

# 23rd Annual **NATIONAL CONFERENCE**



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**November 29 - December 2**

**2022**

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## **23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE WALT DISNEY WORLD, ORLANDO FLORIDA**

Greetings 2022 National Conference Attendees!

We are excited to welcome you to the 23rd Annual Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence (BRSE) Conference. We thank you for joining us on what will undoubtedly be a magical learning experience for all. Long-time attendees know that our annual conference is more than just a great learning experience. We challenge everyone who attends to extend their network and expand their thinking.

Whether this is your first BRSE Conference or you have several under your belt, be prepared to learn, engage, and network with colleagues from across the nation. Our national conference is designed to meet the needs of today's educators by empowering them to learn, share knowledge, and gain tools to lead students into the future.

Celebrate with us as we honor schools that have achieved a new level of professional recognition in their journey to continuously improve education for every student. Our Blue Ribbon Lighthouse Schools and the 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.

Don't forget to set aside some time to discover the latest education solutions being showcased in the Main Ballroom / Exhibit Hall. While you are there, stop by the BRSE booth to learn more about our nationally recognized program and process.

We endeavor to create an incredible conference experience for every educator who joins us, and we hope this event provides you with everything you need and more. Enjoy your time in this magical setting.

Bart Teal, President and Founder, BRSE

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

Dr. Mike Hall, Board Chair, BRSE

**23rd ANNUAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE  
SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE**

**DAY ONE**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022**

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

**REGISTRATION**

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Registration Desk

**1:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

**PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS**

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I and II

**7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**EXHIBIT HALL OPENING**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**8:30 PM**

**WALK TO EPCOT**

**LOCATION:** Meet Outside the GH Ballroom South and North *\*Entrance is included in registration.  
Group departs GH Ballroom South and North Lobby at 8:30 pm guided by Disney Cast Members.*

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

**EPCOT PRIVATE FIREWORKS AND DESSERT PARTY FOR ALL ATTENDEES**

**LOCATION:** Isle de France, Epcot

**DAY TWO**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022**

**7:30 AM - 3:45 PM**

**REGISTRATION**

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Registration Desk

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

**BREAKFAST AND VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

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

**OPENING SESSION**

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

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS A**

**11:45 AM - 1:00 PM LUNCHEON FOR ALL ATTENDEES**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**1:00 PM - 1:30 PM**

**VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS B**

**2:45 PM - 3:45 PM**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS C**

**DAY THREE**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022**

**7:30 AM - 3:45 PM**  
**REGISTRATION**  
**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Registration Area

**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**  
**BREAKFAST AND VISIT EXHIBITORS**  
**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

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

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

**11:30 AM - NOON**  
**VISIT EXHIBITORS**  
**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**NOON - 1:15 PM BEACON LUNCHEON FOR ALL ATTENDEES**  
**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS F**

**2:45 PM - 3:45 PM**  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS G**

**DAY FOUR**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2022**

**7:30 AM COFFEE SERVICE**  
**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Lobby

**8:00AM - NOON**  
**REGISTRATION**

**8:00 AM - 9:00AM**  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS H**

**9:15 AM - 10:15 AM**  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I**

**10:30 AM - NOON**  
**LIGHTHOUSE CELEBRATION BRUNCH FOR ALL ATTENDEES**  
**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**DAY ONE**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022**

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

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Registration Desk

**1:00 PM - 4:30 PM PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS**

**1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Six Strategies to Increase Student Proficiency Rates in Low Performing Schools.* School turnaround is a process that includes the implementation of six specific strategies. The educator should identify specific reading and math deficits for each individual student, and provide additional daily instruction and support through small, skills-based instructional groups to remediate each student's deficits. This session will share information that describes the six strategies, and the procedures for implementing each strategy that will result in high student proficiency rates in low-performing schools. The presenter will demonstrate how to improve grade-level core instruction in reading and math to provide structured, rigorous instruction that is based on scientific research.

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

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Mission Subspace.* Let us help you teach your students S.T.E.M concepts using real-life applications, by becoming one of our partner schools. We will assign a chip-sat (mini satellite) to your school and launch it into subspace while your class watches in real-time. They then will be able to download the data being sent back to earth and use that data to complete S.T.E.M. lessons. We will retrieve the chip and present it to your school to display. If you are interested in becoming a partner school, contact me directly.

**PRESENTER:** Bill Kohan, Chief Sales Officer, New Ascent, Florida.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *How Your School Can Become a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence.* How does your school measure up to the highest performing schools in the nation? Where do you start and what can you expect? If you would like to become a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence this is the session for you. Find out what is a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and learn about the process to become one. We will share all the details from the application process to being named a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Interested in the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence process, but you are concerned because your school is not high performing. Come to this session and you will put your concerns aside. Find out how the process works for all schools.

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

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Taking STEM to Infinity and Beyond.* Decatur City Schools is the most diverse district in the state of Alabama. This year, they have invested over half a million dollars in elementary STEM projects to ensure that every student can code, create, and build 21st century skills. Come learn about some of the district initiatives they've created for K-5 students including: Greenpower racing cars, Drone clubs, EdFarm learning lab and partnership, STEM bus, and more!

**PRESENTER:** Faith Plunkett, Instructional Technology, Decatur City Schools, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**7:00 PM - 8:00 PM EXHIBIT HALL OPENING**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**8:30 PM WALK TO EPCOT**

**LOCATION:** Meet Outside in the GH Ballroom South and North Lobby

*\*Entrance is included in registration. Group departs GH Ballroom South and North Lobby at 8:30 pm walking and guided by Disney Cast Members.*

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

**LOCATION:** Isle de France, Epcot

**THANK YOU TO THE EPCOT PRIVATE FIREWORKS AND DESSERT PARTY SPONSOR  
DR. DONYALL DICKEY AND EDUCATIONAL EPIPHANY**

Dr. Dickey and his national consulting team are in partnership with urban, suburban, and rural school districts in 40+ states across the nation. Dr. Dickey and his team are a leading provider of standards-informed instructional materials for early and continuing literacy, the core content areas, as well as targeted professional development for teachers, school leaders, central office personnel, superintendents, state departments of education, and professional associations.

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**“Ensuring equitable access to instruction of the highest quality is priority #1.”**

**Scan this code to learn more** about visiting our booth, Dr. Dickey’s keynote and breakout sessions, and to join us at our sponsored Epcot fireworks dessert party!

**Donyall D. Dickey, Ed.D.**  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer  
© Educational Epiphany

**DAY TWO**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022**

**7:30 AM - 3:45 PM REGISTRATION**

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Lobby

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

**LOCATION:** GH 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, Georgia.

**Special Music**

Celebration K-8 School Wind Ensemble, Osceola County School District, Florida.  
James K. Cochran, BSME, MME Band Director

**Presentation of Colors**

Cadet Major Jenny Hernandez  
Cadet Lieutenant Akemi Vasquez  
Cadet Lieutenant Martin Bravo  
Cadet Senior Master Sergeant Juan Rodriguez

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

**National Anthem**

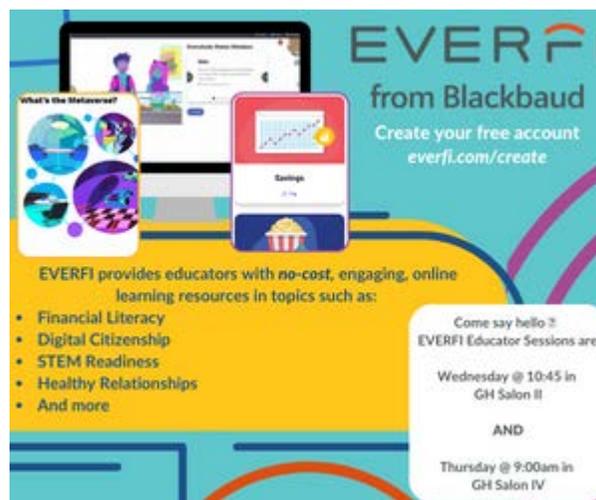
Celebration K-8 School, Wind Ensemble, Osceola County School District, Florida.  
James K. Cochran, BSME, MME Band Director

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Welcome and Introductions** - Dennis W. Bega, Senior Assessor, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, Georgia.

Dr. Judith W. Fields, Chief Executive Officer, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, Tennessee.

Bart Teal, President and Founder, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, South Carolina.



## Keynote Address - From Surviving to Thriving: Learning How to Lead Like You.

Beth Houf, 2022 NASSP National Principal of the Year

Beth Houf is the proud principal of Fulton Middle School in central Missouri. She is the Co-Author of *Lead Like a PIRATE: Make School Amazing for Your Students and Staff*. Beth also serves as a facilitator for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Leadership Academy, providing monthly training to state educational leaders. She is also active in her local, state and national principal associations. Beth has served as an adjunct professor at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri.

Fulton Middle School was recognized as a Missouri Exemplary Professional Learning Community and Solution Tree Model Professional Learning Community in 2019. Beth was named a Missouri Exemplary New Principal in 2011, the Missouri National Distinguished Principal for 2016 the 2019 National Association of Secondary School Principals Digital Principal of the Year, the EducationDive 2019 Principal of the Year, the 2021-2022 Missouri Secondary School Principal of the Year, and the 2022 NASSP Principal of the Year. Beth also serves as a principal advisor for Future Ready Schools and is a Solution Tree PLC at Work Associate.

Beth's proudest accomplishments are her two sons, Paul and Dawson. She has been honored to help lead schools that both have attended.



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**7 Mindsets** is proven to increase attendance, engagement, and academic success, and reduce behavior issues and suspensions.

**EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS:**

- 42%** decrease in out-of-school suspensions (FL high school)
- 67%** decrease in teacher referrals (TX middle school)
- 56** point increase in math performance (GA middle school)

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*"The 7 Mindsets has the power to significantly improve the culture of your school. If your school actively employs the Mindsets, it will become a happier and more productive place."*

— Connie Stovall, Director of Instruction, Forsyth Co., GA

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Learn more at [7mindsets.com](https://7mindsets.com)

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

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Mind Over Matter: Critical Thinking Skills for Today's Middle School Students.* Critical thinking skills are more important than ever in today's environment of information overload. Students spend many hours of the day memorizing information, and many more hours receiving information via technology. To encourage higher ordering thinking skills, students need to know how to creatively analyze and evaluate information. In this session, we seek to encourage you to embrace the art of teaching students to think critically. Join us as we explore the brain of a middle school student and present evidence-based information regarding how to teach the middle school mind to think critically.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Dawn Cobb-Fossnes, Principal, Ocean Academy, New Jersey and Dr. Bunnie Claxton, Director of Applied Research, Liberty University, Virginia.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *What Makes You Happy?* Unfortunately, it is not hyperbolic to note teachers are leaving the profession in droves, and there is much weeping, gnashing of teeth over the dissatisfaction of educators and subsequent Great Resignation. But what about students? They deal with identical and parallel changes including, but not limited to, the pressures of standardized tests, physically and emotionally unsafe schools, a perceived lack of respect, and the inability to find meaning in school-related requirements. What puts students at a particular disadvantage is their obligation to continue attending school while their teachers seek fulfillment outside of the K-12 world. If our young people are compelled to come to school, we can turn a blind eye to their happiness and lean on expectations and non-negotiables...but how is this working for us? What if we made student happiness a priority? What if we asked our kids what makes them happy and then did what we could to accommodate them? Let's talk about it.

