



T- Minus 30 Days to Disney!

We are counting down the days to the 20th BRSE Conference!! This conference is a truly MAGICAL event and we hope to see you all there! Anyone interested in learning and sharing best practices for improving education – this is the place for you! This event is a great learning opportunity for low performing schools looking for turn around programs and strategies. Educators from around the world will be in attendance. With more than 60 sessions to choose from, you will have a chance to discover new ideas from other educators to take back to your school. Discover innovative, creative strategies that yield results!

It's NOT too late! [Register TODAY!](#)
December 12-15, 2019 at Disney's Yacht Club Resort, FL

Make hotel reservations [HERE](#)
Conference attendees and guests get special pricing on Disney park tickets! Go to the [BRSE event page](#) and click "Tickets & More"

This year's conference program is jam-packed!! **Session Highlight >>>**

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.

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

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.

Presented by: 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.

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.

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

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!
Presented by: Dr. Mike Hall, Board Chair, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, Georgia.

You Won't Want to Miss Our 2019 Keynote Speakers!



Dr. Lucas Clamp, 2019 NASSP National Principal of the Year, will kick off our 20th anniversary conference at Disney! 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. Earlier this year, he was selected as the 2019 NASSP National Principal of the Year and River Bluff was just announced as South Carolina’s 2019 Palmetto’s Finest High School -awarded to the top high school annually in the state. Since being chosen as the founding principal of River Bluff in 2011, 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.



Dr. Marcia Tate, Developing Minds, Inc., will deliver the Friday luncheon keynote – “*Worksheets Don’t Grow Dendrites – 20 Instructional 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!

Dr. Tate 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.



Mr. Dave Beal will be our luncheon keynote speaker on Saturday, December 14. “Mr. Dave Beal is a passionate educator who believes that emotional well being is at the core of a successful student, classroom and school. After attending Mr. Beal’s workshop I felt energized and wanted to hear and learn more about his ideas and strategies regarding “Brain Power 10,” an approach he developed to motivate students to use their full brain potential to achieve high levels of academic, social and emotional achievement. His approach involves engaging students through movement and mindfulness which also involves using a students’ multiple intelligence.

“You will feel great and truly inspired once you walk out of Mr. Beal’s session” – Josephine Sportella-Giusto

LAST CALL! FINAL WEEK TO REGISTER FOR THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (BOLT)

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to provide your students/children with an unforgettable learning experience in leadership, critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving. BRSE is able to offer a few special 50%-off discounted registrations but you must **register by Friday, November 15**. For more information, please contact Stephen MacDonald at stephen@pegasussprings.org or Alice Teal at alice@blueribbonschools.com.

TAKE YOUR SCHOOL LEADERSHIP GROUP TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH



"People talk a lot about the magic of Disney, but in our family we talk more about the magic of BOLT! Our son was transformed by this expertly facilitated leadership experience." —BOLT parent

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If you would like to share the excellent things your school is doing, send content to candice@blueribbonschools.com. Stay connected with us on social media!

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