



The 46th Annual CASE Education Leadership Convention  
JULY 29 – 31, 2015 | Breckenridge, Colorado

**START AT THE SCALE OF US**

## **BREAKOUT DESCRIPTIONS**

*Please check the CASE Digital Program for the most up to date breakout presentation information. Download it at: [www.co-case.org/mobileapp](http://www.co-case.org/mobileapp)*

### **#01 – Colorado's Accountability Work Group - School and District Performance Framework**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 14

Description: In conjunction with the Accountability Work Group, the Colorado Department of Education is taking the 2015 transition to reflect upon and determine how to enhance the state's accountability measures (the District and School Performance Frameworks) for 2016. Using stakeholder feedback, analyses of impact of the frameworks from the past five years, and the deep work of the Accountability Work Group, draft recommendations for enhancing the School and District Performance Frameworks have been created. This session will provide an overview of the enhancements being considered for 2016 and ask for your input on how to make the next iteration of frameworks as actionable and meaningful as possible. Specific topics will include measures of postsecondary and workforce readiness, metrics for growth and achievement gaps, and communication and reporting tools.

Presenter(s): Jessica Knevals, Accountability and Policy Principal Consultant, CDE; Alyssa Pearson, Interim Associate Commissioner, Accountability, Performance and Support, CDE; Dan Jorgensen, Accountability and Research Manager, CDE; Karin Reynolds, Deputy Superintendent, Academy 20; Lisa Escárcega, Chief Accountability & Research Officer, Aurora Public Schools

## **#02 – Low Cost Causal Program Evaluation**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 15 & 16

Description: This session will provide strategies for education leaders to design and implement low-cost causal program evaluations. This type of evaluation allows leaders to ascertain whether specific programmatic changes cause desired improvements in student outcomes. Results of causal program evaluations allow leaders to make informed decisions about which programs to continue. With appropriate planning, these evaluations can be effectively conducted in-house with minimal technical assistance.

Presenter(s): Kristin Klopfenstein, Executive Director, Education Innovation Institute, University of Northern Colorado; Mike Pickering, Zone Superintendent, POWER Zone, Falcon School District 49; Frieda Parker, Faculty Fellow, Education Innovation Institute, University of Northern Colorado; Jennifer Mathis, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Education Innovation Institute, University of Northern Colorado

## **#03 – A Close Up Look at the 2015 Legislative Session**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 17

Description: With 119 education-related bills that dropped during the 2015 legislative session, there is no shortage of topics for us to debrief with CASE Lobbyist Elisabeth Rosen. In this interactive session, Rosen will provide first-hand knowledge regarding key bills and will walk through a legislative scorecard to help you understand how legislators voted and supported education bills throughout the session.

Presenter(s): Elisabeth Rosen, Lobbyist, CASE; Diane Doney, Chief Financial Officer, Littleton Public Schools

## **#04 – Perfecting Writing with PCR Rubrics**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 6, 7 & 8

Description: This session is designed to share resources to help transition from the old Short Constructed Response (SCR)/Extended Constructed Response (ECR) writing rubrics to the new Prose Constructed Response (PCR) rubrics. This will include rubrics developed for K-12 for every genre which contain embedded Colorado Academic Standards. We have developed a turn-key training presentation which includes explanations of the new PCR rubrics, sample student writings and annotated scoring.

Presenter(s): David Jarboe, Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Harrison School District; Wendy Birhanzel, Officer, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Harrison School District

## **#05 – Grant Funding and Support Opportunities**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 9

Description: The Colorado Department of Education Offices of Competitive Grants & Awards and Improvement Planning will facilitate an interactive session presenting opportunities for upcoming grants offered through CDE. Procedural changes, coordination of resources, and technical assistance will be discussed. Feedback will be gathered from participants to help improve the CDE grants process. Highlights will include: key funding opportunities; opportunities for technical assistance and support; and coordination with improvement planning.

Presenter(s): Anna Young, Grants Specialist, CDE; Christina Larson, Field Support Specialist, Improvement Planning, CDE; Sarah Cohen, Title I Program Specialist, CDE

## **#06 – Hidden Insights! Making the Most of Your Educator Effectiveness Data**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 10

Description: How can districts, principals, and teachers use data from the new evaluation system to inform professional development, improve their evaluation system and gain insight into questions that were previously unanswerable? This session will focus on new tools developed specifically for the Colorado State Model Performance Management System (hosted by RANDA) but that are generalizable to the community at large. We will dig into the available data dashboards, reports and tools that enable educators to meaningfully analyze their systems and plan for continuous improvement. CDE and district representatives will share methods for using this data to find actionable trends and patterns, as well as field specific questions from the audience.

Presenter(s): Sed Keller, Assessment Implementation Specialist, CDE; Joslyn Robich, Online Systems Project Coordinator, CDE

## **#07 – Comprehensive and Sustainable Family-School-Community Partnership Structures**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 11

Description: Strong leadership is essential for successful comprehensive and sustainable partnership structures. Drawing from research and evidence from successful district leaders, learn what your district and school administrators can do to improve the school climate, support distributed leadership, encourage teachers to engage families, and help develop strong partnership structures. Examples of strong leadership from across Colorado and nationally will be shared.

Presenter(s): Darcy Hutchins, Dir. of Family Partnerships, CDE; Stephanie Bivins, First Grade Teacher & Family Liaison, De Beque School District

## **#08 – Drive the Data**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 12

Description: In this session, we will demonstrate how to create and promote a systematic approach to student success by utilizing in-house data. First, we will provide an overview of our use of data at both a district and school level. Next, the audience will have time to reflect and generate scenarios to be analyzed with data gathered at the school level. Finally, we will roll up our sleeves and manipulate a data set.

Presenter(s): Sarah DiGiacomo, Assistant Principal, Fairview High School, Boulder Valley School District; Andrew Tucker, Director of Student Support, Boulder Valley School District

## **#09 – Visionary Thinking: Make Graduation Requirements Relevant**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Base Nine Lounge

Description: Visionary district outcomes truly begin with our learners and keep the end in mind: successful, productive citizens and lifelong learners. Join our collaborative discussion to reflect on how we are meeting or exceeding our graduates' expectations. We'll explore the issues for success in a changing world, going above and beyond, and connectedness through the lens of school programming to meet graduation requirements.

Presenter(s): Kim McMonagle, Director of Educational Technology, Poudre School District; Jinger Haberer, Assistant Superintendent, Poudre School District; Kathy MacKay, Principal, Poudre School District

## **#10 – POP Culture: Using Peer Observation to Transform Achievement**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop II

Description: Learn how the use of a formal peer observation process (POP) has transformed Sheridan School District. Fort Logan Northgate, formerly Sheridan Middle School (SMS), implemented the Peer Observation Program two years ago. At the time, SMS was entering year two of turnaround status. Since the program was initiated, scores have skyrocketed. After POP's first year, the school went from low Improvement status on the School Performance Framework to Performance status. The climate and culture of the school also improved dramatically. Numerous visitors, many from CDE, commented on the improved level of instruction as witnessed with the growing test scores. The Fort Logan Northgate 6th-8th grade cohort is finishing up its second year, with plans for including the newly added 3rd-5th grade teachers as well.

