection of the book, the three-step process of delivery and a variety of assessment ideas to establish an understanding of the material.

**PRESENTER:** Kelli Colella, School Counselor, Christ the Teacher Catholic School, Delaware.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *High School Culture: Expectations and Accountability.*

In 2018, SB-L High School moved from being a strong academic high school to a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Join us for a discussion of the key components we implemented to build a school culture of expectation and accountability for students and staff. These components include Professional Learning Communities with a focus on Authentic Intellectual Work (AIW), Student Advisory sessions, and the framework for constructing them effectively.

**PRESENTERS:** Jason Klingensmith, Principal; Dane' Zarbano, Initiative Leader and 9-12 Foreign Language Instructor; Justin Smith, Initiative Leader and 9-12 ELA Instructor; Paul Zahner, Initiative Leader and 9-12 Science Instructor; Ken Friedmann, Initiative Leader and 9-12 Science Instructor; and Jen Hazel, Instructional Coach and 9-12 ELA Instructor, Sergeant Bluff-Luton High School, Iowa.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Path to Magical Leadership Where Individual Choice Matters.* Growing leaders internally is critical to attaining a sustainable mission and vision. Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD is a fast growth district in Texas that has built a leadership program, which allows for individual choice in leadership development. From teacher leader development including Professional Learning Communities, Continuous Improvement and Coaching Conversations to the development of future administrators including Curriculum and Instruction, Special Programs, and the Principalship, EMS ISD provides learning and growth opportunities for all its employees. Come join us and learn specific techniques to grow your own. You will leave with invaluable information including course descriptions, class agendas, book titles, and branding your program so you have a magical path to follow.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Dana Barnes, Executive Director of Educational Services and Lisa Dunn, Executive Director of Elementary; Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Creating a Trauma Sensitive School Culture and Climate.*

The educational focus across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in the country has been on student achievement and test scores for a long time. Even the top performing school districts in the country have persistent achievement gaps. Superintendents and educators know that simply focusing on academics without addressing the social-emotional needs of our students will keep us from closing the achievement gap for All students. This workshop will provide participants with a greater appreciation for the importance of being a trauma sensitive district.

**PRESENTERS:** Chris Scott, Executive Director, and Julie Fielding, Principal, Valley Collaborative, Massachusetts.

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

### 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Supersize Learning for Kids.* We can't all be YouTube stars for our students but we can expect, engage, enhance, and extend their learning. Discover how to Maximize your Math, Soar your Science, Rise your Reading, and Win your Writing plus so much more. Join me to learn how creative your classroom can become where you are prepared for all types of today's learners. Your students will be excited to tune in to your channel.

**PRESENTERS:** Jane Merritt, Teacher, and Stan Merritt, Technology Coach, Saint Teresa of Calcutta, Pennsylvania.

**LOCATION:** Grand Ballroom South and North

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *How our school is shifting from reacting to student data to integrating free technology, data protocols, and RTI into the PLC process to focus on prevention.* Almost every school throughout the US is utilizing some form of universal screener to identify students who are struggling and provide targeted interventions. Our teachers can become bogged down in the data and raw numbers rather than the decision-making and instructional shifts the data tells us must be made. In response to teacher feedback and observations, we developed resources and protocols to limit the time spent on crunching numbers and reacting to data mid year and focused instead on stream lining the process so that through the PLC and RTI process, valuable teacher time could be spent on prevention and instructional shifts.

**PRESENTERS:** Sara McClendon, Assistant Principal, and Dichelle Turner, Nicole Gross Tracey Martin, Latasha Webster, Teachers, Monrovia Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *One Little "Spark" of Inspiration-Creating a PD Lab that Sparked Change in our District.* In 2018, the Spark Lab was built for Decatur City Schools' faculty. This is a hands-on professional development lab with a focus on STEM and computer science. The Spark Lab has had an impact on daily classroom instruction through the use of gamification, technology integration and innovative teaching strategies. We often talk about learning spaces for students, but it's rare to find a learning space for teachers. Our goal is to get teachers in, expose them to different tools and instructional methods, and "spark" an interest in them to take back into their classroom.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Michael Douglas, Superintendent, and Faith Plunkett, Instruction Technology Coach, Decatur City Schools, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Under the "C" (Creating Priority Standards for "Magical Student Success").* Delaware Hayes High School has begun the journey to create priority standards for every department, for every class and for every teacher. We are working collaboratively to build a school-wide system of powerful learning outcomes. We are seeing a targeted effort to formally and systematically identify high priority content where "less is more". Our teachers work together on a system of successful learning outcomes where students become active participants in their own learning. The pathway to student success has been nothing short of magical.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Ric Stranges, Principal, and Rex Reeder, Assistant Principal, Delaware Hayes High School, Ohio.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Developing Teacher Leaders.* Numerous studies point to a highly effective teacher as the most important factor in students' academic success. This presentation will highlight Paramount Brookside's approach to attracting, training, and retaining effective teachers who positively impact student achievement. We will be discussing the process Paramount follows at each of these stages in teacher development. The process outlined in this presentation involves three subcategories—recruitment, training, and retention. Success in each element is gauged using a different measure.

**PRESENTERS:** Scott Frye, Chief Academic Officer; Megan Bouckley, Curriculum Coach; and Hannah Friedeman, Teacher Leader, Paramount Brookside, Indiana.

**Location:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The 21st Century Whole-child: Resetting to Meet Their Needs.* In 2014, Weiner Elementary was riddled with overwhelming challenges that faced many of Arkansas' rural schools. Family farms were failing due to low crop prices and rising production costs. School numbers dropped, changing student demographics dramatically --with many children now living in poverty. The community, which always supported the school, grieved when the high school was consolidated, leaving only the elementary school. The staff at Weiner Elementary set out to transform their remaining school into an exemplary environment that was innovative, effective, honored the multidimensional 21st Century Whole Child, and re-energized the entire community. This process would be no gradual trickling in of change, but rather a deliberate and complete "RESET." The overarching goal of that "RESET" was enabling children to be excited about their future, to feel "part" of the world and not "apart" from the world. The "RESET" focused on new dimensions of today's 21st Century Whole Child and the demands of an ever-changing world. While test scores remained an important focus of that "RESET," the school branched out, giving just as much emphasis on the Social Emotional Learning of our students by focusing on things like creativity, communication skills, character education/community service, world cultures, learning a second language, and command of technology as a tool for learning and sharing. The "RESET" tore down barriers, honoring the belief that each child deserves the opportunity to live the life they choose --not a life determined by their circumstances. This presentation, led by Weiner Elementary's 2016 Terrell Bell Award winning principal shares the school's journey from a school with seemingly insurmountable problems to a School of Innovation and a 2016 Blue Ribbon School. The presentation also shares 21st Century Whole Child innovation strategies and resources that work, as well as the inherent challenges that accompany a school-wide "RESET."

**PRESENTERS:** Pam Hogue, Principal, and Tonya Thompson, 5th & 6th Grade Literacy Teacher, Weiner Elementary School, Arkansas.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Teaching Students to Make a Difference in the World.* This presentation will focus on providing a formula for social activism. Actively promoting student engagement and empowering them to make a difference! Aside from providing excellence in education, the mission of our school has been to inspire students to be caring and compassionate about the world around them and to strive to make changes when possible. Over the past 25 years our students have been actively involved and making a difference!

**PRESENTER:** Rabbi Zev Friedman, Dean, Rambam Mesivta High School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Proudly Wear Your Mickey Ears – Earning and Celebrating Local and National Awards and Recognitions.* In an era of educational options, schools must distinguish themselves in order to attract and retain students and staff. Local and national recognitions can validate the great work being done and help your school be noticed for its achievements. Learn about the nomination process for numerous regional and national awards and how the application process can be completed even without an Advancement Director on staff. The vibrant and well-rounded school community has led to CTTCS earning 11 national awards/recognitions in our short history. The school was twice named a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence (2010 and 2016) and a four-time Anti-Defamation League: No Place for Hate designee (2015-2018). CTTCS was named a Character.org: Promising Practices School in 2016 and a Today’s Catholic Teacher: Innovations in Catholic Education Award recipient in 2014.