**PRESENTER:** Lisa Parry, K-12 Principal, Arlington Elementary School 38-1, South Dakota.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Mash the Gas or Pump the Brakes: How to Hold Teachers Accountable Without Burning Them Out.* West Main is a historically academically high-performing school with a low turnover rate. In this session, participants will learn tips for holding teachers accountable for high student achievement while creating a culture that keeps them present, passionate, and productive. At West Main Elementary School, we consistently communicate the expectation we have for student achievement on the campus. We have consistently coached teachers on how to meet those expectations, while consistently acknowledging and rewarding their efforts. The staff feels supported and enjoys where they work, resulting in high student achievement and a high teacher retention rate.

**PRESENTERS:** Gail Wright, Principal; Dashonda Perkins, Assistant Principal; Shamaro Roberts, Instructional Coach; and Alterice Sadler, Instructional Coach, West Main Elementary School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Creativity Room: How a Dedicated Space with Intentional Playful Learning Opportunities Can Foster Imaginative Thinking, Problem Solving, Collaboration, and more!* Imagine if you could create a schoolwide space that students describe as, “Amazing”, “Inspiring”, “Magical”, “Incredible”, and “The best thing that has ever happened to our school!”. Imagine that this space is filled with a multitude of hands-on supplies, books, and exploratory materials that provide students with opportunities to engage in activities that have numerous benefits. Sounds like a win-win situation, doesn’t it? Well, it is! In this session, you will learn why and how we developed The Creativity Room: A Place Where Play, Imagination, Exploration, Problem Solving, and Collaboration are Encouraged, Experienced, and Celebrated and how the Creativity Room has enriched the climate and culture at our elementary school. We will begin by diving into the research regarding the decline of play in our nation’s schools and society despite its numerous benefits. Next, we will share in detail how we built a dedicated space in our school used intentionally to give students opportunities to play and explore their creativity through a variety of carefully selected, hands-on materials that promote imaginative thinking, problem solving, perseverance, and more. Finally, we will go through a step-by-step guide of how you can build a Creativity Room at your school or simply adapt our ideas to add more playful and creative experiences into your own classroom. This session will be full of inspiring stories, ideas, photos, and videos that you can take back to your district, school, or classroom so your own students can experience the numerous benefits and enjoyment of playful and creative learning!

**PRESENTERS:** Melanie Kahl, Second Grade Teacher, and Christy Graham, Instructional Coach, Hemmeter Elementary School, Michigan.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Practicing Creativity.* Creativity drives the evolution of humanity. No big deal. In this session, you will learn three strategies for practicing creativity in your classrooms, schools, and lives. As a bonus, you will experience a great technology tool to enhance and increase engagement in the classroom! In this session, participants will tap into their inner creativity that can be translated to teaching and learning. We will work with Nearpod which provides multiple modalities for students to represent their learning. Nearpod increases student engagement and tracks participation to ensure every student is seen and heard. Not only will participants be able to take a tangible tool to integrate into their classroom practice, but they will also engage in creative work. It will be an opportunity to practice the habit of creativity which is not only of invaluable use to adults but directly translates to students.

**PRESENTERS:** Rachel Lamb, Teacher, Inspire Elementary and Steven Lamb, International School of Denver, Colorado.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *RedZone - Intervention and Acceleration at the High School Level.*** In the Fall of 2020, Hazel Green (HG) High School administration looked to overhaul the ‘skinny block’ that was in the schedule. In the past, the HG skinny block was for athletics and some credit bearing year-long classes. The thought was how could HG support all tiers of learners - both students needing intervention as well as enrichments beyond the Tier 1 curriculum. HG wanted to cultivate a culture of supporting students using PLC collaboration with a data-focused approach. What evolved out of these discussions was RedZone, a block of time protected to be used for PLC collaboration and student intervention and acceleration. Over the next two years, HG has modified and refined RedZone. HG sees RedZone as an ongoing commitment to our students that requires looking at it critically and revising as we go. HGHS shares its journey of successes and stumbling blocks in building an intervention and acceleration block within the school day. We will show how we developed, created, and implemented a successful RedZone. We will share scheduling, budgeting, and tapping our individual resources to make RedZone a success. We will honestly share our struggles and successes with developing RedZone.  
**PRESENTERS:** Dr. E Quinn Headen, Principal; Stacy Shamlin Junjulas, Assistant Principal; and Juliette Hutcheson, Collaborative Teacher, Hazel Green High School, Alabama  
**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *A Conversation with Award Winning National High School Principals.*** NASSP’s 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:** Beth Houf, 2022 National Principal of the Year, Missouri; Dr. Akil Ross, 2018 National Principal of the Year, South Carolina; and Jayne Ellspermann, 2015 National Principal of the Year, Florida.  
**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Are Your Students Future-Ready? Blended Learning Tips with EVERFI's Free Resources.*** Are your students equipped with the critical life skills they need to thrive beyond the classroom? During this presentation, we will discuss tips and tricks for blended learning to enhance student engagement through EVERFI. EVERFI provides educators with engaging, online learning resources in topics such as financial literacy, digital literacy/citizenship, STEM readiness, entrepreneurship, career readiness, and more. Each course is standards-aligned and free of charge to schools. Participants will learn how to integrate EVERFI's no-cost, online courses, and offline lessons together, to enhance current curriculum and student engagement.  
**PRESENTER:** Kassandra Winne-Soulis, Senior Implementation Specialist, EVERFI, Washington, DC.  
**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Meeting the Challenge of Teacher Professional Development Through Collective Efficacy.*** When faced with the challenge of finding effective and meaningful professional development for teachers during the pandemic, we looked within ourselves for ways to grow and improve our practices. By implementing a system of peer observations and descriptive scripting, our teachers learned about teaching and learning across grade levels, engaging students, and our collective school culture. We looked for common trends in the observations related to effective classroom management, positive teacher language, student/teacher interactions and evidence of student learning. What was revealed through this practice was inspiring, led to greater collaboration and opened the door to further growth for teachers as evolving learners. We have only just begun! In this session, I will share our story of success with Collective Efficacy and provide you with tools to implement this practice in your schools.

**PRESENTER:** Veronica Slain, Principal, Espiritu Santo Catholic School, Florida.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *From Vision to Reality: One District's Journey in Bringing Deep Learning to Life!*** The content shared in this workshop will provide the participants with a comprehensive plan of how one district effectively made their vision become their reality by bringing Deep Learning to life. For this session, participants will first learn from the presenters the Logic Model change process used to shift from a traditional way of teaching and learning to a learning community that embraces meaningful Deep Learning opportunities. Next, the presenters will share with the participants tangible Deep learning projects at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. In particular, the presenters will share how once traditional units of study have taken on a whole new life through rich Deep Learning projects that embrace critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, character, and citizenship. Finally, using the Zoom platform, the participants will hear from the students themselves. Students will virtually share with the participants how the Deep Learning projects have transformed the way they have taken an active role in their learning and shifted away from being passengers of teaching/learning, to students being conductors of their own knowledge.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Paula Dillon, Assistant Superintendent, Barrington Public Schools and Dr. Andrew Anderson, Principal, Barrington Middle School, Rhode Island.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV

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**11:45 AM - 1:00 PM LUNCHEON**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

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

**Keynote Speaker** - Dr. Donyall D. Dickey

Donyall D. Dickey, Ed.D. is a nationally recognized authority on curriculum, instruction, organizational development, and district improvement. Unparalleled levels of student achievement and school improvement distinguish Dr. Dickey's 20+ year career as an educational leader. Dr. Dickey is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, Loyola University—Maryland, and George Washington University—D.C., where he earned a doctorate in Educational Leadership & Policy.

Dr. Dickey has led at just about every level in public education. After a decade of successful site-based leadership, Dr. Dickey served as Assistant Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer of the nation's eighth largest school district and later as Chief Schools Officer and Chief Academic Officer of a prominent school district in the Southeast. In each case, his leadership resulted in record gains in student outcomes and state assessment scores, as well as significant improvements in organizational effectiveness.

Currently, as the Chief Executive Officer and Lead Consultant for Educational Epiphany, Dr. Dickey and his national consulting team is in partnership with urban, suburban, and rural school districts in 40+ states across the nation. Dr. Dickey and his team are a leading provider of standards-informed instructional materials for early and continuing literacy, the core content areas, as well as targeted professional development for teachers, school leaders, central office personnel, superintendents, state departments of education, and professional associations.



**1:00 PM - 1:30 PM VISIT EXHIBITORS**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North



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We have programs/curriculum to help you teach the Math, Science and Technology aspects of how rockets are made and launched, how satellites are used for communication (Like cell phones and tv streaming). How planes and drones fly, how stealth technology works, even how to become an astronaut. Our programs/curriculum are for K-12 schools (yes, even elementary schools), because part of our mission is to develop a love and excitement for math and science at an early age. For the older students, we introduce them to the many careers available to them in the above mentioned fields (including internships) with companies like:



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## **1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS B**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Creating A Concrete Action Plan for Accelerating Achievement in the Core Content Areas.* The nationwide disruption to education caused by the pandemic has affected all students, creating gaps in access to core content instruction in literacy, mathematics, social studies, and science. District and school leaders must have an action plan for making up for lost time and accelerating new learning. Donyall Dickey, Ed.D., national expert on literacy, leadership, and school improvement will provide participants with a roadmap for developing an instruction-centered plan necessary to ensure that both students and staff rebound and thrive.

**PRESENTER:** Donyall D. Dickey, Ed.D. is a nationally recognized authority on curriculum, instruction, organizational development, and district improvement.

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Implementing a School Garden Community Collaboration Project.* What if we told you your students, staff, school families, and community members could come together to create something “fruitful” in every sense of the word? What if this project started with your youngest learners in kindergarten, and “grew” with each grade level until it reached its “bounty” with fifth-grade students? In this session, we will guide through the implementation of a School Garden, literally from the ground up. We have done all the “dirty work” for you! Our STEAM coach leads you through how to reach out to a community grocery store and lays the foundation for you to engineer and maintain a thriving school garden with your students and their learning at the heart of it all! We will give examples of STEAM lessons each grade level participated in from kindergarten to fifth grade which include research, scientific testing, mathematical planning, cooking, social-emotional skills, writing, and more! There is something that **EVERY** student can take part in with this project. Gaining family and community involvement really makes this Garden Project special, so some key tips and helpful information will also be shared.

**PRESENTERS:** Micki Ambrose, Principal; Cambrie Borchers, Building STEAM Leader; and Bern Schwieterman, District STEAM Coach, Orchard Park Elementary School, Ohio.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Leading with Strength and Compassion: Creating a School Community That Fosters a Sense of Belonging for All.* School leaders today need to balance student learning and academics, equity, and social emotional learning and staff learning, growth, and collegiality. Being a compassionate leader who navigates the daily management of the building with heart is the key to success. Staff who feel valued, listened to, and appreciated foster a community of love and appreciation for students. Sharing leadership responsibility and fostering teacher, teacher aide, and staff leaders is the first step. Always striving for the pursuit of better, and using a continuous improvement mindset, the distributed leadership team represents the entire staff. By sharing concrete examples of systems that empower others, leaders will add to their repertoire of practices to help foster an exemplary professional community in their schools, that in turn helps students thrive and succeed.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Andrea Kantor, Principal, Dows Lane Elementary School and Dr. Kristopher Harrison, Superintendent of Schools, Irvington Union Free School District, New York.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Be the Wild Card with Classroom Transformations.* This engaging and fun session will help you step out of your comfort zone and be an educator Wild Card! See easy, practical ways to transform your classroom, include multiple standards, increase rigor, play games, and have a ton of fun! You can make magic happen every day! Let us show you how! This presentation will show educators how to begin the process of a classroom transformation. We will discuss how to increase rigor in an engaging and interactive way for students. Ideas will be shared on several different room transformations with Mrs. Kirkpatrick highlighting how she transforms her classroom into Jurassic Park, covering multiple standards at the same time including science, reading, and writing standards. Mrs. Martin will highlight how she transforms her room into everyone's favorite coffee shop, Starbucks, and the engaging way she encourages students to complete writing projects. Come see how we ROCKED OUR SCHOOL and how you can too!