Presenter(s): Ian Wells, Principal, Sheridan School District; Michael Lamond, Teacher, Sheridan School District; Cathy Beck, Principal, Summit County School District; Amy Kolquist, Assistant Principal, Sheridan School District

## **#11 – Closing the Discipline Gap: What Will it Take?**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop III

Description: Disproportionate representation in discipline practices (race/ethnicity and students with disabilities) is one of the most significant problems in education today (Gregory, Skiba, & Noguera, 2010; U.S. Government Accountability Office, 2013). This session will explore ways to address the race/ethnicity disproportionality of students who are disciplined by suspensions, expulsion, and referrals to law enforcement. This session will introduce the Supportive School Discipline initiative that is intended, in part, to reduce the number of students who end up in the juvenile justice system

because of school-based incidents. Discussed will be the data analysis of disproportionate disciplinary actions for the 2013-14 school year, including by school setting (metro, urban/suburban, outlying city, outlying town, and rural) and referrals to law enforcement. Within this session, a five-point multi-component approach to reduce disproportionate discipline practices will be shared and discussed. The components to be addressed are: 1) use effective instruction to reduce the achievement gap; 2) build upon a foundation of positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS); 3) collect, use, and report disaggregated student discipline data; 4) develop policies with accountability for disciplinary equity; and, 5) teach neutralizing routines for vulnerable decision points. This session will support educators in providing safe, effective and positive learning environments for students, thereby improving their overall learning and academic achievement.

Presenter(s): Jessica Daily, MTSS Systems Support Coordinator, CDE; Janelle Krueger, EARSS Program Manager and Colorado Team Member for the Supportive School Discipline initiative, CDE; Juliana Rosa, EARSS Program Research and Evaluation Specialist, CDE; Dan Melendrez, Assistant Principal, Mountain View High School, Thompson School District

## **#12 – Navigating Change**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Imperial Ballroom

Description: This interactive session will be a follow up of the preconference session, “Leadership for the Future”. Participants will explore the Colorado Education Initiative’s Navigating Change tool and how it can apply to maximizing the power of conversation by meeting people where they are in the change process. As a result of the state’s evaluation system, assessments, and standards, people engage and experience the change process in different ways and at different times. This session will enable educators to gain an understanding of Navigating Change, equip them with the ability to identify a current change process they are engaged in and will allow them to actively engage in peer-driven sharing and problem solving related to leading the change processes.

Presenter(s): Mike Gradoz, Director, Professional Learning, The Colorado Education Initiative; Leslie Burkholder, Director, Professional Learning, The Colorado Education Initiative

### **#13 – A Systems Thinking Approach to Reforming a High School's Culture of Achievement**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine A

Description: In 2010, Harrison School District Two embarked on a journey to implement the Effectiveness and Results (E&R) plan that focused on retaining the most effective teachers. Five years later, Harrison High School's (HHS) leadership team and faculty have maintained the integrity and purpose of E&R. This session will highlight the Systems Thinking model that HHS integrated into the school's culture, ultimately contributing to significant increases in student growth and achievement, both academically and socio-emotionally.

Presenter(s): Elizabeth Domangue, Assistant Principal, Harrison High School, Harrison School District; Cheri Martinez, Principal, Harrison High School, Harrison School District; Melinda Simons, Assistant Principal, Harrison High School, Harrison School District; Elizabeth Leasure, Assistant Principal, Harrison High School, Harrison School District



## **#14 – Strategic Planning in a Rural District**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine B

Description: The process of strategic planning can be overwhelming, especially in a small rural district where resources can be more limited. This session will use an interactive and engaging format to uncover the basics of strategic planning. The frameworks of planning will be presented, and how to consolidate resources for efficiency in planning will be addressed.

Presenter(s): Denille LePlatt, Superintendent, Primero School District; Heidi Dasko, Principal, Primero School District

## **#15 – Lucky Seven: A Latino Family Success Story**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine C

Description: In this day of rising college tuition, reduced financial aid, and a lack of employment opportunities, it is often difficult for individuals, especially minorities, to finish college. But there are exceptions. This is a family story of Hispanic/Latino educational success, in which all seven Hispanic/Latino siblings earned college degrees. And it's a multi-generational success story, because the father of these seven siblings had also earned a college degree.

Presenter(s): Tony Romero, Adams State University; Edward Crowther, Chair, Education, Adams State University

## **#16 – What's New in Higher Education**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert A

Description: Representatives from divisions within the Department of Higher Education, including College In Colorado, Data and Research, the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative, and Student Success and Academic Affairs, will bring information about new policies and resources available for students of all ages. Examples of resources include: admissions calculator; Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) enhancements; resources for those looking to get into the health care and energy fields; information and resources for ex-offenders and their families; "District at a Glance"; and, the "EdPays" website.

Presenter(s): Dawn Taylor Owens, Executive Director, College in Colorado

## **#17 – Steamboat 911: Solving phone, intercom, paging, bell, 911, and lockdown challenges**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert B

Description: This session will focus on a communication, using a single vendor and product. Seven years ago, Steamboat started using the phone instead of traditional intercom, and along the way, it made some modifications to improve audio. The district saved over \$300,000 given new school costs, and additions on other facilities that needed intercom and paging. Today is phase II, with the need for better audio, lockdown (both auditory and visual), notification and automatic closure of doors. Steamboat is installing media phones and working with its vendor on modifications to better accommodate needs. This session is intended for those needing new or better intercom and paging, along with enhancement for lockdown and 911 scenarios. It will show how savings were realized and value added.

Presenter(s): Tim Miles, Technology Director, Steamboat Springs School District; Dan Ward, Sales Engineer, CenturyLink

### **#18 – School Transformation through the Arts**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Lupine

Description: How can arts integration impact a school community? Elementary school principals will demonstrate how partnership with Think 360 Arts for Learning, a Colorado-based non-profit organization, supports arts integration through professional development and student experiences. They will discuss how the arts supports 21st century learning skills, and thus shapes their schools' cultures, improves achievement and creates a more engaged community of students, teachers and parents. The building principal will discuss the authentic intersection of arts integration within the classic IB model of pedagogy. Presenters will also share new funding opportunities for schools in 2015: Colorado Arts Partnership Grants.