**PRESENTER:** Colleen Naccarato, Advancement Director, Christ the Teacher Catholic School, Delaware.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Magic Happens at the Kingdom When all Unite.* Unity in the direction of a school district is critical for success. Join this session to see the alignment of the work that makes a kingdom strong. Miller and Hollinger will share the process for taking the strategic plan of a district apart and addressing key pieces at the campus level to create the Campus Improvement Plan. The work here requires a unity in focus and intention for key players at the campus. From the data analysis to the goal setting of departments, teachers and students to the presentation of results at the District level, positive results require everyone to commit to the plan. Session participants will leave with a clear understanding of how the process works as well as templates and resources to support the work.

**PRESENTERS:** Karen Miller, Director of Professional Development and Continuous Improvement, Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District and Christal Hollinger, Principal, Willow Creek Elementary, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Simple and Effective Ways to Track Data for Your Incentive Program.* Some of the largest barriers to incentivizing student success with reward programs is organizing and tracking the data, but this does not have to be the case. In this session, two administrators will discuss utilizing Google Sheets, Google Apps Script, and Mobile apps for tracking and rewarding behaviors that align to school goals. Learn how to create and scan QR/barcodes for students through print, web, and apps. You will leave this session with free examples of Google code and templates (sheets/forms) that are ready for you to use for tracking your own incentive points and prizes.

**PRESENTERS:** Mike Carter, Assistant Principal, and Matthew Davidson, Technology Coach, South-Doyle High School, Tennessee.

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

**DAY THREE**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019**

**7:30 AM - 4:00 PM REGISTRATION**

**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST / VISIT EXHIBITS**

Location: GH Ballroom North

**9:00 AM - 10:00 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS D**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Get It Done.* "Whatever we accomplish belongs to our entire group, a tribute to our combined effort." -Walt Disney. As a small school in a rural setting we need to work as a team to ensure student success. With limited resources, we found a way to develop a program to prepare our highest needs students for graduation followed by career and college readiness. The program was designed to support and facilitate the success of at risk students. Working as a team with Administration, PPS, Guidance and SPED, the program has helped numerous students meet state and common core standards, pass high stakes tests, and be college and career ready.

**PRESENTERS:** Jacqueline Hill, Principal; Sarah Loszynski, Special Education Teacher; and Teresa Hebert, Guidance Counselor, Maple Hill Junior/Senior High School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Leveraging your School to Serve Others.* Does your school-programming match the unique stated features of your school's cultural documents? All schools aspire to educate well, but what are you doing to execute the other defining elements of your school's mission? This presentation will cover an exemplary linkage between a school's culture documents and the programs provided to support the mission of the school. While this will come from the model of a private Christian high school, the principles are transferable to colleagues in public education. Our mission includes the pursuit of excellence in all we do, while empowering students to discover their passions and explore unique gifts and abilities. To accomplish this, we have developed a different approach to holistic education that emphasizes seeing academics, arts, athletics, and service to others as co-curricular programs. This presentation will show how different pillars of our school help achieve the school mission. Distinctive features of each program are showcased, including a service ministry that has sent over 3000 students to 35 different countries. This session will conclude with small group discussion regarding the unique ways schools are leveraging intentional programming in achieving student outcomes consistent with school mission and vision.

**PRESENTER:** Gary Fisher, Director of Academics, Valor Christian High School, Colorado.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *A Magic Carpet Bag of Kindergarten Tricks at Ruth Clark Elementary School.* While parents send their best to us, students don't all enter school prepared to learn and be successful. As students come with fewer basic skills and more trauma, Ruth Clark Elementary changed our "normal" to find the best researched practices to move beyond the limits and help every student reach their fullest potential. Beginning kindergarten students had ZERO of their basic kindergarten sight words and by year's end; eighty percent had reached their goal. Come find out how everyone from paras to principals can be included to make this happen.

**PRESENTERS:** Carla Wulf, Principal; Shenae Stein, Learning Facilitator; Lisa Kreutzer, Special Education Teacher; Neysa Forsythe, Kindergarten Teacher; Lesley Thomas, Kindergarten Teacher; Cathy Michael, Social Worker/Counselor; and Karlee Kohler, Kindergarten Teacher, Ruth Clark Elementary, Kansas.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Building Success from the Bottom Up.* Hear how two rural community schools beat the odds to become National Blue Ribbon Schools. Clay Community Schools is one of six school corporations in Indiana with more than one National Blue Ribbon School. Being a rural community, low social economic status is the norm. Through the power of direct, data-driven instruction, we were able to rise to the top. The teacher has the power within his or her classroom to maximize instruction, enhanced by available data. Direct Instruction and the time allocated to instruction are vital components to successful pedagogy. By utilizing student assessment data, identifying and addressing student weaknesses, and reevaluating, student growth and achievement are inevitable. This simple approach was implemented in our schools with almost instantaneous and ongoing success.

**PRESENTERS:** Brad Ennen, Principal, Jackson Township Elementary School and Sheryl Jordan, Principal of Staunton Elementary, Indiana.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Teacher Evaluation: Moving Beyond Compliance.* Several years have passed since individual state codes began requiring reporting of teacher evaluation data by individual school corporations. This presentation addresses the utilization of this data collected by schools to drive professional development, encourage teacher growth and retention, and ultimately improve instruction for students by creating a feedback rich culture in your school.

**PRESENTERS:** Todd Whitlock, CEO of Standard For Success, spent 20 years in public education. He served as a classroom teacher, coach, and district administrator overseeing technology, curriculum, testing, and early college programs before co-founding Standard For Success, a software company specializing in teacher evaluation. Todd was recognized as the TechPoint 2012 Bridge Builder Award Recipient, was the 2008 winner for contributions to K-12 education, and was recognized as a National School Board Association "20 to Watch" school leader. Dr. Kelly Andrews is a retired principal from Indiana who served as President of IASP in 2015. Dr. Andrews' published research on the evaluation of principals in Indiana was presented at the American Educational Research Association in Washington DC in 2016. She has also served as an adjunct professor in Educational Leadership. Dr. Andrews currently serves as the Executive Director of Doctors Charter School of Miami Shores, Florida. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Closing the Achievement Gap with Courage and Culture.***

Several members of our high school team will demonstrate how a small suburban school closed achievement gaps for the lower income students by completely disrupting the cultural norms of a typical high school. Change in small towns comes slowly and often, only with herculean efforts. See how school leaders upended the way we work and learn by focusing on the whole child and tier one practice. Abington High School had been labeled as a level 3 school (levels 1-5) by the Massachusetts Department of Education just three years ago. Our level 3 status meant that we were not making progress in closing the achievement gaps between subgroups of students. Our demographic was typical for a small suburban school with a special education subgroup of about 13% and a lower income subgroup of about 23%. Our English Language Learner population is growing but not enough to use achievement data. We attacked the data directly by changing our thinking. Rather than focus on tier two/at risk subgroups we looked at whole school dynamics and implemented what would normally be tier two interventions as whole school practices. Some of these included: an open campus, late start model, an after school tutoring and late bus program, teacher and support staff teams, a new professional development schedule and expectations, the adoption of the Danish philosophy, Hygge, and the courage of leadership to take on removing the obstacles to change.

**PRESENTERS:** Teresa Sullivan, Principal; Laura Louko, Assistant Principal; Kim McHugh, ELA Teacher; Christina Sweeney, Guidance Counselor, Abington High School, Massachusetts, and Dr. Dymna Thomas, Executive Director, Pilgrim Area Collaborative, Massachusetts.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *"Tech It Ralph"*.** Participants will see first hand how East Elementary School integrates technology in all facets of the educational setting. For example, students are not expected to only be proficient in technology in their core classes, but in activities as well. This presentation will show how our staff integrates technology in every corner of our school. We will reveal how we incorporate technology in all corners of our school, exposing our students as much as possible. We will describe how our elementary school provides opportunities for all students to become "technology" proficient in every facet of our school.