**PRESENTERS:** Sara Kirkpatrick, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher and Melody Martin, 4th Grade Teacher, Good Hope Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Building Capacity in Leadership at Every Level.* We have built a strong culture of leadership that empowers everyone in our building to become a leader in their position. We have a team that has been built on leveling strengths and weaknesses. We have also developed a system to communicate flawlessly with our team and ensure everyone has ownership. We seek out those we see leadership ability in and encourage them to work towards leadership. We believe each person should know who could replace them if they left today. We are building leadership from our students to our principals and every position in between.

**PRESENTERS:** Charles Ryan, Principal and Dabney Eiland, Associate Principal, Community High School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Mental Health and Public Schools: A Model for Management.*

During this session, we will discuss ways that schools can support students, parents, and staff as the mental health needs in our community's soar. We will examine resources, best practices, and limits regarding the school's role in mental health support. In Ridgewood, we brought community mental health support services into the school, and created a web resource for parents, students, and staff to utilize as we work to create and maintain a mentally healthy population. The targeted areas our resources address are stress, anxiety, and depression in all members of our learning community. We have realized that the mental health of parents and staff exacerbate the issues of students, a vice versa, and have come to understand the need to take a holistic approach to care and support in our school system. By developing appropriate resources and strategies to support mental health, we have enabled more students to be engaged in learning, more teachers remain in their positions, and more parents in being able to self-manage while supporting their children.

You can't teach, learn, or parent if your mental health is not stable.

**PRESENTERS:** Katherine Kashmanian, Principal; Danielle Wood, Supervisor of 6 - 12 Special Services; and David Bailey, Director of Guidance and Assistant Principal, George Washington Middle School, New Jersey.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Tracks of our Tiers.* We will present the multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) practices that we are implementing at Maple Hill Jr./Sr. High school to support the whole child. We will focus on how we implement this comprehensive framework that aligns academic, behavioral, social-emotional, and mental health supports. We will discuss the differentiated interventions that are available at Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 levels to meet individual student's needs and help create a positive school climate and culture. Our goal is to ensure all students are meeting the standards, while also focusing on career and college readiness. We find students are more comfortable taking chances in smaller classes and gain more confidence in their academic abilities. This is a key component in improving attendance rates. This program was designed with the intentionality around the social emotional learning standards in collaboration with our support staff. When the students' social emotional and academic needs are met, correcting student behavior becomes less of a need.

**PRESENTERS:** Sarah Loszynski, Special Education Teacher; Kaitlyn Mahota, Special Education Teacher; Patrick Austin, Social Studies Teacher; and Joseph Mastracy, Social Studies Teacher, Maple Hill Junior / Senior High School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Changing School Culture Using Brain Compatible Learning: A Recipe for School Success.* Do you want your students to enjoy school while also being challenged and engaged in their work? Do you want them to achieve at higher levels than ever before? Then consider brain compatible learning! Learn the common sense, research-based strategies that this three-time National Blue Ribbon School and Blue Ribbon Lighthouse School used to improve student achievement while creating a kid friendly, teacher friendly learning environment. The challenge for today's educators is to plan, design, and create environments that foster maximum student learning and development. This session will discuss changing a school's culture and the implementation, benefits, and success of brain compatible learning environments.

**PRESENTER:** Johnny Calder, Three - Time National Blue Ribbon School Principal, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Principal, and Senior Assessor, Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Grand Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *What Makes Your School Unique?* University High School is a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School and California Distinguished School. UHS is a high performing charter school on the Fresno State campus, with a rigorous dual enrollment curriculum and a specialty in music. There are many programs and activities that make UHS unique that give students a personalized educational experience. We set our school apart by hiring students to tutor their struggling peers; providing a personalized PE experience to promote lifelong fitness; giving a free book to every student every month as part of our English curriculum, and many other programs/activities. Come learn how your school can implement some of these activities and make YOUR school more unique.

**PRESENTERS:** Jeffie Esparza Hickman, Superintendent/Principal and Geni Bird, Counselor; University High School, California.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *One Team, No Limits: Creating a Culture of Collaboration.* In this session, we will share how to transform your school to one that fosters a collaborative culture centered on student success. By deliberately instituting strategies that enhance our connections with students, staff, and parents, we have seen a dramatic increase in staff morale and community involvement. Learn how to target each specific subgroup to increase student success and professional capacity. You will leave our session with numerous strategies and resources that are sure to have a purposeful, effective, and lasting impact on your district, school, and/or classroom.

**PRESENTERS:** Rebecca Seery, Principal, Wemrock Brook School; Melissa Foy, Principal, John I. Dawes Early Learning Center; Jayme Orlando, Principal, Clark Mills School; and Jodi Pepchinski, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resources, Manalapan-Englishtown Regional School District, New Jersey.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Enrichment for All at PS 682, 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. 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. You will be taught "step by step" how to develop, create and implement successful Student Driven Enrichment Clusters. 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. With an overall student population of 400 students, TAOTS receives over 500 kindergarten applications yearly 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:** GH Salon IV

#### **2:45 PM - 3:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS C**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Student Centered Systems of Support through the WIN (What I Need) Model.* Come to learn more about our school wide structures of supports and how we have developed our systems and practices to follow a MTSS model to meet student needs through tiered interventions and WIN time. Over the years our school has developed systems and supports to follow the MTSS model. We have developed "Whole Child" data meetings where we continually look at data to make informed instructional decisions. We have a dedicated WIN (What I need) time to support this structure in reading, and in the past 2 years we have worked to develop a WIN time for the area of math. In addition to our WIN models, we will discuss our teacher PLCs (Professional Learning communities) are integral to these models working for student success.

**PRESENTERS:** Jena Funck, Elementary Principal; Anna Gawel, Assistant Principal; Casey Willis, Instructional Coach; and Amy Brandt, Teacher, Hershey Elementary School, Pennsylvania.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *I Believe in Inquiry!*** The participants will hear how to implement high-yield inquiry-based strategies in their schools! Learn how inquiry-based instruction can be infused in relationship building as well as rigorous teaching. Participants will be given time and space to engage in hands-on learning engagements that are being used in an IB PYP school but can easily be a part of any classroom. Inquiry-based instruction has been the primary instructional strategy for Park Magnet, an IB World School. This has led to Park being a three-time National Blue Ribbon School! Students are encouraged to ask questions, explore, inquire, and reflect through transdisciplinary teaching and learning. Park Magnet remains in the top 10 Best Schools of Arkansas.

**PRESENTERS:** Kristal Brandon, Principal, Park Magnet, an IB World School, and Dr. Taryn Echols, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, Arkansas.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Implementing SEL into Instruction to Address Student Anxiety and Mental Health Challenges.*** Helping students with school anxiety and mental health/wellness are daily challenges for districts across the country. For almost 50 years, ChanceLight Education has provided high quality services to intervene academically, behaviorally, and socially to help students. This session reveals best practices that combine all three seamlessly into a cohesive instructional program. Learn how administrators and educators can implement SEL programming to prepare students to return to normal, build relationships, and meet the needs of all students.

**PRESENTER:** Peter Scott, former teacher, trainer, and publisher and current Vice President, Business Development ChanceLight Education, Tennessee.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Instant Feedback & Remediation.*** We have a system we utilize for instant feedback and remediation during class directly after tier one instruction. We then add in an academic station once a week for further extension and remediation. Teachers can collect data and provide feedback and small group remediation to students immediately after students' independent work. Our system takes elements from aggressive monitoring and combines them with proven researched methods that enable students to remediate and extend their learning. Students track their data and are aware of areas of strength and needed growth.

**PRESENTERS:** Charles Ryan, Principal and Dabney Eiland, Associate Principal, Community High School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Are You a Coffee Bean? Learn how to Transform your School Culture from the Inside Out!*** Learn how the faculty and staff at G. W. Trenholm Primary School became change agents for children. This presentation will give attendees a look at school wide success strategies and how leadership and culture play an important role in leading a school from good to great. This program will demonstrate how to create a culture of collaboration and a shared perception of best instructional practices through high quality leadership practices. Come learn how being a "Coffee Bean" can transform your school culture!

**PRESENTER:** Veronica Bayles, Principal, G. W. Trenholm Primary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *District Wide Tech Integration and Organization in a "post Covid World.* Covid accelerated the investment and importance of education technology across the country. The planned session will focus on the rollout and integration of an organized and supported catalog of tech tools including Canvas, Nearpod, Flocabulary, Smartpass, and Grade Guardian while supporting and strengthening the educational value of the programs that are currently utilized. One Presenter is the Technology Integration Specialist for Schodack and the other was an anti-techie, anti-Canvas teacher that developed into one of the most meaningful users of technology and Canvas in the district. We will share what we learned along the way and the direction of technology at MH Jr/Sr HS. Attendees will walk away with a list of vetted tech tools, resources, and strategies.

**PRESENTERS:** Ed Finney, Technology Education Specialist and Patty Racz, Spanish Teacher Maple Hill Jr/Sr High School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Six Strategies to Increase Student Proficiency Rates in Low Performing Schools.* School turnaround is a process that includes the implementation of six specific strategies. The educator should identify specific reading and math deficits for each individual student, and provide additional daily instruction and support through small, skills-based instructional groups to remediate each student's deficits. This session will share information that describes the six strategies, and the procedures for implementing each strategy that will result in high student proficiency rates in low-performing schools. The presenter will demonstrate how to improve grade-level core instruction in reading and math to provide structured, rigorous instruction that is based on scientific research.

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

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Navigating Equity in a Time of Challenge.* This session will provide research and practices to address equity in schools and classrooms informed by data. Many states and districts are enacting legislation and policies that impede educators from talking about diversity and equity, however, our work to educate all groups of students to achieve school success continues. We will discuss how to use data to identify the needs of students and continue to provide the support that our students deserve. Together, we will discuss some of the challenges, as well as practices that work. Dr. Donna Elam is a recognized leadership development educator who specializes in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Dr. Elam is the founder of the Elam Leadership Institute, a leadership development think tank advising educational, government, and law enforcement agencies in the application of DEI initiatives for diverse populations throughout the United States and US territories, specializing in educational initiatives for K-12 students. She additionally serves as a senior advisor for equity for two federally funded National Comprehensive Center at Westat, which assists regional centers, states, and local clients to address priority needs and tackle high-leverage challenges in education, and the Equity Assistance Center – South serving eleven southern states and Washington, DC.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Donna Elam, CEO and Founder, The Elam Leadership Institute, New York.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Lessons Learned...as We Returned to the Classroom!*** In this seminar, we will share how the Head of School and the Associate Head of School returned to the classroom in 2021 to teach an Entrepreneurship elective to our 7th and 8th-grade students. From our perspective, we will share the course and lessons learned as we juggle our administrator and teaching roles. In addition, Dr. Katie Alaniz will be joining to share the best practices used in facilitating learning with K-12 students!