Presenter(s): Michelle Shedro, Education Director, Think 360 Arts for Learning; Cindy Fesgen, Principal, The Da Vinci Academy, Academy School District; Jonathan Johnson, Principal, Breckenridge Elementary School, Summit School District; Caitlin Lindquist, Program Director, Think 360 Arts for Learning

### **#19 – Innovative ICAP: Digital Badges to Credential Skills and Map Learning Plans**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Paintbrush

Description: Aurora Public Schools (APS) is committed to ensuring that every student has an individualized learning plan, the skills to succeed after graduation and credentials to share their skills. Learn how APS is applying this vision to innovating our approach to Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) implementation, in part with a Digital Badge System to credential Pre-

schoolers through 12th graders in the 21st Century Skills valued by industry and embedded in all content areas' state standards.

Presenter(s): Noah Geisel, Digital Badge Consultant, Aurora Public Schools; Charles Dukes, Director, Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness, Aurora Public Schools; Kevin Riebau, Director, Educational Technology, Aurora Public Schools

## **#20 – Tips for Recruiting when on a Tight Budget**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 14

Description: In this session we will discuss how to overcome the challenge of recruiting teachers when there is little to no budget to support this critical effort. In addition, the best practices of creating partnerships with colleges/universities and making connections with in-state and out-of-state resources will be addressed. If you are looking for ideas to help your recruitment efforts, this session will deliver some practical tools that will deliver.

Presenter(s): Amy Spruce, Certified Recruitment and Retention Administrator, Adams 12 Five Star Schools; Colleen O'Neil, Executive Director, OPSEL, CDE; Robert Mitchell, Academic Policy Officer, CDHE; Curt Cotter, Admissions Management Specialist, Grand Canyon University; Ali Shore, Licensed Employment Manager, Poudre School District

## **#21 – CO Suicide Prevention Commission: Supporting School Leaders**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 15 & 16

Description: This session will focus on getting to know the members and resources available from the Colorado Suicide Prevention Commission. The Suicide Prevention Commission serves as the interface between the public and private sectors in establishing statewide suicide prevention priorities that

are data-driven and evidence-based. By focusing efforts on current resources and expanding the network of partnerships across the state, the Commission boosts the efforts of the Colorado Office of Suicide Prevention and makes annual reports to the governor. Commission members will review best practices in school suicide intervention and prevention, and how these strategies align with the development of healthy school cultures.

Presenter(s): Kevin Braney, Commission Member, Colorado Office of Suicide Prevention

## **#22 – Bridging Postsecondary Readiness and Postsecondary Completion**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 6, 7 & 8

Description: Learn what a small urban district is doing to create systems that support college and career readiness for all students. This session will highlight the partnerships created through the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative to support Englewood Schools. Topics will include: exposure to research-based college readiness systems; tools and strategies to mitigate "summer melt"; and, a college and career readiness needs analysis tool to evaluate systems currently in place.

Presenter(s): Diana Zakhem, Director of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness, Englewood Schools; Jon Fore, Principal, Englewood High School, Englewood Public Schools; Gordon Mosher, Western Division Program Manager, AVID Center; Steve Dobo, Chief Executive Officer, Zero Dropouts; Chad Cookinham, Director of College and Career Readiness, Generation Schools Network

## **#23 – Survival Guide for New Principals and Assistant Principals**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 9

Description: The first years as a building administrator can be difficult; the learning curve is sharp and sometimes unforgiving. In order to fulfill your responsibilities as an instructional leader, you must first have a well-managed school environment. In this session we will discuss: discipline; student attendance; suspension; expulsion; manifestation; hearings; conferencing with parents; administrator on duty; management by walking around; student searches; and, communication with parents.

Presenter(s): Steven Marantino, Superintendent, Sargent School District

## **#24 – Strategies that Engage and Support Underrepresented Populations in STEM**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 10

Description: Get practical steps and tools for selecting and advancing science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education programs in your community. This session will showcase the Colorado Education Initiative's (CEI) career pathway work and the recently-launched Colorado STEMworks database—a robust collection of effective programs in Colorado schools and other places such as museums and libraries where learners pick up ideas and experiences. Industry and education partners will highlight effective public-private partnerships. Walk away with ideas, tips, and tools for advancing STEM programs and partnerships to reach underrepresented populations in STEM education and STEM fields.

Presenter(s): Angela Baber, Director, Next Generation Learning- STEM, The Colorado Education Initiative; Wendy Nkomo, Executive Director, Colorado Technology Foundation; Greg Hessee, Director, Colorado Legacy Schools, The Colorado Education Initiative

## **#25 – High Poverty Success: When the Ordinary Leads to the Extraordinary**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 11

Description: Doing the ordinary things extraordinarily well can lead to high student achievement at high poverty schools. Bristol Elementary School has followed a simple, three-system, proven approach that includes Attitude, Alignment and Accountability resulting in high academic growth as measured on Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS), NWEA MAPS and the School Performance Framework. Hear how these highly replicable systems have resulted in greater student achievement and high staff satisfaction. Eliminate poverty's association with low performance now!

Presenter(s): Manuel Ramsey, Principal, Colorado Springs School District 11; Sandy Weitz, Literacy Data Assistant, Colorado Springs School District 11; Jill Markworth, Kindergarten Teacher, Colorado Springs School District 11; Janet Oliver, Social Worker, Colorado Springs School District 11; Rhonda Freeman, Second Grade Teacher, Colorado Springs School District 11

## **#26 – MTSS Applications**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 12

Description: Utilizing the foundations of Implementation Science and the Components of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), resources such as self-audits, implementation inventories, planning tools, and communication plans will be shared. A Colorado Special Education Director will describe local experiences setting up and supporting sustainability of MTSS within her district. One Essential Component of MTSS will be investigated. With the passing of HB 14-1102, which provides for universal screening of all students for identification and appropriate programming, we will explore how the data gleaned from this process can be used in the MTSS process for identification of giftedness as well as other programming needs using the CogAT 7

assessment tool. Infrastructure needed for implementation will be addressed.

Presenter(s): Kim Watchorn, MTSS Coordinator, CDE; Blanche Kapushion, Director of Gifted and Talented Programming, Jefferson County Public Schools; Mary Anne Fleury, Special Education Director, Lewis Palmer School District; Cindy Gifford, GT Resource Teacher, Jefferson County Schools; Tonia Heffley, GT Resource Teacher, Jefferson County Schools

### **#27 – Jump Start: An intervention for the Middle/High Transition Year**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Base Nine Lounge

Description: Jump Start Algebra 1 and Jump Start 9th Grade English Language Arts are data-driven interventions aimed at supporting below grade level learners in the middle to high school transition year. In this session, you'll learn about our "Peer Tutoring" elective, double-blocked ELA/Math schedule, and progress monitoring tools. In addition, we'll discuss our plan for meeting the needs of our ELL population, and how to thoughtfully plan your human resources around this critical transition year.