**PRESENTERS:** Savannah Wood, Media Specialist; Amber Hembree, Counselor; Danielle Taylor, Special Education; and Lacy Sharpton, Classroom Teacher, East Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Using Health Data to Improve Academic Outcomes.*** What if you could predict academic risk for your students up to ten times faster than you thought possible? Paramount Schools of Excellence in Indianapolis, Indiana, is doing just that by utilizing cross sector data to provide faster interventions and better long-term academic outcomes for children. The Paramount Health Data Project bridges the gap between HIPAA and FERPA using social determinants of health data to leverage additional systems of support for children in our schools who might otherwise fall behind their peers. This presentation explains the process and provides entry points for other schools wishing to incorporate similar models.

**PRESENTERS:** Tommy Reddicks, Chief Executive Officer, and Jessica Monk, Chief Operating Officer, Paramount Schools of Excellence, Indiana.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Why Do They Act That Way? A Survival Guide to the Adolescent Brain.* Adolescence has been described as a "normally abnormal stage of life." This workshop, based on Dr. David Walsh's best-selling book, explains exactly what happens to the adolescent brain on the path from childhood into adulthood. Revealing the latest scientific findings in easy-to-understand terms, Dr. Walsh shows why moodiness, quickness to anger, willingness to take risks, miscommunication and other familiar teenage behavior are so common—all are linked to physical changes and growth in the adolescent brain. This workshop goes beyond the well-known issues of hormones and peer pressure. Dr. Walsh also shows parents and anyone who works with youth how to use this information to understand, communicate with, and stay connected to their kids.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. David Walsh, Co-Founder of the Spark & Stitch Institute, award-winning psychologist, best-selling author, and international speaker. He has been a frequent guest on national programs including NBC's Today Show, Good Morning America, CBS Early Show, PBS News Hour, Dateline, 20/20, and NPR's All Things Considered.

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

### **10:15 AM - 11:15 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS E**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Maslow Before Bloom - It's Just What We Do.* Riverton Elementary School has had to think outside the box in order to support our families in need. A social worker, an administrator, and a teacher within the school came together and created the Care Closet. The Care Closet is a room inside of our building that houses all of the basic necessities that our struggling families need: food, clothing, hygiene products, school supplies, etc. Since its inception, the community has overwhelmingly provided resources in order to ensure our families have everything they need to succeed. We have partnered with dozens of families to organize grocery delivery, weekend food bags, shopping for clothing, and much more. Since we began meeting these students' basic needs, we are proud to share that our achievement has increased and behavior has decreased.

**PRESENTERS:** Karen Payne, Social Worker; Lisa Goodwin, Kindergarten Teacher; and Rachel Evans, Assistant Principal, Riverton Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Navigating the waters of school leadership in a Blue Ribbon School.* School leaders are called to be all things to all people. Principals are called to be the marketers, accountants, custodians, chefs, and CEOs, all while simultaneously leading students, teachers and staff, academics, safety, and ..... parents. Do you feel like a juggler? Plate spinner? A clown? A jack-of-all-trades? Too many things to keep going at once? There are often hidden expectations in school leadership or in the classroom that weigh us down. How, then, do we lead these things, yet reach Blue Ribbon School status? Let's look at what we do and what people expect of us. While looking at these "expectations" let's discuss the magic formula to do all of these things, yet still lead a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Michael Bratcher, Principal, Sacred Heart Model School, Kentucky.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *The Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Showcase of Award Winning Schools.*** Continuous improvement in schools is an ongoing process, not an event. Continuous improvement in the highest performing schools involves all your stakeholders guiding the direction of the school. Hear from award winning schools from across the nation who has moved their schools forward using the BRSE process and other practices. The Blueprint for Excellence is a comprehensive school assessment designed to assist all schools at all levels. The process assesses the quality of school programs and assists in developing a school-wide action plan to ensure measurable student achievement and school improvement. Learn more about the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence process in this session.

**Presenters:** Bart Teal, President, BRSE, South Carolina; Dr. Mike Hall, President, BRSE Board Chair and Senior Assessor, Georgia; and Jayne Ellspermann, BRSE Board Vice Chair and Senior Assessor, Florida.

**Facilitator:** Dennis Bega, Senior Assessor, BRSE, Georgia.

**Location:** GH Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Flexible Programming: Making the Most of Your Day!***

We will be presenting on Small Group Instruction (SGI) and flexible programming. During SGI teachers have the opportunity to provide additional lessons to their students for intervention as well as enrichment needs. Flexible programming of the schedules of our special education students provides them with the opportunity to receive their education to the maximum extent appropriate in classrooms and activities with their peers that do not receive special education services. We decided to invest in human resources in order to provide teachers with the additional period for SGI. During the SGI period, a social studies or science teacher teaches the whole class while the classroom teacher provides instruction to a small group of selected students. Flexible programming allows for a special education program to be designed for an individual student in the 12:1:1 setting or the ICT setting to meet the students' unique needs while adhering to LRE (least restrictive environment classroom) guidelines. The School Implementation Team studies and evaluates a student's academic performance, behavioral characteristics, teacher evaluation and recommendations. Then, the least restrictive environment is considered in order for the student to receive the best practices of instruction and additional supports needed to progress.

**PRESENTERS:** Tony Wu, Principal; Maria Strongilis, Assistant Principal; Kristi Pollock, Assistant Principal; Elen Stratis, Instructional Coach; and Kaitlyn Ryan, Teacher, P.S. 170, The Ralph A. Fabrizio School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Dealing With Angry Ducks: The Art of Positive Parent-School Interactions.*** Discuss strategies and supports to help teachers, counselors, and school leaders deal with difficult conferences and situations in a positive, student-focused manner. Referencing current texts, the presentation will provide insight into how a proactive approach and a calm, confident response can help avoid the potential pitfalls that lead to ineffective school conferences and interactions. This presentation will equip participants with strategies to share, model, and role-play with their staffs to build stronger conferencing and conflict mitigation skills.

**PRESENTERS:** Gales Scroggs, Fort Mill High School, South Carolina, and Caryn Scroggs, Assistant Principal, Gold Hill Middle School, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Creating Classroom Safe Zones.* Protect your students with this engaging, interactive, and supremely entertaining presentation. Participants will walk away with the tools and resources they need to provide an inclusive environment for students who suffer from Food Allergies, Celiac Disease, or other dietary issues - and they'll have a WHOLE LOT OF FUN in the process. Through a combination of facts, anecdotal evidence, and humor, participants will leave with a comprehensive understanding of food allergies, Celiac Disease, and other dietary issues as well as the knowledge needed to keep students safe.

**PRESENTERS:** Dee Dee Vicino, CEO and Founder, AllerCuisine and former Assistant Principal, Hollywood Academy of Arts and Sciences, Colorado.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Supporting Cross Curricular Connections Through Literacy and Visual Arts in the Early Childhood Classroom.* You don't have to be an artist to enjoy this fun and interactive workshop! Participants will engage in hands-on visual arts activities for early childhood students integrating children's literature, math, science, and social studies. Participants will create fascinating projects and activities using inexpensive materials. The purpose of this interactive workshop is to expand the knowledge and teaching methods of early childhood educators with hands-on activities to take back to classroom to integrate art, children's literature, math, science, and social studies.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Amanda Pendergrass, Associate Professor of Elementary Education; Dr. Sallie Harper, Professor of Elementary School; Dr. Lynn Kelley, Associate Professor of Elementary School; Dr. Charlotte Tabereaux, University of West Alabama, and Anna Lynn Pendergrass, Kindergartner, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *We Teach and Lead How We Learn--Where's the Magic?* To prepare leaders to lead the work on a campus, they must know what the work looks like. This presentation will focus on building strong campus and district leaders who support campus learning. Through modeling best practices and engaging leaders in the curriculum and best teaching practices, these expert teacher leaders are creating campus administrators who know what to look for in classrooms, how to give feedback that is relevant, and how to coach teachers to new levels of learning. Join this session to see how the practices can be replicated for magic to occur in your district or on your campus. You will be engaged in Hattie's best practices as they are modeled as well as how to integrate technology so that it enhances and supports curriculum and learning. Magic is found when leaders know expectations, content, and best practices and how to use these for intentional learning.