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Todd Herauf, Associate Head of School for Academic and Dr. Katie Alaniz, Professor, Houston Baptist University, and Digital Learning Specialist, River Oaks Baptist School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Black Belt Principles for Black Belt Principals and School Leaders!*** The ‘Black Belt Principles’ presented in this workshop will provide the user with comprehensive and actionable strategies that are designed to have a positive impact on their learning community’s culture and climate which will ultimately yield positive results for teaching and learning. Dr. Andrew Anderson, ‘Black Belt Principal’ and the Principal of a Nationally Recognized Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, has been studying martial arts for nearly 3 decades. As a 3rd Degree Black Belt, Dr. Anderson has been applying the ‘Black Belt Principles’ to every aspect of his life, including the art of being a principal/school leader. Applying these 8 principles to his craft as an educational leader, Dr. Anderson has been able to create a positive and supportive school culture and climate focused on developing the whole child. Barrington Middle School has become a top performing school in the State of Rhode Island, as well as recognized as a leading school throughout New England. Grounded in research, best practice, and nearly 30 years of practice, Dr. Anderson will teach these ‘Black Belt Principles’ to the participants so they too can become ‘Black Belt Principals and School Leaders’ within their own learning communities.

**PRESENTER:** Andrew Anderson, Principal, Barrington Middle School, Rhode Island.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV

### THE CHANCELIGHT EDUCATION DIFFERENCE

ChanceLight Education's customized alternative and special education programs are uniquely designed to address the specific needs of your district - including academics, behavior, and social and emotional needs - while empowering students to prioritize learning and gain an education.

#### GET TO KNOW OUR PROGRAMS:

Program Offering:	Special Education	Alternative Education	ChanceLight Custom
Intensive Academic Services	✓	✓	✓
Program Staff Provided	✓	✓	✓
Dropout Recovery		✓	✓
Dropout Prevention		✓	✓
Accelerated Learning		✓	✓
Mental Health Support/Counseling	✓	✓	✓
Social Emotional Learning	✓	✓	✓
Wrap-around Services	✓		✓
Behavioral Support Services	✓		✓

**For more information, please contact:**  
 Peter Scott - VP, Business Development  
 peter.scott@chancelight.com | (469) 243-6966  
 chancelight.com



**DAY THREE**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022**

**7:30 AM - 3:45 PM REGISTRATION**

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Lobby

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

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

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

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Come on Ride the Train!* Jump on board the LMES Mine Train to learn tools and tricks for making your literacy workshop model a success. In this session, you are sure to pick up some "gems" and "golden nuggets" that will keep your students engaged as readers and writers. We will address each "station" that makes up the workshop model with an emphasis on getting the most out of your small group instruction and intervention time! We will be addressing reading and writing instruction with an emphasis on the workshop model, small group instruction, and intervention supports. We have used Lucy Calkins Units of Study and Jennifer Serravallo's Reading and Writing Strategies to help support our students. We have also used Intervention Reinvention by Stephanie Harvey to increase the volume of reading for students.

**PRESENTERS:** Jennifer Stanley, Principal and Leisa Clamp, Assistant Principal, Lake Murray Elementary School, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Mission Impossible or Possible Mission?* Education today is not the same as years past. Post-pandemic teaching is a whole new mission. Learning gaps...lost learning...widening achievement gaps...critical standards...and it goes on and on. The task ahead of teachers and administrators seems like an impossible mission. We have plenty of research on what we should do to address these issues, but are they practical? What does that look like in my school for my kids in my classroom? In this session, take time to look at the research and best practices, apply them to your situation, and make an achievable plan. Take the mission that seems impossible and make it a possible mission!

**PRESENTERS:** Jena Mayo, Science Instructional Coach and Leah Drauch, Math Instructional Coach, Cullman County Schools, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Collective Efficacy: A Path to Collective Greatness.* The power and ripple effect of teamwork is undeniable. Setting collaboration as the foundation for a learning environment stimulates professional growth, and the act of holding school staff to this high expectation subsequently embeds the same sentiment into a student body. At P.S. 249, we believe learning together and working together go hand in hand. To effectively nurture and strengthen a school community, a school's culture must be grounded in collective efficacy and sustained opportunities for ongoing staff collaboration. This session explores the impact of collective efficacy, strategies for encouraging and implementing it at a schoolwide level, and guidance on how you can start integrating this shared belief within your unique context.

**PRESENTERS:** Elisa Brown, Principal; Anna DeJesus, Assistant Principal; Yadira Hans, Instructional Coach; and Gillian Shotwell, Instructional Coach, PS 249, The Caton School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *"Family Means No One Gets Left Behind or Forgotten."* - Lilo & Stitch. No one knows culture better than Walt Disney, and culture in a school is no different than the culture in the Most Magical Place on Earth. Culture is crucial to success. School culture encompasses all the attitudes and expected behaviors that impact how your school operates. So how can schools nurture and foster this positive culture and at the same time make sure teachers who are highly skilled but still need help developing professional attitudes and behaviors don't get left behind? This session will discuss current findings on what effective principals value in school culture and provide advice on nurturing and growing professionalism among teachers. We will partner with principals from cooperating professional development schools to demonstrate how our work on teacher dispositions is greatly impacting the effect on school culture in our neighborhood schools.

**PRESENTERS:** Tamala Martin, Instructor, and Dr. Rebecca Roach, Professor, Morehead State University, Kentucky.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Frontloading for Future Support Systems for New Teachers that Work.* Frontloading for the Future- Support Systems for New Teachers that Work Flexible support systems are necessary if we are going to attract and keep new teachers in the profession. In this session you will learn about a multifaceted support system that has proven successful in retaining new teachers at our school. By scaffolding for success in the areas of lesson planning, instructional delivery, professional development, and data management our new teachers build their skillset to support student success.

**PRESENTERS:** Mary Beth Roulston, Assistant Principal; Michelle Parisi, State Reaching Coach; and Britney Besecker, ESOL Teacher, Pritchardville Elementary School, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *One School, One Book: Where Literacy and STEAM Unite!* This presentation will share the process of implementing a One School, One Book program while engaging students in STEAM education. The participants will hear about how our school engaged students in grades K-6 with reading a book together as a school, all while preparing for a culminating musical theater production based on the same book. Information regarding student growth data and increased parental involvement will also be shared during the presentation.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Eric Kirkman, Director and Assistant Professor, and Misty Buerhaus, Media Specialist and Library Science Instructor, Kilby Laboratory, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Empowered to Grow! Creating Effective learning environments for all students.* Under the right conditions, all children can grow academically and social emotionally. This session provides educators and school leaders with a framework for creating three (3) growth conditions shown to help students improve academically and increase self-confidence. The alignment of purpose, skills and outcomes are at the core of any successful process. Attendees will be able to identify, apply, measure, and refine growth strategies to help historically disadvantaged children reach their maximum potential.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Akil Ross, Superintendent, District 5 of Lexington and Richland Counties, and 2018 NASSP National Principal of the Year, South Carolina. Dr. Ross is also a National Blue Ribbon School Principal and Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Principal, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Moving the Academic Needle: Utilizing Priority Standards and Proficiency Scales.* Moving the Academic Needle: Utilizing Priority Standards and Proficiency Scales. Following our Blue Ribbon Site Visit, the feedback we received helped us to develop a framework to improve academic performance, reduce failures, increase student engagement, and build a system for school improvement. We will provide attendees with the methods, skills, and takeaways to replicate our successes in their own schools and districts. Schools today are faced with far too many standards for students to master. We have developed priority standards and proficiency scales across disciplines and have seen remarkable gains in academic success, student engagement and teacher ownership. If your school is facing similar challenges, this is the session for you!

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

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *You Gotta Have Faith: The Tornadoes' Path to Success.* Learn how the Taylorville Junior High School community closed the achievement gap by implementing a new approach to building leadership that fostered professional communities, student ownership, and a new perspective on the use of technology in the classroom. The collaborative leadership approach employed by new administration created an atmosphere that encouraged teachers to broaden their use of technology, take advantage of flexible learning spaces, and employ innovative teaching methods. These strategies energized students across all economic and academic levels thus closing the achievement gap. The success of this initiative was due to the junior high administration's multi-tiered approach to school improvement.

**PRESENTERS:** Jessica Miller, Technology Director (former principal at Taylorville Junior High School), Taylorville Community Unit School District #3; Jennifer Wise, Assistant Principal, and Tammy Reindl, Technology Integration Specialist, Taylorville Junior High School, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Designing a Curriculum with Technology: Integrating EVERFI's digital lessons into your existing plans.* During this presentation, we will review EVERFI's digital lessons along with the offline lesson plans/project-based learning/labs, and more. These offline tools were developed in partnership with the EVERFI schools' team and educators across the nation who have utilized the courses in their classrooms. From this session, we will analyze the digital content within EVERFI courses, evaluate best fit for existing lesson plans, and suggest tech integration strategies. Educators will leave this session with an understanding of how to fit EVERFI's digital courses into their already existing plans.

**PRESENTER:** Cassandra Winne-Soulis, Senior Implementation Specialist, EVERFI, Washington, DC.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV

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

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Cruising into School Culture.* This presentation will provide strategies on how to establish and maintain school culture within a school environment. The presentation will address culture building strategies for students, staff, and the community. The theme for this presentation will feature components of a cruise ship. Specific examples will include understanding your students using student passports, whole child topics such as health, wellness, stress management, and movement using ports of call, and ideas for addressing academic skills using an around the world geography theme. Above all, audience members will receive strategies that support social-emotional learning. Cruise ships identify kindness as a top priority. This presentation will provide specific examples of how the entire school community can work as a team, support teaching and learning, and increase student engagement for all learners.

**PRESENTERS:** Andrea Prola, Principal, and Amanda Longtin, STEAM Teacher, Brook Forest Elementary School, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Starting from the Bottom to Enhance the Top: Strategies for Energizing the School's Culture.* As a principal for over 26 years, and an educator for forty years, helping schools to develop strong academic programs is a passion. Over the past year, I have served as a principal mentor, educational consultant, and author. What has become daunting is to see that principals are still challenged to turnaround struggling schools in the year of 2022. I became a turnaround principal for several schools during my tenure as an administrator. This session will focus on ideas and strategies to help build a strong academic program starting from the bottom and reaching the top of the academic ladder. Specifically, a look at cultural and climate, understanding and providing support for vulnerable students, staff nurturing, and professional developing are areas that will be highlighted from the books, *Platinum Principals* and *Teaching Through a Pandemic*. Handouts will be provided to participants hopefully these materials will help school leaders develop a roadmap for challenging academic environments to ultimately providing student success. There will be free copies of the handbook used in the session on a first come bases.

**PRESENTER:** Hattie Alexander, Retired National Blue Ribbon Principal and Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Principal, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Assessor, and Platinum Educational Services Consultant, and Author, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Power of Achievement Teams: How Effective Collaboration Led to a Blue Ribbon.* P.S. 249's transformation from a low-performing school to an award-winning, academically high-performing building can be attributed to the sheer power that rests in cohesive systems and structures. At the center of this belief rests a schoolwide commitment to Achievement Teams –the necessary and ongoing collaboration of all constituents and the backbone to creating a school culture grounded in partnership and shared success. In this session, explore the value and power behind Achievement Teams. Learn how to cultivate a school community deeply rooted in student and teacher collaboration, and access expert advice on how to start your Achievement Teams journey from the leader behind P.S. 249's 2021 National Blue Ribbon.

