## **Happy New Year!**

We closed out 2018 with the best and biggest Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Conference (BRSE) ever – over 600 attendees! Educators from across the country gathered at the most magical place on earth to talk about education. The conference was a wonderful opportunity for us to share our successes, learn from our colleagues and acknowledge the hard work happening in schools coast to coast! Dr. Akil Ross, 2018 NASSP National Principal of the

Year, kicked off our event with an inspirational speech about passion. He reminded us that we are in "the heart business." "Educate the heart. Empower the child!" Check out Dr. Ross' powerful message here!

"This is an international gathering of people who are passionate about students!" – Dennis Bega, Senior BRSE Assessor & Master of Ceremony.

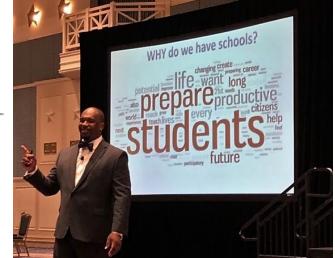
SAVE THE DATE - DECEMBER 12-15, 2019. We've already started making plans for this year's event. 2019 will be the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the annual BRSE Conference and you won't want to miss it!

REGISTER TODAY!!

Email Dr. Judy Warden Fields at <a href="mailto:judy@blueribbonschools.com">judy@blueribbonschools.com</a> if you are interested in presenting a session.

<u>Click Here</u> for hotel information. Educators from around the world will embark on

this transformational event. Come equipped to learn, share knowledge, and gain tools to lead students into the future. Please plan to join us for our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event! **EMPOWER. INSPIRE. CONNECT.** 



**EXCELLENCE!** We have had great success with our partner schools in Alabama over the last year and continue the hard work in 2019. All schools and districts have reported gains in student achievement since starting the BRSE assessment process, with ALL moving forward in their recent state report card grade! The new year will be a busy one for us, as we have a new cohort joining the BRSE network in the Spring. If your school is interested in working through the BRSE Assessment, <u>click here</u> to learn more about the process or email Dr. Judy Warden Fields at <u>judy@blueribbonschools.com</u>.

**A NEW LOOK!** BRSE is in the process of revamping our website. We hope to incorporate more stories of schools doing excellent things. If you would like to share your successes with the BRSE community, send content to <a href="mailto:candice@blueribbonschools.com">candice@blueribbonschools.com</a>. We would also love for you to stay connected with us via social media.

Thanks for reading and stay tuned for next month's newsletter!

"Intentions are not enough. We must make our intent our reality!" – Dr. Akil Ross, 2018

NASSP National Principal of the Year