**PRESENTERS:** Stacy Summerhill, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Angela Kennedy, Coordinator of Elementary School ELAR, and Carlynn Briley, Early Literacy Specialist, Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Creating an Effective School Culture: The Art of Leading Transformational Change.* Moving a school from good to great (and keeping it that way) requires creating a culture that is able to support and sustain continuous learning. It also requires leaders to model the necessary mindset each and every day in order to nurture leadership and collective capacity in others. This session explores *why* such a culture is the most impactful influence on student achievement, *what* important ideas we should always prioritize, and *how* leaders (both administrators and teachers) can incorporate strategies into their daily practice.

**PRESENTER:** Craig Martin, Executive Director of the Pegasus Springs Education Collective, Former Assistant Superintendent, Former Principal of a BRSE Lighthouse School, and Recipient of AMLE National Distinguished Educator Award, Massachusetts.

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

**11:15 AM - 11:45 PM VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

## 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE POINTS OF LIGHT AND BEACON LUNCHEON

**Master of Ceremony** - Dennis W. Bega, Senior Assessor, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence

**Lunch Sponsor Remarks** - Todd Whitlock, CEO, Standard for Success and Blue Level Sponsor  
**Presentation of Awards**

### POINTS OF LIGHT SCHOOLS

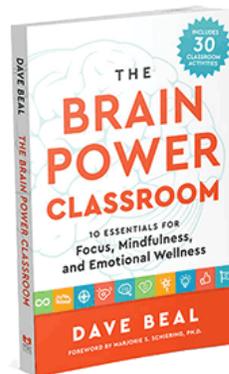
Bashaw Elementary School  
 Braden River Middle School  
 East Limestone High School  
 Eva K-8 School  
 Lee Middle School  
 Meek High School  
 Palmetto Elementary School  
 Susan Moore High School  
 West Decatur Elementary School

### BEACON SCHOOLS

Austin Junior High School  
 Austin Middle School  
 Chestnut Grove Elementary School  
 Double Springs Middle School  
 Haile Middle School  
 Hazel Green Elementary School  
 Hazel Green High School  
 Oak Park Elementary School  
 PS 102 Bayview School  
 Tara Elementary School  
 Vinemont Elementary School  
 West Morgan Elementary School

**Introduction of Speaker** – Dr. Mike Hall, BRSE Board Chair

### DAVE BEAL: Brain Power Wellness Executive Director



Dave Beal is the Executive Director and Head National Trainer for Brain Power Wellness (BPW) and the author of the new book “The Brain Power Classroom”. After several successful years of teaching brain-based strategies as a classroom teacher in Brooklyn and Freeport, NY, Dave has spent the last twelve years training thousands of administrators, teachers, parents and students. Dave’s vision is to help every school in the US become a “Brain Power School” which promotes health, happiness, mindfulness and optimal achievement for each member of the school community. Brain Power Wellness has worked with more than 400 schools, training 20,000 teachers and 350,000 students in SEL, mindfulness and neuroplasticity

techniques. The NYC Department of Education (DOE) Chancellor has endorsed BPW for their success in promoting social-emotional wellness and BPW is working with the NYC DOE to bring Brain Power to all two thousand schools in NYC over the next several years.

Dave has led experiential sessions and lectures at the United Nations Headquarters, Nike Corporate Headquarters, the University of Brain Education in South Korea and presented to the Congress of New Mexico. He has personally coached more than one hundred principals and superintendents through his executive leadership retreats and workshops. Dave holds his BA from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and his Masters in Education from PACE University (both with honors). He is currently working on his second book that will focus on utilizing mindfulness, brain training and self-care as the foundation for effective executive leadership.

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

### **1:15 AM - 1:45 PM VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

### **1:45 PM - 2:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS F**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *"The Brain Power School: Enhancing Focus, Mindfulness & Emotional Wellness"*. Dave Beal has spent the past 12 years training hundreds of thousands of students, teachers, parents and administrators in schools on four continents. This engaging presentation will explain the essence of the Brain Power Wellness program, currently utilized by more than 200 New York City schools. Participants will not only receive materials and information regarding the effectiveness of Brain Power Breaks, they will also practice 10 hands-on classroom activities that promote focus, mindfulness and emotional wellness. Participants will learn brain-based classroom management strategies and authentic tools for creating a collaborative school-wide culture that prioritizes staff self-care as the foundation for student achievement. Participants will receive a signed copy of the book "The Brain Power Classroom."

**PRESENTER:** Dave Beal is the Executive Director and Head National Trainer for Brain Power Wellness (BPW) and the author of the new book "The Brain Power Classroom" New York.

**LOCATION:** Grand Ballroom South and North

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Ubuntu – Creating a High Impact School Theme*. School leaders from Stanton College Preparatory School will guide participants through the process undertaken in its development of the school theme, Ubuntu-I am Because We Are, and the careful crafting of its permeation through every aspect of the school: from the idea that we are greater as the sum of our parts, to the charge that we hold each other accountable for our actions. The school leadership envisioned each area of the school; academics, safety, discipline, athletics, testing, instruction, guidance, and mental health and vetted the manners in which the Ubuntu theme would influence the actions of individuals for the betterment of the whole. As each school has different needs and focuses, the process will aim to arm school leaders with the tools necessary to develop their own high impact theme.

**PRESENTERS:** Nongongoma Majova-Seane, Principal, and David Matthew Hemphill, Assistant Principal, Stanton College Preparatory School, Florida.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Structuring the Reading Block to Achieve Double-Digit Gains in One Year.* This session will provide evidence of the importance of foundational reading, and will share “what to teach” and “how to teach it” during the reading block for each grade. Grouping students to provide struggling readers more time and support, as well as providing more challenging learning for readers who perform at/above grade level will be addressed. This structure has proven to be extremely effective in four struggling turnaround schools. Students in these schools outperformed students in more affluent schools across this large urban school district.

**PRESENTER:** Nancy Guzman, North Carolina and South Carolina Distinguished Principal, and BRSE Senior Assessor, North Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Transformational leadership behaviors and public school leaders: Principal behaviors and associations with teacher motivation and job satisfaction.* This presentation is the result of a quantitative research study that explores relations among school principal leadership behavior, type of motivation experienced by teachers, and teacher job satisfaction. Research on principals’ leadership suggests transformational types of behaviors are associated with a greater sense of teacher autonomy. Furthermore, leadership style is associated with the degree to which a teacher experiences motivation as autonomous or controlling. Study results offer important contributions to the understanding of principal leadership behaviors, teacher motivation, and teacher job satisfaction. Principals and school leaders will benefit from a clearer understanding of how specific leadership behaviors can create a work environment that supports or thwarts specific types of motivations in teachers.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Thomas Lind, Superintendent and University Instructor, Nippersink School District; and Dr. Partick Enright, Principal, and Belinda Veillon, Curriculum Director, Richmond-Burton High School, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Propelling Students to Infinity and Beyond: A School’s Journey to Increasing Student Engagement, Empowerment, and Achievement.* Hear about a school’s journey to implementation of rigorous instructional practices through sustained professional development, flexible scheduling, structures, and routines. Staff and students’ exposure to best practice in inquiry instruction allowed us to propel our school from ordinary to extraordinary. Participants will walk away with ideas for resources, schedules, and structures that have proven to be successful for our students.

Our focus is instructing teachers and students on best practice strategies by incorporating inquiry and higher-level thinking skills. Through the implementation of rigorous instructional practices, classrooms transform to be more student-centered, engaging, and hands on.