**PRESENTERS:** Elisa Brown, Principal; Anna DeJesus, Assistant Principal; Yadira Hans, Instructional Coach; and Gillian Shotwell, Instructional Coach, PS 249, The Caton School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Using Data Based Decision Rule & Research to Raise Student Achievement.* Participants will learn how to develop data-based intervention decision rules with clear entrance and exit criteria. When partnered with research-based instructional practices, clear decision rules assist building leaders to improve outcomes for all students while analyzing the efficacy of student interventions. In the 2021-2022 school year, McCall Elementary used this approach to determine which students would qualify for intensified support as well as how and when to exit students from intervention instruction. We were able to see significant changes in student achievement with 54% of students making above average growth in reading and 59% of students making above-average growth in math during the school year. (As measured by the NWEA MAP Conditional Growth Percentile)

**PRESENTERS:** Pamela Crowell, Assistant Principal, and Laurie Winner, Instructional Coach, McCall Elementary, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Engaging Students in Rigorous Classrooms: Using Marzano's Elements.* Student engagement is the key to providing rigorous classes and instruction. Our middle school teachers and students have had great results incorporating Robert Marzano's instructional strategies from his book *The New Art and Science of Teaching*. Teachers will share with you their planning of lessons, instructional strategies used with students, and results in the math and ELA classrooms. An administrator will share the "look-fors" in classroom observations and walk throughs which demonstrate learning environments with high levels of student engagement.

**PRESENTERS:** Madelyn Cave, Principal; Andrea Jackson, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher, and Mary Philyaw, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Teacher, Brewton Middle School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Contagious Teaching: Creating a Learning Environment Where Kids Just Can't Get Enough.* In a perfect world, school-based principals should be able to coach each teacher under their supervision towards becoming master teachers. However, the reality is they do not have time. Between handling phone calls from disgruntled parents, cyber-bullying incidents, bus duty, recess duty, squabbles between staff members, a fight in the hallway, and morning announcements, who has time to invest in teacher growth? Unfortunately, this leads to observations that are a 'dog and pony show' and is not a true reflection of how teachers transform the minds of students on a daily basis. To complicate matters further, school leaders often provide satisfactory or exceptional observations to teachers who are at best marginal, in order to avoid internal conflicts, faculty room gossip, or union grievances. The question is: are students benefiting? Furthermore, do satisfactory or exceptional observations and evaluations translate to higher formative and summative assessments results? Most importantly, how can we help teachers become—master teachers? In this session, *Contagious Teaching: Creating a Learning Environment Where Kids JUST can't get Enough*, participants will learn the 'secret sauce' of what master teachers consistently and intentionally do to create a learning environment where all kids buy in. Additionally, participants will learn four critical mindset shifts that are necessary to creating this Contagious Teaching Environment, and an instructional framework designed to increase student focus!

**PRESENTER:** Stephen E. Boyd, CEO /Author, Speaker, Lead Consultant, SB Entertainment Group, Maryland

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: “STOP - Making Leadership so Difficult”.** The responsibilities of school leaders are becoming overwhelming. The job description for Principals has changed since Covid entered our world, just three years ago. According to Ed. Weekly, over 40% of our principals have indicated they want to leave the job and change careers. The job is tough enough, stop making it more difficult. This session will provide insight on how to accomplish goals and motivate people. Scott will share easy to use tips on how to make the goal of being a successful school leader attainable. During this session you will learn ways to ease the day-to-day stress that dominates time and prohibits school growth. Since Scott stepped down from the Principalship at nationally acclaimed New Albany High School in Ohio, he has been training and developing school leaders throughout the Midwest. Scott Serves as the Director of the Principals Resource Network in Central Ohio and is a Senior Assessor for Blue Ribbon Schools of excellence. He serves as Principal Coach for the State Department of Ed, South Carolina. Scott has mentored some 40 Principals in Midwest and Southeast and has presented to hundreds of educators throughout the United States, China, and Germany.

**PRESENTER:** Scott Stewart, Senior Assessor for Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence and Supervisor, Leadership Program, Education Service Center of Central Ohio, servicing over 50 school districts. Scott served as a principal for three National Blue Ribbon Schools

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Exploring Opportunities for ALL Students Using the Academy Model.*** Attendees will learn the components and details of the Career Academy Model. This session will expound on the benefits the students' goals as they prepare to enter the community life, college, and/or career ready. The implementation of the Career Academies, Health and Human Services, Communication Arts and Business, Architecture, Construction, Mechatronics, and Engineering, provide a clear pathway of how students will matriculate through high school and have an exit strategy after graduation. The implementation of the Career Academies, Health and Human Services, Communication Arts and Business, Architecture, Construction, Mechatronics, and Engineering, at Vicksburg High School has increased student and teacher attendance and has decreased discipline infractions by 80%.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Tameka Hyland, Principal, Vicksburg High School, Mississippi.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Blended Learning in the World Language Classroom.*** While specifically geared toward World Language and teachers of MLL populations, this presentation will prove valuable to all educators. We will investigate a variety of blended learning models in the classroom, discuss best practices and have "sandbox" time for educators to try some resources. Educators will leave this session with a concrete understanding of how to implement a blended model and tools they can begin using in their classroom immediately. I have been using this practice over several years in my own classroom and seen its effectiveness first-hand. This presentation was voted "Best in Conference" at the RI Foreign Language Association annual conference, and I have also presented it at the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Language (NECTFL) as well as to my own district and neighboring ones. Anecdotal evidence from student feedback as well as hard data have supported the effectiveness of this practice.

**PRESENTER:** Mark DeLucia, Teacher, World Language Department Chair; Instructional Technology Coach, North Kingstown High School, Rhode Island.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *School Culture: How Leaders Inspire Others to Develop, Grow, and Celebrate a Positive School Culture.*** Pamela McQueen and Joseph Cordonnier serve as the Principal and Assistant Principal at Villa Madonna Academy High School, a Catholic college-preparatory school in Northern Kentucky near Cincinnati, Ohio. In the over twenty years they have teamed together, the school has earned three National Blue Ribbon recognitions, been named a COGNIA School of Distinction (accredited since 1925), been consistently recognized since 2014 as a Jay Matthews Challenge Index (The Washington Post) Most Challenging Schools and earned local recognitions as one of the Best Private High Schools in the area and Best Workplaces. Their presentation will provide insight into leadership strategies for administration, faculty, and students in building a school culture of success. If you want some tips on how to bring passion and excitement into your school, you will want to be part of this session.

**PRESENTERS:** Pamela McQueen, Executive Director, (K-12)/Principal (7-12) and Joe Cordonnier, Assistant Principal (7-12), Villa Madonna Academy High School, Kentucky.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV

**11:30 AM - NOON VISIT EXHIBITORS**  
**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

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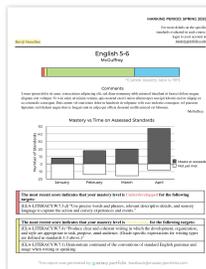


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- ...responding to parents who want more detail about their child's progress?
- ...defending grades rather than discussing progress?
- ...preparing & giving tests to show where students are?

Does your report card adequately show how much each student has grown?



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**NOON - 1:15 PM BEACON LUNCHEON**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

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

**Keynote Speaker** - Dr. Calvin Mackie, President and CEO, STEM NOLA.

Dr. Calvin Mackie has inspired millions with his journey from remedial reading classes to a PhD in engineering. The internationally recognized motivational speaker, inventor, entrepreneur, prominent community leader, and former tenured Tulane professor is changing lives through the advancement of STEM education for children and communities everywhere. Since 2013, STEM NOLA has engaged over 100,000+ students, mostly under-served low-income students, in hands-on STEM project-based learning. In 2021, he launched STEM Global Action to advance K-12 Stem education across the U.S. and the world.

As our 2022 luncheon keynote speaker, his story and infectious delivery, will excite you, inspire you, and motivate you to continue creating world class schools for all students



**Presentation of BRSE Beacon Awards** - Dennis W. Bega, Senior Assessor, Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence

*Bob Hope Elementary School  
Caledonia Elementary School  
Community High School  
Danville High School  
East Lawrence Elementary School  
East Lawrence High School  
Falkville Elementary School  
Fayetteville High School  
Forest Street Community School  
Greenwood Elementary School  
Hatton High School  
John P. Holland Charter School  
Mastery Schools of Camden – Cramer Hill  
Moulton Middle School  
Noble Academy Columbus School  
North Vista Elementary School*

*Ocean Academy Charter School  
RISE Grammar School  
RISE Prep School  
Saint Lawrence Catholic School  
Savannah Grove Elementary School  
Sneed Middle School  
South Florence High School  
Southside Middle School  
Theodore Lester Elementary School  
Timrod Elementary School  
Wallace Gregg Elementary School  
West Morgan Middle School  
West Morgan High School  
Whale Branch Early College High*

### **1:30 PM - 2:30 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS F**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Making Up for Lost Time: The Kids Will Be OK!* As we welcomed all our students back to school, it became more and more evident that they need more support than could be provided in a typical classroom setting. Kindergarten and first graders didn't recognize letters or know how to hold a pencil. Upper grade students struggle with making connections with their teachers and peers. We will be presenting on Small Group Instruction (SGI) periods that meet the students where they are. During SGI periods, teachers can provide additional lessons to their students for intervention, as well as enrichment needs. Teachers may also decide to spend the time working on SEL and really get to know the students well. After spending eighteen months at home, students are in desperate need of catching up academically, socially, and emotionally. We decided to invest in human resources to provide teachers with the additional period for SGI every day. During the SGI period, a social study, science, art, technology, or reading enrichment teacher teaches the whole class while the classroom teacher provides instruction to a small group of students. The school maintains special notes for the SGI periods with student screeners and online templates. As a result, the faculty and staff of our school are seeing the progress our students are making and are breathing a sigh of relief because they know "The kids will be OK!"

**PRESENTERS:** Holli Sainz, Assistant Principal, and Laura Mirto, Instructional Coach, The Ralph A. Fabrizio School, P.S. 170, New York.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Going the Distance with Common Language.* This presentation aims to show how Carter City Elementary's accountability scores moved from needing improvement when the school was established to a classification of Distinguished School and School of Distinction in 2017 by the state of Kentucky. The school continued to demonstrate growth and improvement and was designated as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2020. Our success did not end there, and according to USA Today, we are now in the top 25 schools in the state in 2021 based on accountability assessment. Active teaching and learning played an important role in our school's success, and we found that going the distance by using common language and setting PACE for our students helped to focus student learning both during explicit instruction and when intervening. Our session would aim to demonstrate how we utilize common language as well as the acronym PACE to give students an explicit purpose for learning, hold them accountable for learning, demonstrate our congruency to the standards, and engage them in learning through specific strategies in the way that we read and complete tasks in math. Participants will leave with strategies, resources, and learning experiences to incorporate into their classrooms. During the session, we will introduce those in attendance to a fresh vision for explicit learning intentions for their schools and classrooms by showing the common language that we have used to make us successful!