Presenter(s): Rick Elertson, Principal, Garfield RE-2; Jeremy Voytko, Assistant Principal, Gafield School District RE-2; Jackie Davis, Academic Coach, Garfield School District, RE-2

### **#28 – The Kids are Alright; Student Voices in the Ed Tech World**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop II

Description: Join students from various front-range districts as they share their perspectives on educational technology and all that goes with it. We'll have candid discussions about social media, assessments, equity, filter policies and devices. We will take questions from the audience throughout the session and encourage active dialog.



Presenter(s): Michael Porter, Director of Technology, Littleton Public Schools; Kelly Sain, Director of Education Technology, Boulder Valley School District; Kim McMonagle, Director of Instructional Technology, Poudre School District

### **#29 – Demystifying the Political Process**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop III

Description: The political process in which education policy decisions are made is fast-paced and complex. More than ever, it is critical that education practitioners have a seat at the table for these influential conversations and weigh in on the practical impact of legislation on students and the education system. In this breakout, we will explain how the political and legislative process works and share the different ways that school leaders can get involved and make their voice heard. Participants will gain a clearer sense of the complicated and dynamic nature of advocacy work, and walk away from the breakout with knowledge about to get involved and make a difference.

Presenter(s): Melissa Gibson, Director of Membership and Strategic Partners, CASE; Elisabeth Rosen, Lobbyist, CASE; Bruce Caughey, Executive Director, CASE

### **#30 – Leadership: It Belongs to All of Us**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Imperial Ballroom

Description: Teacher leadership has become a major focus for the US Department of Education and school districts across the nation. This session will examine what the research tells us about distributed leadership, what school districts need in the implementation of teacher leadership, and the most effective strategies for implementing teacher leadership in Colorado school districts. School administrators will leave this session having given their input into teacher training and with potential plans for expanding teacher leadership in their school districts.

Presenter(s): Cynthia Stevenson, Senior Consultant, PEBC; Joyce Joyce, Senior Director, PEBC; Moker Klaus-Quinlan, Senior Director, PEBC; Dana Sorenson, Senior Director, PEBC

### **#31 – Closing Achievement Gaps in Rural Systems**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine B

Description: Closing achievement gaps with students of poverty is a common concern amongst our rural school systems. This session will provide an opportunity for instructional leaders within Colorado's rural schools and districts to learn about research-based district criteria and strategies proven to promote and support success in closing achievement gaps. The Rural Education Council in collaboration with REL Central reviewed and developed specific research based criteria for rural districts to utilize in order to ensure high levels of student achievement for all students. Superintendents from two rural Colorado school districts successful in closing the achievement gaps with students of poverty will share their best practices and systems utilized to achieve this success.

Presenter(s): Tina Goar, Rural Support Manager, CDE; Shelley Billig, Vice-President, RMC Research Corporation; Stephany Brown, Senior Research Associate, RMC Research Association; Bret Miles, Former Superintendent/ Executive Director, Holyoke School District/Northeast BOCES; Frank Reeves, Superintendent, Genoa-Hugo School District

### **#32 – Creating a Sample Process for Designing Student Learning Outcomes - - CANCELLED**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine C

### **#33 – Developing Global Thinkers in Students and Staff: A Three-Dimensional Approach**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert A

Description: Participants will experience firsthand the brain science behind motivational drivers in all of us. This session will explore how we prefer to think and behave and how to use that information to build critical thinking skills, collaboration and communication in the classroom and educational culture.

Presenter(s): Marie Unger, VP of Education, Emergenetics, International; Brien Hodges, K-12 Executive Director of Schools, Colorado Springs School District 11; Clay Abla, Director of Secondary Education, Littleton Public Schools

### **#34 – Implementation of "7 Best Practices" for Increased Student Achievement**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert B

Description: Educational research consistently identifies seven best practices that highly impact student achievement. Moffat County School District has embarked on a multi-year process for aligning all practices and curriculum PK-12, and the "7 Best Practices" is where we began this journey. Steeped in research, the "7 Best Practices" include: unwrapping standards; lesson design; learning objectives/targets; classroom assessment; exemplars; assessment matrices/standards based reporting; and, feedback. These are powerful instructional strategies to increase student achievement and to align any system, big or small. The standards-based "7 Best Practices" work because they are simple and they are simple because they work. Come discover the lessons learned from the the Moffat County Administrative Team as we share our journey towards a unified school district. We are a

school district, not a district of schools. And, we believe in having a "learn all you can, share all you know" attitude!

Presenter(s): Amy Ward, Director of Curriculum and Assessments, Moffat County Schools; Amber Clark, Principal, Moffat County Schools; David Grabowski, Principal, Moffat County Schools; Kelly McCormick, Principal, Moffat County RE 1

### **#35 – District Experiences Implementing Student Learning Objectives for Educator Evaluation**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine C

Description: How can educators' individual contributions to student learning growth be measured for evaluation? Student Learning Objectives is one option. Come to this session to interact with three districts—Adams 14, Aurora, and Littleton—in the process of implementing this approach. District and school leaders, and folks providing on-site support, will share their perspectives on what is working, what is challenging and next steps. Take away ideas about how to use this strategy in your district.

Presenter(s): Julie Oxenford O'Brian, Director, University of Colorado-Denver; Erin Brophy, Manager of Employee Effectiveness, Adams 14 School District; Amber Rogers, Student Learning Assessment Specialist, Littleton Public Schools; Marcellus Lewis, Educator Effectiveness Specialist, Aurora Public Schools; Heather MacGillivray, Director of Assessment and Research, Jefferson County Public Schools; Patti Turner, Director of Learning Services, Littleton Public Schools

## **#36 – Ensuring Systemic Support for Gifted English Learners**

Day: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Paintbrush

Description: It is critical to provide student-focused programming to meet the unique needs of all learners. In this interactive session, participants will explore research-based frameworks for identifying Gifted English Learners, including their unique educational and socio-cultural needs. Participants will also evaluate practical guidelines for designing learning opportunities, systems, and structures to ensure Gifted English Learners' achievement and growth. The session will also include resources to support Educator Effectiveness in addressing the unique needs of Gifted English Learners.

Presenter(s): Natasha Straayer, Coordinator for Gifted Education, Douglas County School District; Remy Rummel, Coordinator, English Language Development, Douglas County School District; Robin Carey, Director, Personalized Learning, Douglas County School District

## **#37 – How Do You Know? Using Non-Assessment Data for UIP During the State Assessment Transition**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 14

Description: During this time of statewide assessment transition, how can schools and districts look at non-assessment data to know that their improvement efforts are making a difference? This session will look at a variety of tools and resources that can be used in the UIP processes to target needs and know that efforts are being effective. Specifically, the tools and resources to strengthen root cause analysis, action plans and implementation benchmarks will be provided. An approach to this work will be highlighted by Garfield School District.