**PRESENTERS:** Julie Morris, Principal; Heather Farrar, Assistant Principal; Cindy Bailey, Curriculum Support Teacher; Anne McKown, Curriculum Support Teacher; and Sabrina Hill, School Counselor, Lake Windward Elementary School, Georgia.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Once Upon a Team: Helping Students Achieve to Infinity and Beyond Through Data Driven Decisions and Interventions.* Gone is the struggle of making teaching decisions in isolation and wondering if your instruction is meeting the needs of your students. This session will show how our school makes data-driven decisions in a team setting and implements those decisions through a daily intervention hour at each grade level as well as after school programs so that all learners can be successful. The one practice that has been most instrumental to our success at Indian Riffle Elementary is our commitment to providing intentional interventions for all students. All members of our instructional teams collaborate to make data-driven decisions. Plans are formulated during bi-monthly data team meetings and implemented during daily intervention periods for all grades. In addition to the intervention hour, many students participate in after school academic programs. This allows students to receive additional targeted support outside the school day.

**PRESENTERS:** Debbie Beiter, Principal; Amanda Zickefoose, Teacher; Julie Ray, Teacher; and Beth Frederick, Teacher, Indian Riffle Elementary School, Ohio.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Teaching Students to Read is Rocket Science: Or is it?* Reading is not a natural process. The brain was not programmed or created to read. Therefore, learning to read has to be an acquired skill. Teachers must be equipped with the knowledge and skills to effectively teach students how to read. Is this rocket science? Well, yes! But the good news is...the research and knowledge does exist that can provide teachers with the ability to teach children how to read. This includes students who are from high-risk environments that may come to us with a lack of language development and exposure to print. Informed classroom instruction and practices that begin in the foundational years can change the trajectory of a child's success and future! Learn about practices that have contributed to our students' success in reading: Structured Literacy; Multisensory Instruction; Professional Learning Communities; Focus on the Whole Child, and School Culture and Climate.

**PRESENTERS:** Adam Hampton, Principal, and Wendy Clay, Teacher, Owens Cross Roads Elementary, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Teacher Leaders: Making a Positive Impact on Student Achievement.* Though some teacher leaders emerge naturally, the best teacher leaders are strategically developed. Participants in this session will be provided with the advantages of being a teacher leader, the benefits to the school community, and the steps and strategies to develop and/or become a teacher leader. Specific data, program design information, professional knowledge, and other resources available to participants will validate the collaborative leadership framework. An overview of a typical school year that embraces teacher leadership opportunities and their results will be demonstrated. Teachers in leadership roles are afforded numerous leadership opportunities that range from conducting professional development to planning and leading student academic and extracurricular activities, which correlates with an increase in student achievement. Administrators want the best for all students. The best administrators want students to experience the finest education from the greatest teachers they can possibly have, thus today's administrators are considered a teacher of teachers. Opportunities for teachers to learn and grow through deliberate professional development and to share their expertise with their peers and students are abundant. First-hand experiences of the phenomena of teachers coming together to share ideas, practices, and problem solving will be highlighted. This kind of synergy among teachers will directly influence student success.

**PRESENTER:** Hattie Alexander, Principal; Jennifer Immel, Reading Coach; and LaRonda Langham, Math Coach, Council Traditional Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Virtual Team Teaching.*** This session will focus on looking at the future of student interaction in the classroom supported by technology. Students engage with another classroom, at another school, with another teacher, located at an entirely different location. It emphasizes the use of digital tools to redefine teaching and learning. Virtual Team Teaching is a method where two geographically separated teachers collaborate to engage their students in continuous shared learning experiences and lessons during a school year. This is not a special project that is implemented once or twice a year. We have successfully aligned nearly all grade specific lessons and standards between our different classes.

**PRESENTERS:** Rachel Lamb, Teacher, McMeen Elementary School and Steven Lamb, Joe Shoemaker Elementary School, Colorado.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Engaging and Motivating the Generation Z Student/iGen Students.*** In order to adapt to the Generation Z Student, educators must change the delivery methods and classroom management strategies for their students to remain engaged. An excellent way to adapt to these particular students is through gamification and reward-based curriculum enhancements. Gamification has become a popular engagement tool across all industries. The US Army uses gamification on the recruiting and training of soldiers. Fitbit uses it with gamifying daily fitness habits. Starbucks uses gamification with rewarding loyal patrons with its star and reward system. Gamification methods in education will lead to increases in classroom engagement, encouraging specific behaviors, increasing student motivation, and increase outcomes with the Generation Z student.

Students today use their mobile devices as their essential life tool. Combining gamification to your school mobile app is a dynamic component that ensures student engagement and motivation. Gamification is a simple, efficient, and cost-effective method of providing a new cutting-edge addition designed for driving student engagement, student retention, increasing outcomes, all while focusing on institutional metrics and KPI's.

**PRESENTERS:** Jason London- Chief Executive Officer, ViKtory Now! and Zack Lesak-Chief Operations Officer ViKtory Now!

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

### **3:00 PM - 4:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS G**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Organizational Socialization and Teacher Turnover.***

The session will make an argument for using an approach rooted in Industrial/Organizational Psychology to remediate the Teacher Turnover Phenomenon, and identify the inadequacy of qualitative approaches. The constructs of Organizational Socialization and Turnover Intention will be defined, and their relationship to one another (as well as other I/O Psych constructs) will be explored. My own dissertation findings vis-à-vis their relationship with the population of teachers will be analyzed. Dimensional analysis will reveal the importance of the dimensions of Goals and Values, Politics, and Language, and how each impacts Turnover Intention. Interventions and best practices to stem turnover derivative of the dissertation findings will be proposed.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Troy Podell, Coordinator of Career Readiness, Downingtown Area School District, Pennsylvania.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *How to Achieve 1.5 years growth in Math and Reading while Conquering Poverty in Inner City Schools.* The presenter will share best practices that school leadership teams use in their schools to close the achievement gap and experience high test scores. Do you feel pressure to close the achievement gap? The added layers of servicing students with disabilities, minority students, students living in poverty - all while in charters operating with limited resources makes this task seem impossible. This highly skilled turnaround specialist will demonstrate to participants how to achieve 1.50 years' worth of growth for all students through implementing culturally responsive teaching strategies, facilitating data dialogs, planning purposeful professional development, and establish sustainable partnerships. Participants will learn to utilize data driven instruction to progress monitor student achievement focusing on closing the achievement gap. They will understand how to form partnerships with stakeholders to provide resources in schools. Leaders will learn to assess, understand, and describe best practices to build capacity within your school.

**PRESENTER:** Shawn Hurt, School Turnaround Principal, Inkster Preparatory Academy, Michigan.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *"A Whole New World": Learning in an Ultramodern Society.* The presenters from STEM Early College at NC A&T will parallel the song lyrics from "A Whole New World" with the journey to school-wide technology integration. This "carpet ride" includes a teacher journey from traditional delivery methods to digital saturation and student mindset shifts towards using technology as a tool for learning and discovery. The goal of the technology integration initiative with teachers and students was to support an ultramodern learning movement to create a culture where technology is a vehicle for identifying problems and discovering futuristic solutions. Participants will be introduced to a digital badge initiative that spans over two years and includes more than 14 options for technology integration in the classroom. There will also be discussion on the challenges of this expansive initiative to support STEM educators in all content areas.

**PRESENTERS:** Jamisa Williams, Principal; Sharon Lassiter, Curriculum Facilitator; and Sequilla McLean, Instructional Technology Facilitator, STEM Early College at NC A&T, North Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Building a Positive School Culture.* Learn how to build an outstanding, positive school culture within your school. Students learn better when they are in a safe and positive learning environment. The staff and teachers perform on a higher level when they are in a school that has a positive and nurturing school environment that carries over to the parents and community as a whole. The prevailing atmosphere in your school will affect everything that goes on inside its walls. The benefits of a positive school culture were endless at our schools: school test scores improved; parent survey approval results skyrocketed; staff satisfaction with their jobs increased as seen in staff surveys; student attendance rate increased due to students enjoying going to school; staff attendance rate increased due to the staff enjoying a positive work environment and discipline referrals diminished as the culture changed to a more positive one.