**PRESENTERS:** Jo Ashworth, Principal; Kayla Skinner, Teacher; Kitty Sloas, Teacher; and Angela Terry, Teacher, Carter City Elementary School, Kentucky.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Embracing Challenges: School Turnaround through Process and Partnerships.* Come hear from the team at Warner Arts Magnet in Nashville, TN as they share practical insight and content from their school's turnaround process. Rather than ignoring or downplaying the school's challenges, they worked hard to reframe challenges as opportunities to build a school and community culture of trust and joy. Warner's turnaround process focused on building a new culture from the ground up by 1. Owning everything, including the multiple problems and challenges the school had 2. Blaming nobody, not creating scapegoats or excuses 3. Keeping nothing a secret, using data/surveys/feedback to inform the work and the workers. The primary benefit of this approach to turnaround work was the creation of a culture of trust and accountability that allowed leadership to be shared and progress to be celebrated.

**PRESENTERS:** Rikki Gibbs, Principal; Dr. Michael Thompson, Curriculum Coordinator; and Jon Wren, Magnet Coordinator, Warner Arts Magnet School, Tennessee.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Lessons and Strategies from a Blue Ribbon School.* P.S. 249 has remained on a steady pathway to success, closing the achievement gap for a previously underserved student body and transforming a failing school to one of the highest performing schools in all of New York City. Proudly a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School, one of the key attributes to this success has been creating and strengthening a school community centered around our commitment to academic excellence for all students. We prioritize students' well-being first and foremost, ensuring our school community remains open and collaborative through shared goals, responsibilities, and an overarching understanding of how to help both students and staff thrive. In this session, explore lessons learned on our journey to becoming a National Blue Ribbon School and strategies for positioning your school on a trajectory to long-lasting success.

**PRESENTER:** Elisa Brown, Principal, PS 249, The Caton School, New York.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Under the Sea: Immersing Students in a Second Language in "Part of Your World".* Participants will learn the purpose of language immersion programs and why they benefit all learners. Presenters will explain their program journey and key tenets of language immersion. Participants will understand the effects of immersion programs on students who are learning Spanish and French as a second language. In addition, presenters will explore the significant benefits for native Spanish and French students who are learning English as their second language. Presenters will explain best practices in language immersion programs. They will discuss schedules, content organization, and teacher roles and responsibilities.

**PRESENTERS:** Patrick Maness, Principal; Kendyl Futrelle, Assistant Principal; and Karen Finley, Instructional Coach, Cherry Park Elementary School of Language Immersion, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *"WIN"ning at Implementing Targeted Reading Intervention Time on a K-2 Campus.* Walk with us through our journey of starting a dedicated intervention time on our K-2 campus. We will share our Year 1 plan and how we used the data to enhance Year 2. How did we find time in our daily schedule? We will show you! We will share our teacher's strategic plans and how we used everyone on our campus to support the mission of getting all students to read on grade level!

**PRESENTERS:** Martha Bock, Principal, and Kim Farrow, Assistant Principal, Bridgeport Elementary School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Some Dr. Seuss Wisdom and Hope for Blue Ribbon Educators.***

With all the challenges currently facing educators, we need to reflect on the reasons we entered this profession. We also need to consider some of the universal truths about education - and life. Theodor Geisel, or Dr. Seuss, is America's Most Beloved Author. His books have sold over 500,000,000 copies internationally. Every child is familiar with his characters and stories, from *The Cat in the Hat* to *The Grinch*. His vocabulary and ideas are interwoven into the fabric of America. Who was this man whose books created such joy, wonder, and feelings of hope? How can we get those feelings back into schools now? Dr. Seuss was a deeper thinker than you might have imagined. His books, while simple enough to be loved by children, contain wisdom that is also relevant to adults — especially educators - and not just in elementary schools. This session will reflect on the parallels between the wit, wisdom, and philosophy of Dr. Seuss - and the characteristics of a Blue Ribbon Educator. You'll reflect on some hopeful and joyful concepts to take back to your school's staff.

**PRESENTER:** Edward Bernetich, Professor, Cleveland State University; two-time U.S Department of Education Blue Ribbon Principal; Blue Ribbon Lighthouse School Principal; International Distinguished Principal - Xian, China (2006); and BRSE Senior Assessor.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *"It's a Small World"; Transforming a Big School into Smaller Houses.***

Attendees will take away practical strategies to transform their school into a more connected, personal, and engaging place. Delaware Hayes High School is in year seven of implementing our House system. House has provided more opportunities for connections, interventions, clubs, leadership, mentoring and culture building. In today's educational climate, the need for more emotional support, safety and student connections is more important than ever. The House system has transformed our large high school into a smaller feeling, more personal and connected learning community. If attendees are looking for ways to enhance school culture and provide more opportunities for student and teacher leadership, this is your session!

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

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Teaching Isn't Fun Anymore.*** Have you ever said these words? Do you live from one break to the next, or even from the morning bell to your planning time? Do you feel like you're just surviving the day, or even worse, feel like you're even making a difference?

What if I told you that you could begin to enjoy your job more just by changing the climate and culture of your classroom? In this session, you will get tips and tricks on aspects ranging from behavior management, parent involvement, student engagement, building relationships and more. Learn how to transform your classroom environment from gloom and doom to captivating and joyful!

**PRESENTER:** Lauren Rainwater, Teacher, Parkside Pre K-8 School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Cybersecurity Programs of Study.* This session will introduce a library of resources now available for free to all K12 institutions interested in teaching cybersecurity concepts. The session will also include hands-on demonstration of new and engaging content that can be used in a variety of subjects taught in K12 institutions. These programs are sponsored by NSF, NSA and DHS. Resources include interactive animations, VR activities, virtual teaching and learning environments and online resources. The materials were implemented in several high school dual credit classes. The activities resulted in improved student competencies, greater understanding of the concepts and topics taught and ability to apply learned knowledge to new applications and problems.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. John Sands, Executive Director and PI of the Center for Systems Security and Information Assurance (CSSIA) and Dr. Kristine Christensen, Faculty, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV

#### **2:45 PM - 3:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS G**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *What Happens When Students Look Closely and Explore the Complexities of the World Around Them?* Participants will experience engaging thinking routines from Harvard, Project Zero. We will attempt to connect you through a collaborative design process that has become the foundation of our culture. We have found that inquiry through collaboration, critical thinking, and communication truly creates learning experiences students don't want to miss. Participants will engage in an actual inquiry experience developed from the research of Ron Ritchhart and Edward Klapp. Their books *Making Thinking Visible* and *Maker Centered Learning* put students in the driver's seat of thinking, making, and learning. We have found that our students and staff are engaged to think deeper, look closely, explore complexities, and find opportunities to make connections between content and the world around them. Our professional development will start with quickly touching on the history of Bemis Elementary, where we have been nominated as a National Blue Ribbon School two times in the past ten years (2014 and 2020). We will then move into an interactive learning opportunity where participants will use thinking routines to take apart a toy wind-up robot. This routine is used to look closely and explore the complexity of objects and recognizing them as systems that work together. The connection afterwards will allow for dialogue about how teachers in any grade level or Principals, can connect their content or culture metaphorically to this inquiry experience. All will walk away with opportunities to reframe their instruction to include inquiry. They will find opportunities to engage in deep learning, to make thinking visible, and connect through meaningful dialogue.

**PRESENTERS:** Jeremy Whan, Michigan Principal of the Year 2015, and Nationally Distinguished Principal 2015; Elliott Kern, Specialist; Carrie Lynn Asgarally, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher; and Kathleen Weitzel, 5th Grade Teacher, Bemis Elementary School, National Blue Ribbon School (1989, 2014, 2020), Michigan.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Blending Mindfulness and SEL Together to Impact the Life-Long Well Being of Yourself and Students.* Are you present, attuned and empathetic? Or fatigued, anxious, and distressed? Come experience the power of mindfulness and how you can transform your school through this practice of self-care. This session will give you the keys to unlock your full potential as a leader and change agent in your school community first by taking care of your own self-care. Our schools need leaders who are functioning at their optimum, vibrant, full of energy and positive to be a force for good. During this session, you will experience how to maintain your calm daily, minute by minute, in any situation and be able to teach this practice to your students and staff in simple ways. I invite you to listen to the stories of our North Star Elementary students, parents, and teachers as they share about their journey into mindfulness practices that has impacted their wellbeing. And how you can too!

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Karin Jakubowski, Principal, North Star Elementary School, Delaware.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Culture Shock.* Hear how a MS, Title 1, rural, elementary school (of 1,000 plus students) set the bar high for staff and students to experience decreased discipline, improved relationships, added common planning collaboration, and implemented quality systems of support (for both academics and behaviors). By creating systems for instruction, relationships, and behavior, New Albany Elementary School (NAES) moved to an "A" school in the MS accountability model and was named a National School of Excellence Lighthouse School. At the heart of this success was a culture change that is the foundation for everything NAES does. Our story is one of perseverance and endurance sprinkled with tough love and consistent practices. Change begins with culture shifts. As we share our progression, we will discuss our approach in a systematic method that create a positive Culture Shock in your school as well.

**PRESENTERS:** Gwyn Russell, Principal, and Wesley McCullough, Assistant Principal, New Albany Principal School, Mississippi.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Assessing with Respect: Empower Students to be an Integral Part of the Assessment Process.* Students should be at the center of everything we do in the classroom, but they are notoriously omitted from the assessment design and tracking process. When we truly assess with respect and provide students the language, opportunity, and understanding to be successful in partnering throughout their learning experience, we offer a unique chance to demonstrate their growth as learners. In this session, we will explore how teaching students to set standards-aligned goals, track progress, reflect and self-assess and confer about their growth over time can increase student motivation and overall impact on student learning. We are addressing asset-based assessment using the MasteryBook to help teach and track student learning. This helps teachers create standards-aligned assessments and allows students to set goals, reflect, and self-assess directly in the platform. These practices provide high effect sizes as per John Hattie's research in areas like student-led conferences, reflection, and other metacognitive strategies, self-grading, and feedback.

**PRESENTERS:** Constance Borro, Chief Executive Officer and Starr Sackstein, Chief Operating Officer, Mastery Portfolio, LLC, Ohio.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Riding the Rollercoaster of Change: How to Lead Others during Times of Transition.* We combined students, parents, and teachers from three different schools...in the middle of the year (January 2019) ...onto a campus adjoining a middle school...on one of the busiest roads in South Carolina...into a brand-new building. Whew! How did we survive that kind of change? We focused our planning on William Bridge's Model of Managing Transitions. Change is inevitable. Navigating change well is optional. Presenters will explain William Bridge's Model of Managing Transitions that can help every school leadership team survive the ups and downs of change.

**PRESENTERS:** Patrick Maness, Principal; Kendyl Futrelle, Assistant Principal; and Karen Finley, Instructional Coach, Cherry Park Elementary School of Language Immersion, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Empowering Students and Engaging Parents through Student-Led Conferences.* Participants will join an active review and discussion of Sparkman Middle School's journey through implementing Student-Led Conferences. Representatives from the classroom and school leadership will review research, best practices, implementation details, stakeholder feedback, and outcomes. Classroom teachers and school leaders of all levels will learn the key moves and practical steps for empowering students to take ownership of their learning and engaging parents in a review of their student's academic and social/emotional progress.