Presenter(s): Erin Loften, PD Coordinator, Improvement Planning, CDE; Julie Knowles, Director of Assessment and Special Projects, Garfield School District Re 2; Dan Jorgensen, Accountability & Research Manager, CDE

### **#38 – Educator Preparation and Licensing Rule Alignment Project Update**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 15 & 16

Description: Through this session the Office of Professional Services and Educator Licensing will provide CASE members with an overall update of the rule alignment project and the next steps. This session will be a collaborative session in which information about the project, timeline and next steps are presented. It will also be a collaborative session seeking feedback on educator pipeline and licensing needs from the field.

Presenter(s): Colleen O'Neil, Executive Director, OPSEL, CDE; Karen Lowenstein-Martinez, Senior Consultant, Educator Preparation, CDE; Jenn Weber, Special Projects, CDE

### **#39 – Navigating Key Legal Issues Facing Schools and Districts**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 17

Description: Increasingly, school administrators face complex and potentially controversial issues that pose legal implications for schools and districts. From governmental immunity for school districts and school safety, to student data privacy and social media use, it's critical that you are well-versed in the hottest legal issues and know best how to navigate them. CASE has assembled a panel of expert attorneys who will share their insights on these and other topics, and you'll walk away with practical strategies that you can immediately put to use.

Presenter(s): Melissa Gibson, Director of Membership and Strategic Partners, CASE; Patricia Richardson, Director for Legal Services, Academy 20 School

District; Michelle Murphy, Legal and Advocacy Counsel, Colorado Association of School Boards; David Olson, General Counsel, Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool; Stu Stuller, Attorney, Caplan and Earnest LLC

#### **#40 – Achieving Community Excellence—Relationships, Alignment, Engagement**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 6, 7 & 8

Description: This session is designed to demonstrate and share the power of aligned, principled relationships between Greeley-Evans School District 6 and the City of Greeley, city government, in achieving community excellence. Content will include sharing of the key elements necessary to build a shared vision, alignment, and collaborative outcomes for the benefit of the entire Greeley community. The session will include a panel discussion with representatives of the school district and city government.

Presenter(s): Bob Billings, Coordinator of School Leadership, Greeley-Evans School District; Roy Otto, City Manager, City of Greeley; Bob Parry, Consultant to the City Manager, City of Greeley; Kathi VanSoest, Executive Director, Student Support Services, Greeley School District

#### **#41 – Ensuring Guaranteed Viable Instruction for All**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 9

Description: This session will lay out the effective best practices needed to conduct and implement a systematic instructional materials adoption: community involvement; communication; facilitation; evaluation; and, logistical planning. With the advent of the Colorado Academic Standards and new assessments, many districts are looking for new instructional materials that are aligned to the content and intent of the new standards, integrating process standards, technology and encouraging best instructional practices. Participants will see the "9 Steps to Happy Adoptions", learn about the

success of this process in the Boulder Valley School District and engage in professional dialogue around planning for their own upcoming adoptions. Participants will leave with guidance and next steps for planning and facilitating their district's next instructional materials adoption.

Presenter(s): Jackie Weber, Director of Mathematics, Computer Science and Instructional Materials Adoptions, Boulder Valley School District

### **#42 – READING Higher: Planning for the READ Act in Middle School**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 10

Description: Is your middle school ready for the READ Act? This session shares Summit School District's process for refining the elementary READ process and implementing the READ Act at the middle school level. Perspectives from an elementary principal, middle school literacy resource teacher, and central office READ specialist will be shared; then participants will be guided through a workshop to develop a plan for implementing the READ Act at the secondary level in their own districts.

Presenter(s): Ben Lausten, District Curriculum Specialist, Summit School District; Kerry Buhler, Principal, Summit School District; Robyn Cornwell, Literacy Resource Teacher, Summit School District

### **#43 – Strategies for Supporting Your District Before, During, & After a Critical Event**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 11

Description: When am I the Incident Commander (IC)? When am I the Public Information Officer (PIO)? When do I hold a support position? Where is my post during a crisis? How can I best support the response and recovery processes in my district?



Join us for this interactive workshop where you will have the opportunity to delineate your roles and responsibilities before, during, and after a critical event; and identify how to best support the various stakeholders in your district.

Presenter(s): Anna Gisetti, School Outreach Consultant, Colorado School Safety Resource Center; Christine Harms, Executive Director, Colorado School Safety Resource Center

#### **#44 – Powerful Coaching for Successful Leadership: An Integrative Approach**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 12

Description: This session presents a leadership coaching approach based on the idea that the purpose of coaching is for the coachees (district or school level leaders) and coaches to generate creative, purposeful action toward their personal, team, and organizational goals. The approach includes a four-part process which guides both coach and coachee in establishing trust, goal setting and action planning, taking action, and evaluating goal attainment. The following configurations will be discussed: executive coaching for district leaders; coaching for principal supervisors (who in turn coach principals); and, direct contextual coaching for selected principals/assistant principals.

Presenter(s): Matt Seebaum, Consultant, McREL; Grace Gutierrez, Consultant, McREL

#### **#45 – Colorado School Finance Update**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop II

Description: This session will provide a timely discussion on the 2015 School Finance Act approved by the Legislature and what it means for school districts. Implications for funding and any new requirements will be shared, along with updates on potential policy changes that may be on the horizon.

Critical information to help planning for the next school year will be addressed, including: impacts to district funding; new financial requirements for 2015-2016; and, other financial related issues occurring at the district level.

Presenter(s): Leanne Emm, Associate Commissioner, CDE

### **#46 – Releasing Untapped Potential: What Works for Equity Leadership**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop III

Description: A panel of school leaders will discuss what they actually do to: build an intentional, inclusive and collaborative culture with a growth rather than deficit mindset; ensure balance in their schools for educating the whole child; create environments for equity pedagogy and processes to thrive; and, foster efficacy, empowerment and a culture of continuous improvement. Each panelist will give examples, including a bulleted list of takeaways.

Presenter(s): Ellen Miller-Brown, Assistant Clinical Professor, University of Denver; Doris Candelarie, Assistant Clinical Professor, University of Denver; Tracy Stegall, Principal, Aspen Creek, Boulder Valley School District; Jesus Rodriguez, Principal, TreVista Elementary, Denver Public Schools

### **#47 – Data Matters: How High-Impact Leaders Measure What They Treasure**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Imperial Ballroom

Description: If every student graduating college and career ready is important to you, then you need to track your school's practices to see if collectively you are truly making the impact you desire. Learn how to quantify qualitative data on school practices that determine the results you achieve. Several data tools will be shared.

Presenter(s): Pam Salazar, Director, Quality Leaders, Quality Schools

## **#48 – Student Data Privacy: Federal and State Updates and a Data Privacy Tool**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine A

Description: Is student data privacy a concern for the parents of your students? Are your district's teachers and principals prepared to respond to data privacy concerns? This session will update you on both federal and state student data privacy legislation while providing you with pragmatic tools developed at the national level for K12 education. The session will be interactive to get your input and to ensure we answer your questions. We will be using a K12 teacher/student discussion and survey tool called Kahoot!