**PRESENTER:** Robert F. Detzel, Principal, St. Lawrence School, Indiana (formerly of St. Cecilia School Kentucky).

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Student Success ~ Moving Beyond Test Scores.* The ability to rigorously document and transparently communicate the impact public schools are having on student outcomes is quickly emerging as a critical priority for school leaders. Strategic leadership and evidence-based practice starts by measuring the outcomes that make the difference for students. Measuring student success requires moving beyond standardized test scores toward a multi-dimensional and personalized set of indicators. This presentation will provide an overview of how you can create a clear and compelling vision for your unique district and craft a broader, more inspiring definition of student success.

**PRESENTERS:** Melina Wright, Senior Associate, and Gina Siemieniec, President, ECRA, and John Bruesh, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning at Barrington 220, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *T.E.A.M. Teaching, Engaging, and Actively Motivating Student Learning in Elementary Schools.* This session uses teams to help build a school community while fostering positive relationships with students and adults in the elementary setting. Participants will learn how to build and create teams, gather ideas to use with teams using character traits, and learn how to successfully manage young, creative minds.

**PRESENTERS:** Shannon McCaskey, Principal; Annie Diaz, Math Coach; and Lesa Torain, Reading Coach, Frances Nungester Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Support for EVERY Child.* Support for students in advanced, rigorous schools is essential for student success, both academically and emotionally. Through school-wide programs such as AVID and College Transition courses, students develop skills that not only bring success in high school but are transferable to their college classes upon graduation. As students develop their skills in high school support classes, they are able to put them into practice immediately in all classes, from remedial to Advanced Placement. In this session, participants will be introduced to the critical components of integrating an advanced high school program with the AVID College Readiness system and College Transition lessons. Successful implementation of AVID skills and support starts with careful consideration of a school-wide system. You will learn how to evaluate current school needs and address systems that may need to be aligned for greater program success and long-term sustainability. We will discuss our school-wide system approach, hear student testimonials dealing with the successful transferability of AVID strategies to college courses, and share our master schedule design where everyone on campus is part of the college readiness support system.

**PRESENTERS:** Paul Covey, Principal and Laura Widner, Assistant Principal, Valle Verde Early College High School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Applying the 5 Practices and Lifting the Level of Rigor in Math and Seeing Results.* With math scores at a standstill, The Waterside Children's Studio School (P.S. 317), a New York City Title 1 public school, shifted how they teach math. Incorporating the 5 Practices for Orchestrating Productive Math Discussions into their teaching practice, students became more confident in their approach to problem solving as well as better able to explain their thinking and take mathematical risks. Additionally, NYS testing scores increased by 15% because of this shift. Learn how to challenge your students while keeping the fun in math.

**PRESENTERS:** Dana Gerendasi, Principal; and Susie Harter, Cathy Cornish, and Sheerin O'Connor, Waterside Children's Studio, New York.

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

**DAY FOUR**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019**

**8:00AM - 1:00 PM REGISTRATION**

**8:00 AM - 8:30 AM COFFEE AND MUFFINS**

**8:30 AM - 9:30AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS H**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *“Not Just a Job”—Hall of Fame Teachers Share Secrets for a Long and Rewarding Career in Education.* A panel of distinguished members of The National Teachers Hall of Fame will share their tried and true methods of impactful teaching in this interactive dialogue of what works, what keeps them in the classroom after two or three decades, and why the teaching profession is the most important profession in the world! Attendees will be inspired, challenged, and energized by the passion of these award-winning career educators who truly make a difference every single day in their classrooms. Additional information about the National Teachers Hall of Fame and induction procedures will also be available. You will be proud of your chosen profession when you network with these teacher leaders!

**PRESENTERS:** Carol Strickland, Executive Director of the National Teachers Hall of Fame, and a panel of National Hall of Fame inductees.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Placing A FOCUS On Teacher Advisory.* Presentation will focus on teacher advisory group; structure, format, expectations, and outcomes. Additionally, the presentation will cover an administration component to advisory. The area of best practices will cover the Vinemont Middle School Teacher Advisory Program. Students meet with their teacher advisor each day for 20 minutes. The period is scheduled in the middle of the school day to allow for a time of reflection and refocus. During this time our staff is targeting character education, academic progress, attendance, discipline, and relationship building. Finally, our counselor and I meet with sixth graders, once a month, for lessons on ethics, accountability, academic success, basic life skills, and the importance of attendance. I meet with all our boys and our counselor meets with all our girls. This is also a time for modeling behavior and gaining self-confidence.

**PRESENTER:** Johnny Whaley, Principal, Vinemont Middle School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *How Empowered People, Empower People.* This address provides educational leaders with a framework to improve teacher retention and increase student engagement. The “Empowering Leadership Framework” gives school leaders a practical guide for improving school outcomes by aligning the mission of the school with the shared vision of the educators. The alignment of mission with an empowering vision has proven to renew the passion to teach in teachers and revive the love of learning for students. Empowering Leadership is a testimony to the power education has to strengthen the spirit and unlock the potential of each child. The spirit of every child lives in the heart. An empowered heart will empower the mind and body because those who empower others are themselves empowered. Attendees will learn how to create a shared vision and provide the four “Heart-Needs” which must be included in a school mission to empower teachers and students.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Akil Ross, 2018 NASSP National Distinguished Principal and BRSE Board Member.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Designing Quality Field Experience for Pre-Service Teachers.*

Practice is essential to improving and mastering specific techniques for all performance-based professions. Medicine, plumbing, cosmetology, and the law are examples of professions that require demonstrated performance skills as a component of obtaining a license to practice. Teaching should be no different. There exists an undeniable need for universities and public schools to work collaboratively to develop quality practice-based training and fieldwork experiences that prepare our future teachers to be capable of meeting the diverse needs of their students on the first day of their placement.

**PRESENTERS:** Tamala Martin, Instructor; Dr. Rebecca Roach, Professor; and Sarah Kelsey, Instructor, Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education Department, Morehead State University, Kentucky.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *From Apathy To Accelerated Excitement Around ACT Scores.*

The ACT score has become a major focal point in assessment and accountability across the nation. Many schools work hard to move their school average even a tenth of a point. See how one school moved the average for 100 students by 1.5 points, which included students gaining up to 7 composite points and/or up to 13 points on individual subtests. Explore some of the strategies used to move students toward dramatic growth through intensive data tracking strategies, goal-setting, small group mentoring, and individualized study tools. We will also discuss the cultural shift in moving apathetic students to energized learners.

**PRESENTERS:** Tim Berry, Executive Principal; Mike Carter, Assistant Principal; Chad Hensley, Master Teacher; and Sherry Beeler, Special Education Teacher, South-Doyle High School, Tennessee.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Empowering, Inspiring, and Creating Connections with Parents and your Community!* Discover easy, fun, practical tools to empower both parents and

community members to be effective classroom supporters. Come join us and learn about:  
 1. Classroom involvement activities for parents and community members featuring how to host a **Book Tasting**. Visit the Book Bistro, an all you can read buffet that connects parents and community members to students creating that social emotional connection that is so vital to our students. 2. Positive office referrals that will inspire parents as much as students. 3. An approach to open house/meet the teacher programs that draw family members in, making them feel vitally connected. 4. Student-led conferences that empower visitors by creating a sincerely welcoming environment.

**PRESENTERS:** Sara Kirkpatrick, 3rd Grade Inclusion, Teacher, and Beverly Jenkins, Principal, Good Hope Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Social Emotional Learning - How to De-escalate a Crisis with Love - Using Joyful and Nurturing Tools from a NYC Title 1 School.* The Waterside Children's

Studio School (PS 317) is a New York City Title 1 public school that supplanted a failing school. They have created progressive social-emotional learning tools with an emphasis that everyone can succeed. Learn how to de-escalate a child in crisis with joyful tools that can be created as collaboration between teachers and their students.