**PRESENTERS:** Kristen Bell, Principal; Machiah Fuqua, Assistant Principal; Stephenie Smith, Instructional Coach; Nakita Adams, Librarian; Stephanie Alexander, 8th Grade Teacher; and Chase Daniel, 6th Grade Teacher; Sparkman Middle School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Lessons from a Thriving Urban School: How to Create Innovative School Design to Cultivate Balance, Excellence, and Joyful Learning.* Do you desire to provide high-quality education to all students, including students with complex needs? Well, this is the session for you. Walter Payton College Preparatory High School, WPCP, offers a design for schooling that cultivates key habits of mind and habits of practice that allow students to not only succeed academically but thrive as balanced, well rounded individuals. The presentation will outline the systems, structures, and partnerships that support our vision for student success.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Fareeda Shabazz Anderson, Principal, and Dr. Sana Ansari, Assistant Principal, Walter Payton College Preparatory High School, Illinois.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *School Based Mental Health and Its Importance.* Academics are just one piece of creating a successful learner. Teachers are also responsible for shaping the whole child that includes their social and emotional well-being. Join us to learn about the journey Ohio County Schools took to bring mental health to the forefront of whole child instruction. A description of how a school district combines federal, state, and local funding, collaboration with the community partnerships, and outside contracts to provide mental health awareness and services to meet the social emotional needs of the students in our schools will be addressed.

**PRESENTERS:** Leah Stout, Director of Special Education; Nicole Shepherd, Behavior Specialist/Alternative Learning Coordinator; and Raquel McLeod, Director of Special Education, Ohio County Schools, West Virginia.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Initiating Student-Centered Change is a Process.* Taking over a new school is a daunting task whether you are a new or a seasoned principal. Bringing new leadership on board and creating change in any organization is difficult enough, but schools are living organisms and every decision will touch on the convictions of each individual stakeholder. The process of implementing and executing student-centered change is a process that takes time, conviction, consistency, patience, planning, and thick skin. In this session we will explore the experience of a principal who has undertaken this task in two schools – one low performing rural school in an urban district, one high performing school in mid-city of the same district, once as a new principal and once as an experienced principal. Each school presented its own unique challenges, but the overarching themes of the journey were the same. Come learn from our successes and our mistakes as we explore how to effectively implement student-centered change when taking over the roles of leadership on a new campus.

**PRESENTERS:** Brandon Levatino, Principal, and Onetha Wheeler, Assistant Principal, Liberty Magnet High School, Louisiana.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Journey from Good to Great is Just Around the River Bend.*

How do you take a good school and push it to greatness? Learn the nuts and bolts of fueling your momentum to fine tune your school and tap into its highest potential. This session will discuss how to take what is considered a good school and make it better by supporting both teachers' & students' social emotional health and unmet student learning needs. It's the story of walking into what looks from the outside like a "good" school - Is considered an A school by state standards (but barely an A at 90%) which is arguably a harder place to start from than a failing (turnaround) school because the possibility of falling is huge - especially with too many "new items like new curriculum and new school system. Your goal as an administrator is to keep the good stuff while deleting the waste to push the entire organization higher. This is accomplished by addressing the personal social emotional needs through Leader in Me (LIM) and the academics through Precision Teaching for learning. LIM gives a voice and personal control over their successes, builds self-efficacy, positive attitude, decreases discipline, improves attendance, and improves overall performance for both students and teachers. Precision teaching using data, solid curriculum, and creative scheduling to revise the RTI process, introduce Walk to Intervention, dedicated Reading block, integrate Math foundation standards into hands on STEAM and Green lessons. All these pieces work together to give teachers and students the tools they need to push students from high to higher.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Alicia Early, Principal and Sonya Price, Assistant Principal, Gulf Shores Elementary School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV



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**DAY FOUR**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2022**

**7:15 AM - 8:00 AM COFFEE SERVICE**

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod Lobby

**8:00 AM - NOON REGISTRATION**

**LOCATION:** Cape Registration Desk

**8:00 AM - 9:00AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS H**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Bridging Children's Literature with Visual Arts Across the K-2 Curriculum.* Participants will engage in hands-on activities for early childhood students integrating children's literature and visual arts across the curriculum. Participants will create 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 the classroom integrating children's literature and art with math, science, and social studies. Young people who participate in the arts for at least three hours on three days each week are 4 times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement and 3 times more likely to win an award for school attendance.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Sallie Harper, Professor of Elementary Education; Dr. Amanda Pendergrass, Associate Professor of Elementary Education; Dr. Brenda Fortson, Assistant Professor of Elementary Education/Reading Specialist, and Dr. Lynn Kelley, Associate Professor of Elementary Education, The University of West Alabama, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *PLC Structures that Enhance Tier One Instruction.* During this presentation we will share our PLC system and framework. We have a flipped PLC process that allows for a myopic focus on a strong first teach. We will share a graphic organizer that will allow administrators to enhance PLC planning around the problem of practice they are seeing. Collaboration is a non-negotiable and this process brings the collaboration among teachers and their planning. Our campus saw great success with our flipped PLC approach using a circle map to enhance the planning process. Teachers collaborated and had instructional conversations around the nouns and verbs from the standards. During our session we will share systems and structures that created a culture of a strong first teach.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Brenda Chacon, Chief of Academics, Ysleta ISD; Laura Judith Calderon, Principal; and Ellen Baumler, Instructional Coach, Vista Hills Elementary School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Achievement and Engagement for Special Populations.* How can educators increase engagement and progress towards individualized goals for special populations? During this session we will explore effective ways to meet the needs of a variety of learners including, gifted, special education, at risk, and ELL populations.

**PRESENTERS:** Cassie Anderson, Special Education Resource and Inclusion Elementary Educator; Jessica Biggert, Elementary Learning Interventionist; Jessica Moore, Gifted and Talented Elementary Educator and Cassie Heinz, Fifth Grade Educator, Buena Vista Elementary, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *In This House, We Make Magic: How to Make your Preschool Full of Encanto!* Preschool is an impactful, influential, and transformative time in a child's school life. We are instilling a love of learning, exploration, and creativity in children. Parents are often giving their children to someone else for the first time. Leading a Preschool requires a growth mindset, joyful attitude, and an overabundance of joy! After all, it's the happiest place on Earth! Learn from an administrative and teaching perspective how to handle concerned parent meetings, encourage collaboration and camaraderie amongst faculty, and enhance student achievement. Other topics include differentiating instruction for our earliest learners and how to give each child time to grow and feel successful daily. We will discuss strategies to encourage a balance of nurturing and nudging; meeting students' social and emotional needs yet nudging them to work just above their zone proximal development. Come enjoy an informative and fun session with tips, tricks, and strategies for making your Preschool Encanto!

**PRESENTERS:** Ashley Meija, Assistant Division Head of Preschool and Dana Thomas Fisher, Pre-K Lead Teacher, River Oaks Baptist School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Performance Based Pay - Data and Outcomes by Design.* This presentation would outline my school's model of performance-based outcomes. The presentation would be including goal setting with teachers, performance-based observations, data meetings, and evaluations. We would teach colleagues how to set clear goals with small pockets of students to see the needle of student scores move in a way that is highly motivating for teachers! From start to finish colleagues in this session would learn how to really enhance goal setting with teachers so that student achievement is directly impacted. The performance-based pay system that we use allows us to see our school goals and set teachers directly accountable to them. If our school has the goal to be 75% proficient in a certain area, then we use baseline data to see where each individual grade level needs to be to meet that goal. Each teacher then has a weekly meeting where we analyze student achievement data to see how close they are to meeting the goal for their classroom and what that means for the school's landscape. I will be addressing goal setting, motivating staff, monitoring data as a school leader and communicating next steps to key stakeholders.

**PRESENTER:** Jessie Gismondi, Principal, Mastery Cramer Hill, New Jersey.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Igniting the SPARK: Speaking to the Potential, Ability and Resilience in ALL Kids.* Regardless of their circumstances, there is a SPARK within every human being that cannot be damaged (yes even after 2020). This SPARK is the birthplace of resilience, well-being, commonsense, intelligence, solutions, creativity, and innovation. This presentation will explore how innate resilience is uncovered through a simple understanding of the mind, and the stress resistance needed to overcome trauma is naturally formed. We are excited to announce that the methods in this presentation have gone through rigorous, research and evaluation using both randomized and control groups. In 6 separate studies, employing over 1000 participants (K-12th grade), the methods have been deemed evidence-based with participants showing significant improvement in levels of resilience (up to 91%), emotional regulation including impulse control (up to 83%), communication, decision making, and problem-solving skills (up to 89%). They have been published in 3 peer-reviewed journals and have also been evaluated and approved by CASEL (Collaborative for Academic and Social Emotional Learning).

**PRESENTERS:** Brooke Wheeldon-Reece, CEO, and Ashley Hunt, Director of Program Development, The SPARK Initiative, Florida.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *How the Magic of Money Can Fund Your Blue Ribbon Process.***

Are you short on funding the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence (BRSE) process? Do you need the Blue Ribbon process to align to your continuous improvement plans so the funding will be supplemental? Can the Blue Ribbon action plans and process align to district strategic plans and funding? Is the money worth spending? If you want answers to these critical questions, then this session is for you! Attend this session and you will find out how your federal funds can be used to support being a Blue Ribbon School or a Blue Ribbon School District and still be in compliance with the regulations. You will become knowledgeable on how to write your Title II grants for funding this school improvement. In this session, you will see how a district moved from a C to an A on the state report card along with schools moving from a D to an A for accountability. After attending this session, you will be able to align the Blue Ribbon Blueprint to your district strategic plan or the continuous improvement plan. This session is all about funding a school or districtwide school improvement process and recognition program. Don't miss out on the ways to get your BRSE process funded.

**PRESENTER:** April Stansberry, former Assistant Superintendent of a Blue Ribbon School District and Federal Programs Director, Alabama, and current Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence team member, Florida.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Resilient Leadership for Non-Public and Specialty School***

**Leaders: How to Uncover the Past to Lead in the Present.** In this session, participants will learn how to recognize the extent to which their leadership reflects inherited strengths and vulnerabilities from previous generations and understand the inherited strengths and vulnerabilities of the schools they lead. This session will share practical strategies and tools with participants to uncover the hidden dynamics in their schools to help them become more effective and resilient leaders. In addition, the presenter will answer questions pertaining to the new Cognia standards and protocols as they relate to non-public/ specialty school leaders. Those attending the session will walk about with a greater knowledge and understanding of the accreditation process, and things that their school could and should be doing to prepare for a visit.

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Michael Bratcher, Director of Accreditation Services, Cognia, Kentucky.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION: *Brown Colors the Board of Education!*** Since the landmark Supreme Court ruling *Brown vs. the Board of Education* in the 1950s, school districts all around the country have grappled with the challenges internally and externally in creating integrated and equitable schools for all students. Come learn how The Magnet School Team in Metro Nashville developed an innovative way to engage and inform various stakeholders on the work of school diversity - by playing games! The Magnet Team at MNPS developed an interactive and engaging board game that allows teachers, administrators, district leaders, community partners, or parents to better understand the challenges and opportunities that come with championing school diversity and equity. Rather than a lecture or a slide presentation, "Brown colors the Board" provided teams the chance to be informed about the gaps that still exist and be inspired to be a partner in the work going forward.

**PRESENTERS:** ReGina Etter, MSAP Director, and Jon Wren, Magnet Strategy & Policy, Metro Nashville Public Schools, Tennessee.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Safety is a Significant Concern for Schools.* It is a difficult balance of safety for schools and not turning the school into a prison. With school shootings a constant and real threat, administrators must take steps to ensure safety measures and training are in place. We have crafted safety procedures and protocols for the front office, teachers, and Campus Police to help improve safety, communication, and expectations to make your campuses the safest they can be every day.