Presenter(s): Andrew Moore, Chief Information Officer, Boulder Valley School District; Shelley Kooser, Chief Information Officer, Academy 20; Bob Moore, Project Director - Protecting Privacy in Connected Learning leadership, RJM Strategies

## **#49 – Educator Evaluation: Moving Beyond Compliance**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine C

Description: CDE's Educator Effectiveness Liaison Network has been learning about how to support evaluators in implementing educator evaluation beyond simple compliance with state legislation. The focus of the group has been on supporting and coaching principals on their observation skills and improving high quality feedback to teachers. Learn more about what they have learned working side-by-side with principals at their schools and how they are engaged in moving their district practices beyond compliance to a meaningful practice for improving teacher effectiveness.

Presenter(s): Mary Bivens, Evaluation Systems Consultant, CDE; Sue Gill, Consultant, Educator Effectiveness, CDE; Ann Pearce, Consultant, Educator Effectiveness, Santa Fe Trail BOCES; Tina Cassens, Director of Educator Effectiveness, Woodland Park School District; Rachel Paul, Principal, Edison School District; Lynn Kintz, Educator Effectiveness Consultant, Summit County School District

### **#50 – Building a Better Data Tool: Improving the Interactive Data Inquiry Process**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert A

Description: This session will showcase the reports and visualizations that Aurora Public Schools and Cherry Creek School District have built using Tableau Software to improve the data inquiry process and inform district decision-making. The two districts will share the challenges and rewards of implementing innovative data tools into their systems.

Presenter(s): Lisa Escárcega, Chief Accountability and Research Officer, Aurora Public Schools; Christina Ethier, Data Analyst, Aurora Public Schools; Rachel Robinson, Data Analyst, Aurora Public Schools; Steve Bohlender, Executive Vice President, CIC, INC.; Norman Alerta, Director, Assessment and Evaluation, Cherry Creek School District; Stephanie Henry, Senior Data Analyst, Cherry Creek Schools

### **#51 – Could a Food Purchase Cooperative Assist Your District?**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert B

Description: This session will present the newly formed Colorado BOCES Food Purchase Cooperative. The cooperative is a joint effort of the Colorado BOCES Association, the Colorado Association of School Boards, and the NEW BOCES (Wyoming). Information will be shared about opportunities available to districts by joining the cooperative, which include excellent service, weekly

delivery and great pricing. Additionally, technical support and training for local school district food service personnel is available, ensuring that members joining the cooperative receive practical, time-saving benefits.

Presenter(s): Dale McCall, Executive Director, Colorado BOCES Association; Tammie Rempe, Director, Child Nutrition Purchasing Cooperative, Colorado BOCES Association; John Tillman, Cooperative Purchasing Director, Colorado BOCES Association

### **#52 – Who Put the F in IEPs?**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Lupine

Description: One of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act's foundational principles is the right of parents to participate in educational decision making regarding their child with a disability. This implies a picture of the family and school Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) teams working collaboratively in the best interest of the child. Sadly, this scenario is not always the case. A promising approach to curtail potential disputes is the use of "F"acilitated IEP meetings. The best solution for resolving conflict is to build cohesive teams.

Presenter(s): Annette Lambeth, Executive Director of Student Support Services, Adams 12 Five Star Schools; Candace Hawkins, Dispute Resolution and Policy Specialist, CDE; Lisa Weiss, Dispute Resolution and Policy Specialist, CDE

### **#53 – How Does Monitoring of Student Progress Impact Reading Achievement and Growth?**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Room: DoubleTree: Paintbrush

Description: Research has shown that progress monitoring has a positive impact on improving student outcomes. Using data from the Early Literacy Assessment Tool (ELAT) project, this session will illustrate how progress

monitoring fidelity impacts both student achievement and growth in reading. Schools involved in the ELAT project that had the highest rates of progress monitoring fidelity showed above average or well above average progress when compared to their peers. This session will take an in-depth look at the project data and will include a facilitated discussion with school and district representatives regarding their specific progress monitoring implementation linked to instructional practices in K-3 literacy.

Presenter(s): Alisa Dorman, Executive Director, Office of Literacy, CDE; Donna Bright, Principal Consultant, Colorado Department of Education; Sarah Vance, Principal, Haskin Elementary School, Center School District; Christy Bloomquist, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Durango School District; Jennifer Jackson, Principal, Cole Arts and Science Academy, Denver Public Schools

#### **#54 – Are you Future Ready?**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 14

Description: Over 2000 superintendents across the country have taken the Future Ready District Pledge started by the U.S. Department of Education and is supported by the Alliance 4 Education, AASA, CoSN, NAESP and NASSP and the LEAD Commission. Come learn from a panel of districts that have taken the pledge and are working components like Leadership, Learning, Access, Budget, Resources Professional Development and the Community as they transition their districts to personalized digital learning.

Presenter(s): Denise Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer, e-Luminosity

## **#55 – Enabling Conditions for Full-school Redesign: Insights and Lessons Learned**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 15 & 16

Description: Six Colorado school districts are partnering with The Colorado Education Initiative (CEI) on two large school redesigns—the TIME Collaborative and Breakthrough Schools Colorado—to personalize learning for students and ensure their success well beyond high school graduation. Now three years in, hear how school and district leaders navigated the opportunities and challenges that come with large-scale transformation including moving from design to implementation; managing shifting visions; and, securing technical assistance, partners, and funding. How might this work to inform innovation in your community? Explore insights, lessons learned, and these questions: How do you empower authentic teacher, student, and parent engagement as part of rigorous design and implementation efforts? What are the implications on leadership roles—from instructional practice to change management? What conditions at the school or district level enable or constrain this work? How is data used, and what cultures and systems are in place to support this?

Presenter(s): Samantha Olson, Director, Next Generation Learning, The Colorado Education Initiative; Tara Jahn, Manager, Next Generation Learning-TIME Collaborative, The Colorado Education Initiative; Scott Fuller, Next Generation Learning Coordinator, Colorado Springs School District 11; Sandra Craig, Principal, Pennington Elementary School, Jefferson County Public Schools

## **#56 – Transforming the Educational Environment through Innovation and 21st Century Skills**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 17

Description: In 2014, Boulder Valley School District passed a \$576.5M bond issue, the largest in state history, to advance the district's vision, mission and goals. The bond issue will allow BVSD to redesign educational facilities and transform learning spaces to support the teaching and learning of 21st century skills. In this session, district leadership will share the role educational innovation and strategic planning played in laying the groundwork for the bond campaign and facility planning.