**PRESENTERS:** Dana Gerendasi, Principal; and Nicole Frascione and Melanie Meyerson, Waterside Children's Studio, New York.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Reflective Learning Communities: The Key to Leading for Powerful Learning.* The most effective leaders understand that schools become better places for

students to learn when the adults learn. The School Reform Initiative has developed research-based tools and processes centered on adult learning theory that yield powerful learning for adults. This interactive session provides an overview of our protocols; discusses the core considerations for implementing a reflective learning community; and builds explicit connections between adult learning and student success. Participants will gain tools for supporting their staff to learn in reflective communities where they are able to ask for and receive feedback critical to their success. Leaders will also leave with a template for designing action plans that facilitate the improvement of teaching and learning, specifically through the lens of educational equity and excellence.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Deirdre Williams, Executive Director of School Reform Initiative (SRI), and formerly the Leadership Development Officer at Harris County (TX) Department of Education and a turnaround middle school principal with the Apollo 20 initiative in Houston Independent School District, the eighth largest district in the nation.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Why Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School District Values Writing and Literacy Across the Curriculum to Support our Vision of Career and College Success.* Writing is the gateway to critical thinking. Yet, studies show that students are not writing nearly enough. In our school district, we have 20 vocational programs in addition to the traditional core academic subjects. In order to help teachers from such a wide variety of backgrounds and education levels guide students in their journey to increase their writing skills, we needed to calibrate our scoring and correcting, speak a common language, and increase the amount of opportunities our students have for writing and for receiving feedback about writing. Our urban school district works with all types of students who want to be career and college ready. Our students' growth in writing proficiency illustrates that Southeastern successfully integrated writing across all disciplines that resulted in an upward trend of academic achievement.

I will share the pedagogical strategies, professional development opportunities, and technology tools that Southeastern implemented and sustained use of on this journey. I will also share how we use MY Access! for benchmarking, writing instruction, and plagiarism detection. Finally, I will share how we provide real-time data analytics that an administrator can use to measure and monitor student writing proficiency.

**PRESENTER:** Heidi Driscoll, Director of Academic Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School District, Massachusetts.

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

#### **9:45 AM - 10:45 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS I**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Parent Trap, The Sequel: What parents want as it relates to Parent Involvement.* In the original Parent Trap and the Parent Trap 2, the scheming continues between the twin daughters, Sharon and Susan in reconnecting their father and their mother. They go to great lengths to ensure this happens. Schemes abound and ultimately their mother and their father find love the daughters have envisioned for them. As educators, we know parent involvement is essential to the success of our students. In 2002, Henderson and Mapp in their study, *A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family and Community Connections on Student Achievement* concluded: One of the greatest influences on student educational achievement appears to be the involvement of the family. However, developing and implementing successful parent involvement programs is a "trap" we as educators find ourselves in--we know it is important, but how do we transform our parent involvement programs into successful systems.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Carol Bartlett, Assistant Professor, Indiana University Southeast, Indiana.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Team Time: An Innovative Way to Utilize Most of Your Staff for Successful Small Group Reading Instruction - Do you ever feel like you are struggling to meet the needs of all students and see yearly growth in all ability levels?* Join our team for a mini session on what motivates us to instill consistency, rigor and high expectations for our students. Take a look at our creative scheduling and see how it could work for your school. We use the majority of our certified staff members and instructional staff during reading team time. After two complete years with this schedule, we are continuing to see success and have more students reading on or above grade level than ever before.

**PRESENTERS:** Tara Morrow, Principal; Tammy Baylis, Reading Coach; and Melissa Griffin, Kim Wenzler, McKenzie Henderson, Sally Cross, Suzanne Blackman and Mallory Nelson, Teachers, Danville Neel Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon V

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Using Classroom Walkthroughs To Create Positive Relationships.* Instructional success is dependent on positive teacher-administrator relationships. Join our breakout session to learn how to build impactful communication and feedback systems and get the most out of everyone's time spent in the classroom. Leave with actionable best practices and takeaways you can instill to drive real results in your schools.

**PRESENTER:** Jayne Ellspermann, BRSE Vice Chair, 2015 National Principal of the Year, Educational Consultant, Leadership Coach, and Trainer, Florida.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VI

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *School Climate 101: How To Build a Positive Environment for Learning.* In this session you will hear from a Title 1 school challenged with teacher burnout and high teacher turnover. Despite the daily demands in education, this school made a positive culture shift in just several months due to the efforts of the "Sunshine Committee". By supporting and encouraging the social, emotional, and physical well being of teachers and staff, our faculty feels better equipped to meet the needs of our children. We will highlight the benefits of fostering positive relationships within your school and community stakeholders. Learn budget friendly tips, community building event ideas, and business partnership opportunities that can help your school create a needed "Sunshine Committee".

**PRESENTER:** Chris Gunnels, Principal; Monica Cosby, Assistant Principal; Nicole Wells, Teacher; Renee Hall, Teacher; and Alyssa Mathews, Teacher, Harvest Elementary School, Alabama

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Magic “A” in STEAM: Celebrating Seven Years of Students as Published Authors and Illustrators.* In this session, classroom teachers will model and demonstrate how you can guide your students in becoming published authors and illustrators. Presenters will share personal experiences from seven years of student publishing. Participants will collaborate to create lists of possible book topics. Choices of formats will be shared as participants brainstorm ideas that match needs of their students. Come learn how books published by students can build the STEAM in your school and keep your students “on track” for positive growth mindset. Meet some of our published authors and illustrators. Get a first-hand look at our newest book published by 2019-2020 authors and illustrators. Book publishing is a great way to create a cross-curricula culture where student success is inevitable and celebrated! It is a means of tapping into “our greatest natural resource - the minds of our children.” (Walt Disney)

**PRESENTERS:** Jennifer Baker, Principal; Katrina Boteler, Teacher; Cynthia Tittle, Teacher; and Kohl Tittle, Student, Lynn Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon VIII

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *An Easy Way to Become an Outstanding School.* Time is the only common denominator in our profession that has not been overhauled. This session will give concrete ideas on how to develop a schedule that will create more time for the objectives that matter most in our profession, Things like direct Intervention, Personalization, Collaboration and Culture improvement. If you’re trying to make significant, efficient Change in your building, this session is for you. Scott is a senior member of the Blue Ribbon Assessment Team and has worked with over 100 schools in the United States, Germany and China. Scott has served as a Principal for three Blue Ribbon Schools, and has been an administrator for over 30 years. During his 12 years as High School Principal, New Albany High School, in Columbus Ohio, the School earned Blue Ribbon Status as well as the Lighthouse Award and the Intel 21st Century School of Distinction Award.

**PRESENTER:** Scott Stewart, Director of the Principals Resource Network, ESC of Central Ohio; Director of the Bright Fellows Program, Ohio State University, and Senior Assessor, BRSE, Ohio.

**LOCATION:** Asbury A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *How Google Sites Changed the Way I Teach, Forever!*

I will use a Google Site to demonstrate how easily and resourcefully one can utilize this very simple and powerful tool to elevate their lessons, presentations, modes of differentiation, and assessments. Our middle school has launched an interdisciplinary program with team level planning via “Understanding by Design.” This project involves careful planning, in all disciplines, around these six major categories: reading, writing, listening, speaking, research, and character traits. Instead of a formal, paper final exam, our students now create a portfolio in grades 5-8. This summative assessment encourages reflection and self-examination as well as the ability to verbally demonstrate understanding of the process.

**PRESENTER:** Sarah Ochap, Teacher, The Linsly School, West Virginia.

**LOCATION:** Asbury B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Using Video in Curriculum: Real Experience for Real Careers.***

National Hall of Fame teachers Warren G. Phillips and Joseph W. Underwood will explain their successful video production programs for middle and high school students. This session will feature examples of student work, demonstrating the talents and efforts put into these student productions. The teachers will also emphasize the profound impact that these video experiences have provided students for their future careers, and they will offer advice on how to begin a program in your school, including a follow-up Q&A session.