**PRESENTERS:** Charles Ryan, Principal and Dabney Eiland, Associate Principal, Community High School, Texas.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV

### **9:15 AM - 10:15 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS I**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *1, 2, 3 Counting Purposefully: Using Counting Collections Early Childhood Classrooms.* Number sense in early math development provides the foundation for more complex mathematical thinking. Counting collections provide rich opportunities to practice developing number sense and counting skills. Young children need problems to solve and latitude to construct their own strategies for self-assessment. This session will explore the practice of cardinality through counting manipulatives using one-to-one correspondence, thereby building a concrete foundation for future experiences in math. Join us for an exciting, interactive workshop where you will be able to observe in real time early learners demonstrating their ability and knowledge to work with counting collections.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Amanda Pendergrass, Associate Professor of Elementary Education and Early Childhood Program Coordinator, The University of West Alabama, Livingston, Alabama; Sue Noah, Kindergarten and First Grade Teacher, Athens City Schools, Athens, Alabama; Mrs. Amelia Evans, Math Coach, Madison County Schools, Madison, Alabama; Anna Lynn, Thomas, and Sadie Pendergrass, 3rd, 1st, and K4 students, Demopolis City Schools, Demopolis, Alabama; and Reid, Haddon, and Molly Ruth Evans, 6th, 1st, and K4 students, Madison County Schools, Madison, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Newport A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Reaching Hearts and Changing Minds.* Our thoughts, perceptions, and emotions shape our reality and the same is true for our students. Do you have students with fixed mindsets? This session is for you. It is my hope you will leave this session emotionally and intellectually equipped to shape your students' mindsets through the power of love. In a cooperative learning, brain-friendly workshop, we will cover multiple mindsets that affect our students such as Mediocrity, Insecurity, Quitter, Powerless, and Abandoned/Unloved. Then provide research based strategies that help grow these mindsets to Achieving, Self-Confident, Gritty, Empowered, and Belonging/Loved.

**PRESENTER:** Corey Throckmorton, Principal, NewStart Academy Wynne, Grades 6-12, Arkansas.

**LOCATION:** Newport B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Tips, Tricks, and Tools to Transform Learning.* How can technology increase academic achievement and engagement in your classroom? During this session we will explore meaningful technology, focusing on Assessment & Delivery, Communication, and Organization for the innovative classroom. Participants will leave with purposeful tips, tricks, and tools ready for implementation in their learning environment. Benefits of this session include meeting the ISTE standards through exposing attendees to technology to enhance academic achievement, as well as learning from our peers and students. We are each other's greatest resource!

**PRESENTER:** Jessica Moore, Gifted and Talented Elementary Educator, Buena Vista Elementary, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Newport C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Supporting Student Engagement through Universal Design for Learning.* The participants will work within collaborative groups to analyze scenarios to determine the effectiveness of efforts to prepare all disciplines to improve instruction. The participants will build teacher skills to present content that promotes student engagement and embedded instruction and environmental arrangements that all discipline areas need to service a diverse range of learners in the inclusive class. The participants will be able to develop a teaching toolkit to provide instructional efficacy in inclusive environments for the success of all types of learners using Universal Design for Learning.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Kimberly Griffith, Dr. Kevin Jones and Dr. Jodie Winship, Associate Professors, University of West Alabama, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod A

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Be a Light in Your Community by Becoming a Beacon School.*

Becoming a Blue Ribbon school is an endeavor that requires a team. Reaching the top of the Lighthouse to light the Beacon of excellence means becoming a school that meets the required criteria in the nine performance areas of high-performing schools. The process of becoming a Beacon school involves documentation and open collaboration to make positive changes within your school. This workshop will discuss how to work as a team and develop a vision as a whole community. Our goal is to help you strive to become a Beacon school.

**PRESENTERS:** Dr. Dawn Cobb-Fossnes, Principal; Jennifer Duffy, Teacher; Samantha Mancuso, Teacher; Avery Matysik, Teacher; Dariakna Reyes-Yencer, Teacher, and Marc Sweet, Teacher, Ocean Academy Charter School, New Jersey.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod B

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *"Lighting the Way" with the Bookman Road Beacons, A 2021 National BRSE Lighthouse School: Establishing a Common Vision to Maximize Student Success.* SAIL with us as we take you on a journey to discover how and why our brain-based school-wide framework has been lighting the way in student achievement over the last 23 years. We will explore how to create a nurturing, calm environment, provide collaborative opportunities for staff and students, and integrate choice and movement into lessons that are anchored in brain-based research. By implementing these best practices, Bookman Road is achieving the vision to "develop Beacons who 'light the way' in personal character, academics, and community service."

**PRESENTER:** Dr. Kendra Hill, Principal, Bookman Road Elementary School, South Carolina.

**LOCATION:** Cape Cod C

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Ensuring Exceptional Instruction in Every Setting.* The demands of the classroom have changed. Teachers need to know what works best and how to do it now. In this session you will find out how to increase student effort, thinking, and retention, while building productive and supporting relationships. We will explore five powerful practices that will transform classrooms, take the stress out of teaching, and increase learning. These practices reinvigorate high performing classrooms and transform struggling classrooms. See how you can use these practices to create powerful results.

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

**LOCATION:** GH Salon I

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Whole Child + Family Engagement = Whole Families.* Over the last 8 years, Jackson County has focused on district book studies to bring families into the schools. Two Title 1 rural schools have shown great increased numbers with participation at a variety of family activities. Today, leaders will find out how to use 20+ strategies that meets whole child needs and increases family engagement so that entire families are embracing the school community. A brief history will be shared on the book studies that have taken place over the last 7 years. We will start with building staff capacity and training staff on how to relate to families, sharing the process of using feedback to determine events, parent classes, grandparents' classes, ELL classes, to having events throughout the school year. These ideas and the journey of feedback leads these schools from having 5% attendance to 50% and more.

**PRESENTER:** Rebecca Grogan, Assistant Principal, Maysville Elementary School; Donna Wilson, Assistant Principal, South Jackson Elementary School; and Linda Bell, Federal Programs Director, Jackson County School System, Georgia.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon II

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *The Power of Planning.* Come see how our unit planning journey has led us to increased focus, collaboration, student engagement, and student mastery of essentials. The Unit Planning Process is a structured approach to designing units anchored in essential standards. Common assessments created as a team help drive the instructional planning process, all while taking the planning process one step at a time. Today, you will learn how to create a structured unit, step by step, to maximize the planning process and instructional time. We will share our journey to help you start yours! Come experience the power of planning with us!

**PRESENTERS:** Adam Hampton, Principal, and Leah Brooke Tabor, Teacher, Owens Cross Roads School, Alabama.

**LOCATION:** GH Salon III

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Raising the Bar in Science through STEM for ALL.* Learn how Ramona Elementary in El Paso, Texas dramatically increased science achievement for all K-6th grade students. In this session, participants will discover the collaborative process of creating an innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program focusing on STEM challenges built from grade levels standards with college and career connections and 21st century skills. Participants will also experience the engineering design process that students follow during STEM time. Participants will take away a sample STEM Challenge and a framework to create their own.

**PRESENTERS:** Darlene Martinez, Ramona Elementary Principal, Kim Perez, Math and Science Instructional Coach, Ramona Elementary School, Carmen Stearns, ITS, Ramona Elementary and Irene Ahumada, Associate Superintendent of Elementary Schools, Ysleta Independent School District, Texas.

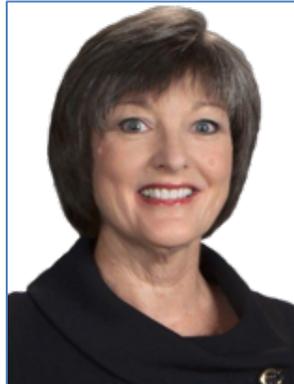
**LOCATION:** GH Salon IV

**10:30 AMNOON LIGHTHOUSE CELEBRATION BRUNCH (For All Attendees)**

**LOCATION:** GH Ballroom South and North

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

**Remarks** - Jayne Ellspermann, 2015 National Principal of the Year, Educational Consultant, Leadership Coach, and Trainer, BRSE Vice Chair and Senior Assessor, Florida.



Jayne Ellspermann is a nationally recognized and award-winning school leader who is dedicated to working with schools to ensure student success. During her career in education, she served in a variety of positions including teacher, curriculum coordinator, assistant principal, principal, and district administrator. For 25 years she served as a school principal at the elementary, middle, and high school level. In 2015 she was recognized as the National Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). She believes her most important responsibility is to support schools and school leaders create a culture where everyone can grow and student achievement soars. Her personal mission is to create opportunities for individuals to exceed their perceived potential. The result has been the successful turnaround of multiple schools as well as creating structures to enable mid and high achieving schools accelerate student achievement for all students. She is in demand as a leadership coach to school leaders and keynote speaker, she provides professional development to districts and schools, has written numerous articles for multiple publications, contributed to several books and is one of the co-authors of The Fundamental Five Revisited-Exceptional Instruction in Every Setting.



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**Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Awards Ceremony**



*2022 Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Superintendent Award*

*Bill Hopkins, Superintendent, Fayetteville City Schools, Tennessee*

*2022 Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, Lighthouse Awards*

*Addison Elementary School \*Two-Time*  
*Barkley Bridge Elementary School \*Three-Time*  
*Benjamin Davis Elementary School*  
*Brewer High School*  
*Brewton Middle School*  
*Bridgeport Elementary School*  
*Buchanan Elementary School*  
*Carver Elementary School*  
*Central School \*Three-Time*  
*Cherry Park Elementary School of Language Immersion*  
*Cold Springs Elementary School \*Two-Time*  
*Crestline Elementary School \*Three-Time*  
*Danville Middle School*  
*Delaware Hayes High School*  
*Delmae Heights Elementary School*  
*Dewey L. Carter Elementary School*  
*Double Springs Elementary School*  
*Eastwood Elementary School*  
*East Elementary School \*Three-Time*  
*Endeavor Elementary School \*Two-Time*  
*Fairview Elementary School \*Two-Time*  
*Falkville High School*  
*Fayetteville Middle School*  
*F. E. Burlison Elementary School \*Three-Time*  
*Good Hope Middle School \*Two-Time*  
*Good Hope Primary School \*Two-Time*  
*Greenbrier Westside Elementary School*  
*Haralson County Middle School*  
*Haralson County High School*  
*Hazel Green Elementary School*  
*John W. Moore Middle School*

*Julian Harris Elementary School*  
*Lawrence County Career Technical Center*  
*L. E. Willson Elementary School*  
*Legacy Elementary School \*Three-Time*  
*Malcom Bridge Middle School*  
*McLaurin Elementary School*  
*Medio Creek Elementary School*  
*Monrovia Elementary School \*Three-Time*  
*Monrovia Middle School \*Two-Time*  
*Mount Hope School*  
*New Albany Elementary School*  
*New Hope Elementary School*  
*North Hart Elementary School \*Two-Time*  
*New Market School \*Three-Time*  
*Parkside School*  
*Priceville High School*  
*Primrose Hill School*  
*Prince of Peace Catholic School \*Three-Time*  
*Ralph Askins Elementary School*  
*Royall Elementary School*  
*Sky Harbour Elementary School*  
*Starr-Iva Middle School*  
*The Academy of Talented Scholars, PS 682 \*Two-Time*  
*The Caton School, PS 249*  
*Tusculum View Elementary School \*Four-Time*  
*Vicksburg High School*  
*Villa Madonna Academy High School*  
*West Point Elementary School \*Two-Time*  
*West Point Intermediate School \*Two-Time*  
*Welti Elementary School \*Two-Time*  
*Wilkes Early College High School*  
*Winston County High School*

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