Presenter(s): Bruce Messinger, Superintendent, Boulder Valley School District; Don Orr, Chief Facilities Officer, Boulder Valley School District; Leslie Stafford, Chief Operating Officer, Boulder Valley School District; Kiffany Lychock, Director of Educational Innovation, Boulder Valley School District; Briggs Gamblin, Director of Communication and Governmental Relations, Boulder Valley School District

## **#57 – Short Cycle PDSAs for Systemic Improvement and Innovation**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peaks 6, 7 & 8

Description: Have you ever worried about whether the big school-wide change that you are about to initiate may not ultimately work to improve systems or outcomes? Come find out how McREL has developed the use of iterative small-scale, short-duration Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles (PDSAs) for testing changes and bringing them to scale. Learn how you, as a school/district leader, can use short-cycle processes for quick wins and game changers in a culture of continuous improvement and innovation.

Presenter(s): Jim Eck, Consultant; Matt Seebaum, Consultant, McREL International



## **#58 – Beyond My Four Walls: Building a Social Science Literacy District-Wide System**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 9

Description: How can you contribute to every student's learning from a highly effective history teacher K-12? Over the last two years the UC Berkeley History-Social Science Project has partnered with history teachers in the Colorado Springs District 11 school system to support students in reading, thinking, talking and writing like historians by analyzing primary and secondary sources. This collaboration has led to increased engagement among teachers who are explicitly planning for both historical thinking and literacy as they work to improve student learning. Concurrently, the instructional techniques support the Teaching and Learning cycle while students engage in cognitively demanding tasks, such as document-based questions. Teachers and administrators from partnering schools are excited to model a sample lesson and share how administrative supports have led to the success of this venture.

Presenter(s): Joan Jahelka, Social Studies Teacher and AVID Facilitator, Colorado Springs School District 11; Carlos Perez, Principal, Wilson Elementary, Colorado Springs School District 11

## **#59 – Building Community Teams – A Powerful Advocacy Tool**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 10

Description: How can school districts convey the urgent need to restore education funding to legislators who make critical policy decisions on education funding? In this session, find out how the grassroots—parents, teachers, administrators, school board members, and business leaders—can work together to inform state legislators and make a difference at the ballot box, paving the way for better state funding for schools. Gain tools to engage

your community in advocating for schools through a multipronged approach: in-depth legislator school tours; bringing people to the capitol to engage with state legislators; online advocacy; and, presentations informing communities about the need to invest in public schools.

Presenter(s): Sue Catterall, Outreach Director, Great Education Colorado; Susan Meek, Director of Strategic Engagement and Communications, CASE; Jason Glass, Superintendent, Eagle County School District

### **#60 – Understanding the DREAMer Experience**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 11

Description: This session is for those interested in the undocumented students' journey through high school and accessing higher education. We will focus on understanding how to emotionally support undocumented students. In addition, we will address what it looks like to create a school culture of empowerment, safety and acceptance. Finally, we will cover next steps for school leaders in supporting your staff in understanding the DREAMer experience.

Presenter(s): Jeanette Rojas, College Advisor, Denver Scholarship Foundation; Leticia Trevino, Lead College Advisor, Denver Scholarship Foundation

### **#61 – Hey, I need an assessment! A Practical Guide to CDE Tools and Resources**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Peak 12

Description: Many educators are eager to build, use and review their own assessments for a variety of uses. This session will review some of the tools created by the Content Collaboratives and used in the field to successfully build, review and trial performance tasks. This is a practical session and will

focus not just on the tools provided, but also on developing a successful plan to use them at the local level based on lessons learned.

Presenter(s): Sed Keller, Assessment Implementation Specialist, CDE; Angela Landrum, Principal Consultant Assessment, CDE

## **#62 – Ed Tech/IT Student Impacting Partnerships - Creating a Culture of Change**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Base Nine Lounge

Description: Do your Ed Tech and IT teams collaborate, support and enable learning in the classroom at the level you would like? Would you like more “Yes” from IT and scalable programs from Ed Tech? Join the Director of Ed Tech and the Chief Information Officer from Boulder Valley School District as they describe their process for transforming Ed Tech from a participating organization to a leading organization. The journey required cultural change in IT and program refocus in Ed Tech. The outcomes may surprise you as they lead this interactive session on the possibilities when teams work together to create next generation learning opportunities for students.

Presenter(s): Andrew Moore, Chief Information Officer, Boulder Valley School District; Kelly Sain, Director Educational Technology, Boulder Valley School District

## **#63 – Roadmap for a Successful Local Election**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop II

Description: This session will provide participants with a solid methodology for passing elections, as well as different financing opportunities in the event an election fails, or the needs do not align with a full-blown election process. From gathering data during the preparation stage to launching and following up after the election, the expert panel will deliver with useful tools and

templates to help you prepare a strong plan to support your schools and students.

Presenter(s): Dan Maas, Chief Operations Officer, Thompson School District; Bill Sutter, Chief Financial Officer, Boulder Valley School District; Diane Doney, Chief Operations Officer, Littleton Public Schools; Glenn Gustafson, Chief Financial Officer, Colorado Springs School District 11; Shae Martinez, Chief Financial Officer, Mapleton School District; Shelley Becker, Chief Financial Officer, Adams 12 Five Star Schools

### **#64 – Counselors and Nurses and Social Workers, OH MY: Meeting the Challenges of Evaluating Specialized Service Professionals**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop III

Description: Participants in this session will gain a deeper understanding of the State Model Evaluation System for Specialized Service Professionals (SSPs). Highlights will include: legislative requirements specific to these groups; questions to consider when evaluating and implementing these systems; selecting meaningful measures of student outcomes; and, insights from pilot districts.

Presenter(s): Katy Anthes, Interim Associate Commissioner, Achievement and Strategy, CDE; Steve Otter, Professional Development Coordinator, San Juan BOCES; Adrea Bogle, Department Chair, San Juan BOCES; Tina Cassens, Director of Educator Effectiveness and Instructional Technology, Woodland Park School District; Lisa Humberd, Executive Director of Special Education, Widefield School District; Jon Paul Burden, Director, Exceptional Student Services, Weld RE-4

## **#65 – Five High Achieving Schools: Common Practices and Strategies**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: Beaver Run: Imperial Ballroom

Description: The Units of Federal Programs Administration and Exceptional Student Services collaborated to conduct a comprehensive study of five high achieving schools to identify common practices and strategies that have contributed to the schools' successes. A summary of study findings will be provided, including how the strategies and practices are implemented to set the stage for an interactive discussion with the school leaders from these high achieving schools. After learning about the commonalities across schools, including but not limited to strategies used for problem-solving, decision-making, developing a strong school climate and culture, and effectively distributing leadership, audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions of the principals to gain a deeper understanding of how they have achieved their level of success.