**PRESENTERS:** Warren G. Phillips is currently the Outreach Coordinator for Pegasus Springs Education Collective and has taught middle school students for 40 years for Massachusetts's public schools. He is co-author with Marcia Tate of the book *Science Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites*, was named Time Magazine Teacher of the Year, was a Disney Teacher of the Year, and was selected to be on the USA Today All-Star Teacher Team. Dr. Joe Underwood has been teaching at historic Miami High School in Miami, Florida, since 1985. His students produce a live, daily newscast, averaging 160 shows per year. He is a Disney All-American Teacher Honoree, and he is editor and author of *Today I Made a Difference: A Collection of Inspirational Stories from America's Top Educators*. In 2018, the Global Teacher Prize, sponsored by the Varkey Foundation in Dubai, UAE, recognized Dr. Underwood as one of the Top 50 Teachers in the World.

**LOCATION:** Asbury C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Making Our Way Towards Resilience.*** In this hands-on workshop Sue Cusack and Patricia Crain de Galarce will discuss the often-missed classroom opportunities to foster resilience and amplify learning for children who have experienced trauma by linking best practices of trauma-sensitive schooling with the pedagogies of making. We will share how this way of knowing and sense making promotes critical thinking, fosters resilience and perseverance, and embodies 21st-century competencies.

**PRESENTERS:** Patricia Crain deGalarce, Assoc. Dean for Lesley University GSOE and Director of the Lesley Institute for Trauma Sensitivity and Sue Cusack, Lesley University Asst. Professor and Director of the Lesley STEAM Learning Lab and Makerspace.

**LOCATION:** Asbury D

**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM CELEBRATION LUNCH featuring Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Lighthouse Awards** *\*for all conference attendees*

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South

**Master of Ceremony** - Dennis W. Bega, Senior Assessor, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence

**Special Music** - Freedom High School Jazz Band  
Dr. Michael Antmann, Director

**Remarks** - Jayne Ellspermann, BRSE Board Vice Chair and 2015 National Principal of the Year

**Special Awards** - Dr. Shane Barnett, BRSE District Recognition Award  
Natalia Sugameli, BRSE Rocco Sugameli Memorial Recognition Award

**2019 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE – LIGHTHOUSE  
RENEWAL SCHOOLS**

Riverton Elementary School \*Two-time awardee  
Sparkman Middle School \*Two-time awardee  
Walnut Grove Elementary School \*Two-time awardee  
Celebration K-8 School \*Three-time awardee  
Owens Cross Roads Elementary School \*Three-time awardee

**2019 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE  
LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOLS**

Addison High School	Holly Pond Elementary School
Annie Lucy Williams Elementary School	Kilby Laboratory School
Cherokee Elementary School	Lynn Elementary School
Dade Elementary School	Lynn High School
Danville Neel Elementary School	Meek Elementary School
Fairview High School	Priceville Elementary School
Frances Nungester Elementary School	PS170 Ralph A. Fabrizio School
Good Hope Elementary School	SEEALL Academy
Good Hope High School	Technology Park
Guntersville Elementary School	Union Hill K-8 School
Guntersville Middle School	Vinemont Middle School
Guntersville High School	Walter Jackson Elementary School
Hanceville Middle School	Waterside Children's Studio
Harmony School	West Point High School
Hartselle Intermediate School	Winston Career Academy
Harvest Elementary School	

**SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS****BLUE LEVEL SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS****PEGASUS SPRINGS EDUCATION COLLECTIVE**

Craig Martin, Executive Director  
craig@pegasussprings.org

**STANDARD FOR SUCCESS**

Todd Whitlock, CEO  
todd@standardforsuccess.com

Dr. Dianna Whitlock, Director of Research  
dianna@standardforsuccess.com

**RED LEVEL SPONSORS****VIEWSONIC**

Jason Webster, Regional Business Manager  
Jason.webster@viewsonic.com

**LIGHTSPEED TECHNOLOGIES, REDCAT CLASSROOMS AUDIO SYSTEMS**

Merri Bragg, Regional Sales Manager  
merri.bragg@lightspeed-tek.com

**EXHIBITORS****BOSCH SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC.**

Marty Forman, Sales District Manager  
Martin.Forman@us.bosch.com

Lewis Stallworth, Business Development Manager  
Lewis.Stallworth@us.bosch.us

**BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY**

Doug Gwilliam, BYU Independent Study  
doug.gwilliam@byu.edu

**BULLSEYE**

Ryan Cristal, Founder and CEO  
Ryan.cristal@bullseyeedu.com

Jake Szabo, EVP, Operations  
Jake.szabo@bullseyeedu.com

**CIRCUS OF THE KIDS**

Bruce Pfeffer, Owner and Founder  
bruce@circusofthekids.com

**CLASSROOM APP**

Ramez Rafla, President  
ramez@classroomapp.com

**CRISISGO, INC.**

Dave Kavlick, Regional Sales Manager, Southeast  
David.Kavlick@crisisgo.com

**DUKE TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (DUKE TIP)**

Paris Andrew, Director of Partnerships and Engagement  
pandrew@tip.duke.edu

Kim Thomas-Cain, Outreach Coordinator  
kthomascaïn@tip.duke.edu

**ECRA GROUP**

Gina Siemieniec, President  
ginasiemieniec@ecragroup.com

Melina Wright, Senior Associate  
melinawright@ecragroup.com

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS**

Nicholas Wahl, Regional Director, Strategic Initiatives  
Nick@EOSchools.org

**GLOBAL GRID FOR LEARNING**

Wallace E. Reeves, SVP, Client Operations  
wally@gg4l.com

**IGNITE NATION**

Ashoke Menon, Co- Founder  
Ashoke.menon@igniteforschools.com

Kris Menon, Co-Founder  
Kris.menon@igniteforschools.com

Aliyah Carector, Growth and Development  
Aliyah.carector@igniteforschools.com

**IXL LEARNING**

Cari Warnock, Strategic Account Executive  
cariw@ixl.com

Matt Vangalis, Educational Sales Consultant  
mattv@ixl.com

**NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**

Suki Overton-Morgan, Assistant Director  
Orlando Regional Campus  
sovertonmo@nova.edu

**PARENT CHOICE GAMES**

Omar Grant, Founder, Strategic/Marketing Director  
omargrant@parentchoicegames.com

**TALLO**

Sarah Lynn, Director of Workforce Development  
slynn@tallo.com

Trey Goode, Engagement Specialist / Education  
tgoode@tallo.com

**TEL EDUCATION**

Bill Kohan, Director of Sales and Strategic Relationships  
Bill.kohan@tellibrary.org

**VANTAGE LEARNING**

John Burke, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer  
jburke@vantage.com

Jonathan Schmalzbach, Regional Sales Manager  
jschmalzbach@vantage.com

**VIKTORY NOW!**

Jason London- Chief Executive Officer  
Jason@klassapp.com

Zack Lesak- Chief Operations Officer ViKtory Now!  
zack@viktorynow.com

**HOLD THE DATE**  
**DECEMBER 8-11, 2020**  
**Disney's Yacht and Beach Club**

## BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE ASSESSMENT TEAM

Stacy Barnette, Georgia  
 Dennis Bega, Georgia<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Ed Bernetich, Ohio<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Stacy Butsikares, New York<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Janet Calder, South Carolina  
 Johnny Calder, South Carolina<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Tonya Cupp, Alabama  
 Jayne Ellspermann, Florida  
 Dr. Judith Warden Fields, Tennessee  
 Nancy Guzman, North Carolina  
 Dr. Mike Hall, Georgia<sup>[SEP]</sup>

Dr. Anita Kirkpatrick, Alabama<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Jeremy Lowry, Alabama  
 Dr. Mark Minsky, Alabama<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Laura Morgan, Illinois<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Dr. Akil Ross, South Carolina<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Dr. Josephine Sportella-Giusto New York  
 Scott Stewart, Ohio<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Bart Teal, South Carolina<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Keith Trawick, Alabama<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 Dr. April Tucker, Alabama<sup>[SEP]</sup>  
 David Wiggins, Alabama



**A Special Thank You to Artist, Judy Bolton Jarrett**  
**“Instilling the Passion to Learn...” Lighthouse Print Gallery: ArtCan Studio & Gallery, 108**  
**Beaufort St., Chapin, SC**  
**Phone: 803-345-6588**