Presenter(s): Tina Negley, , CDE; Jeff Klein, Title I Program Specialist, CDE; Jennifer Locke, Assistant Principal, Soaring Eagles Elementary School, Harrison School District; Christine Hendricks, Principal, Tavelli Elementary School, Poudre School District; Loren Huwa, Principal, South Lakewood Elementary School, Jefferson County Public Schools; Roberta Ballard, Principal, Canyon Creek Elementary, Cherry Creek School District; Janis Hughes, Principal, Burlington Elementary School, St. Vrain School District

## **#66 – Competency-Based Learning Systems**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine A

Description: In the last year, an increasing number of Colorado school districts have begun to investigate or implement competency-based learning. Last year at CASE's Convention, CDE invited experts from Achieve and Maine and New Hampshire to share their experiences related to the process of

shifting to competency-based learning and its impact on students. In this session, participants will be introduced to some of the work under way in this area, both locally and nationally. In addition, tools will be introduced that can be used to evaluate readiness to make the shift to competency-based learning. Districts interested in competency-based learning will have an opportunity to network and collaborate on the significant planning and development tasks required to transition to a competency-based system.

Presenter(s): Christina Jean, Innovation and Blended Learning Specialist, CDE; Gretchen Morgan, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Education

### **#67 – Facilitation Skills to Talk About Race and Equity While Building Capacity**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine B

Description: This workshop is an action-oriented, skills-based approach to facilitative leadership in guiding challenging conversations with internal and external stakeholders. Participants will be actively engaged in practices and processes to build working agreements and design a purposeful conversation model to talk about the behavioral impacts of bias in our relationships and decision-making processes.

Presenter(s): Bill de la Cruz, Director of Equity and Inclusion, Denver Public Schools

### **#68 – Turn Around to Excellence**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Columbine C

Description: Participants will learn about a strategic plan designed to move a highly impacted elementary school out of Turnaround Status. The major foci include: effective leadership, culturally responsive education and intentional use of resources. The presenters will review past, current and desired states

of the school. The session will unpack; opportunity and access to rigorous instruction and performance based assessment; collaboration of general education and specialist teachers; and concentration on climate and culture of the school.

Presenter(s): Michael Giles, Executive Director of Inclusive Excellence, Cherry Creek School District; Tera Helmon, Executive Director, Elementary Education, Cherry Creek School District

### **#69 – Changing Our System-Wide Program for Students with Emotional Disabilities**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert A

Description: This session will review the recent systemic redesign of the Denver Public Schools (DPS) Center-Based Programs which support students with Significant Emotional Disabilities. Attendees will learn how DPS has improved outcomes, increased attendance, reduced out-of-school suspensions, and strengthened their entire Special Education continuum. We will share DPS's vision and goals for the redesign, challenges faced, and milestones achieved, with supporting data.

Presenter(s): Edward O'Neill, Director, Cenpatico Schools, Denver Public Schools; Josh Drake, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Denver Public Schools; Diann Richardson, Special Education Director, Denver Public Schools; Eric Ryan, Vice President, Cenpatico Schools

## **#70 – Taking Attendance: A Framework to Reduce Chronic Absenteeism**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Mt. Elbert B

Description: Colorado has experienced a decline in average daily attendance and truancy issues are a growing concern, especially for schools with low achievement and high dropout rates. To remedy attendance issues, Colorado is part of a national effort to promote effective strategies designed to increase attendance and student engagement. Participants will examine attendance policies, review attendance data and hear from districts that are reducing absenteeism. Practical tools and materials will be provided.

Presenter(s): Judith Martinez, Director of Dropout Prevention, CDE; Annie Trujillo, Principal, New America School; Kenlyn Newman, Director of Student Engagement Initiatives, Adams 12 Five Star Schools; Connie Salas, Truancy Case Manager, Adams 12 Five Star Schools; Desiree Quintanilla, Assistant Director, Student Engagement Initiatives, Adams 12 Five Star Schools

## **#71 – An Effective Teacher in Every Classroom: Learnings from Three Districts**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Lupine

Description: In today's world of high-stakes evaluations, how do leaders develop educators so there is a highly effective teacher in every classroom? Presenters from Jeffco, Harrison and Colorado Springs District 11, all recipients of US Department of Education Teacher Incentive Fund grants, will share how district and school leadership are developing a culture where teachers take ownership of their evaluation; individualized, job-embedded professional development; and supports and structures that ensure fairness, consistency and validity in a setting that includes state mandates as well as a performance-based compensation system.



Presenter(s): Michael Maffoni, Executive Director of Strategic Compensation, Jefferson County Public Schools; Laurie Eastup, TIF Grant Manager, Harrison School District 2; Phoebe Bailey, TAP Project Director, Colorado Springs School District 11

### **#72 – Inspirational ICAP’s for IEP’s, Graduation and Beyond**

Day: Thursday, July 30

Time: 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Room: DoubleTree: Paintbrush

Description: When every student has an inspirational ICAP, classes, assessment, and planning for the future take on new importance and potential. Join leaders from District 49 who earned CDE’s Award of Excellence for ICAP implementation as they describe the district-wide process that is launching every student toward success. With special emphasis on aligning ICAP’s and IEP’s, session participants will learn how identifying milestones and personalizing pathways can inspire students to achieve the future they deserve.

Presenter(s): Jenny DiVitto, School Psychologist, Falcon School District 49; Mary Perez, , Falcon School District 49; Amber Whetstine, Executive Director, Learning Services, Falcon School District 49

### **#101 – ALEC and Its Efforts to Influence Public Education**

Day: Friday, July 31

Time: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Colorado Ballroom

Description: AASA’s Noelle Ellerson details the organizations efforts to track coordinated momentum across states to move legislation that undermines the nation’s public education. Learn about ALEC, what it means for your schools, and how your professional organizations (state and national) stand ready to help.

Presenter(s): Noelle Ellerson, Associate Executive Director, Policy and Advocacy, AASA

## **#102 – Closing the Opportunity Gap and Supporting Public Schools**

Day: Friday, July 31

Time: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Imperial Ballroom

Description: The achievement gaps in Colorado and throughout the United States are a result of opportunity gaps, created by factors both within and outside schools. Although research consistently shows that outside factors have a much greater impact on opportunity gaps, nonetheless, schools have an important role to play in addressing them. In this session, we discuss opportunity gaps, the National Education Policy Center's Schools of Opportunity recognition project, and the growing movement in Colorado to create networks that support public education.

Presenter(s): Kevin Welner, Director, National Education Policy Center; Kathy Gebhardt, Attorney

## **#103 – Colorado Budget and Fiscal Policy Update**

Day: Friday, July 31

Time: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Room: Beaver Run: Coppertop III

Description: In this session, Director of the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) Henry Sobanet will present the most current information available for the State budget. Responsible for the budget forecasting of the State's revenues and budget planning, Governor John Hickenlooper named Henry Sobanet to return as Director of OSPB in 2011.

The OSPB provides the Governor with the revenue and budget information needed to make public policy decisions.

In addition, the OSPB provides public information. Housed within the Offices of the Governor, OSPB is led by Director Sobanet working with a team that includes a Chief Analyst and a Chief of Economics.

Presenter(s): Henry Sobanet, Director, Office of State Planning and Budget