

2019 *NATIONAL DROPOUT PREVENTION* CONFERENCE



GAINING NEW HEIGHTS

IN DROPOUT PREVENTION

Gaylord Rockies Resort
& Convention Center

DENVER, CO

OCTOBER 5-8

2019

FEATURED **SPEAKERS**



BILL DAGGETT
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR
LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION



FRANK DEANGELIS
FORMER PRINCIPAL,
COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL



LATESHIA WOODLEY
KANSAS CITY (MO)
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



BARUTI KAFELE
PRINCIPALKAFELE.COM



ROBERT BROOKS
PSYCHOLOGIST
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

DRAFT OF SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS



REGISTER ONLINE
www.dropoutprevention.org



**NATIONAL DROPOUT
PREVENTION CENTER**
www.dropoutprevention.org



COLORADO
Department of Education
Highly Effective School Library Program

Saturday, 10/5/2019, 2:00 pm-5:00 pm, PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PCW1. NDPC SUCCESS STORIES! HOW THEY DID IT

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 9

Presenter:Dr. Sandy Addis, National Dropout Prevention Center, Anderson, SC

Schools across the country have increased their graduation rates and improved school climate through the implementation of the National Dropout Prevention Center's 15 Effective Strategies for Dropout Prevention. Dr. Sandy Addis and several leaders from schools that have seen dramatic improvements will lead an interactive session that includes practical assessment and implementation tips as well as lessons learned. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their own contexts as they relate to graduation rate issues. This encouraging and practical session can be the first step in crafting your school's success story.

PCW2. EFFECTIVE CULTURE TRANSFORMATION: CREATING A CULTURE OF POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 8

Presenters:Dr. Bill Daggett and Dr. Sue Szachowicz, Successful Practices Network, Rexford, NY and Mr. Ray McNulty, Successful Practices Network/National Dropout Prevention Center, Rexford, NY

Many of us tell our students that if they work hard, they will be successful. And once they become successful, they will be happy—right? While this pattern generally explains what might motivate our students, more than 10 years of research points us to a different model where happiness is the driver to success. How can schools create a culture in which the students and the adults feel valued, empowered, and yes, even happy? Join Bill, Ray and Sue for this session and you will learn strategies that can create a positive school culture in which happiness is a key for student achievement and school success.

PCW3. NDPC'S TRAUMA-SKILLED SCHOOLS MODEL

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 7

Presenter:Mr. John Gailer, National Dropout Prevention Center, Anderson, SC

The effects of trauma and stress impact nearly half of the students that enter our schools each day. In recent years, there has been a strong focus on building awareness of the conditions that cause trauma and stress in our students. Schools demonstrate an awareness and even become sensitive to these issues. The National Dropout Prevention Center has developed a framework for schools that goes beyond awareness and sensitivity. This workshop introduces that framework and provides concepts and strategies that are helpful in transforming a school's culture to be Trauma-Skilled.

Sunday, 10/6/2019, 8:30 am-10:15 am

OPENING GENERAL SESSION: DR. BILL DAGGETT

Location: Adams Ballroom A

Presenter: Dr. Bill Daggett, Successful Practices Network, Rexford, NY

Re-envisioning Learning: Addressing the Critical Needs of Our Children

The true visionaries in education are those that fight their way out of the proverbial box to innovate and create a learning environment where all students can thrive. Dr. Bill Daggett will inspire you to become a visionary leader to advance the future of K–12 education. He will share his latest research on innovative practices from the nation’s most rapidly improving schools that are resulting in dramatic improvements in student performance. Critical areas trending in these schools are addressing the social and emotional needs/mental health as a first priority; focusing on the future needs of students to succeed in the changing workplace and society while still addressing the state standards and state tests; a boardroom to classroom approach to student improvement; and a simple, yet impactful framework that allows educators to innovate.

What will such major changes look like? Dr. Daggett will paint a picture of what success looks like in the nation’s most rapidly improving schools. He will then provide a roadmap of how these schools created a culture to support innovative changes, made necessary instructional changes, and changed how they organized and delivered instruction.

Sunday, 10/6/2019, 10:30 am-11:30 am, CONCURRENT SESSIONS

BE WELL TEACHERS- CREATING WELL-BEING IN OUR LIVES AND OUR CLASSROOMS

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 1

Presenter: Ms. Amy Friedman, C.S. Porter Middle School, Missoula, MT

We can create calm, relaxed, confident and happy students by focusing on how we accomplish these attributes in our own lives. This workshop will take an experiential approach to examining our daily routines and teaching practices to promote well-being in the classroom. You will walk away with strategies and activities that you can use immediately in your own life and with your students.

ENGAGING MIGRANT STUDENTS: EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING, COLLEGE MENTORS & BINATIONAL TEACHERS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 3

Presenter: Ms. Lauren Radin, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO

A session presenting the innovative programs, both during the school year and over the summer term, implemented by the Migrant Education Program (MEP) to (re)engage and support migrant students in achieving high school graduation.

WHAT ARE WE PREPARING STUDENTS FOR?

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 4

Presenters: Mr. Troy Braley, Brady High School, Lakewood, CO and Ms. Jolee Mann, Jeffco Public Schools, Golden, CO

Participants will learn what Brady High School has done to reduce the Dropout rate to 1.1%. They have, at the same time, challenged and redesigned how school is done. Brady HS challenges EVERY aspect of school and at the heart of our decision making is “What are we preparing for our students for?”

THE KEY TO DROPOUT PREVENTION: ENGAGEMENT

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 5

Presenter: Dr. Robert Shumer, U of Minnesota (retired)/Metropolitan State University, Burnsville, MN

The critical challenge to dropout prevention is engaging students in learning. Two proven ways to do this are to involve them in the worlds of work and civic life. In this session we examine how the connection between these two strategies leads to the kind of engaged learning that keeps young people in school and provides a solid foundation for work and citizenship in a democracy.

OBTAINING NATIONAL DROPOUT PREVENTION SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 6

Presenter: Ms. Nancy Nielsen, National Dropout Prevention Center, Live Oak, FL

This session provides an overview and discussion of the National Dropout Prevention Center's Dropout Prevention Specialist Certification process. Nancy Nielsen, Certified Dropout Prevention Specialist and NDPC Trauma-Skilled Faculty member, will discuss the value and process of the certification program as well as requirements and insights into the culminating field project.

A "POWER WITH" APPROACH TO TEACHING & LEARNING: STRATEGIES FOR SERVING TRAUMA-IMPACTED STUDENTS

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 7

Presenters: Ms. Heidi Beauregard and Ms. Joy Smith, Futures Academy, Aurora, CO

Futures Academy serves 17-21 year-old over-age, under-credit students in Aurora, CO. We employ innovative and trauma-sensitive approaches to teaching and learning in order to upset traditional “Power Over” teacher-student relationships. Instead, they embrace “Power With” approaches that capitalize on strong relationships and let us work together towards achieving common goals.

PARTNERING WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO IMPROVE ENGAGEMENT AND OUTCOMES OF AT-RISK STUDENTS

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 8

Presenters: Dr. Katherine Zaromatidis and Mrs. Catherine Salch, Iona College, New Rochelle, NY; Dr. Kara Naidoo, California State University - Channel Islands, Camarillo, CA

Partnering with higher education institutions has allowed the Liberty Partnerships Program to offer enrichment activities in specialized fields. Opportunities include computer science faculty working with students from gaming clubs, entrepreneurial staff hosting business/media students in pre-college sessions, and STEAM faculty providing inquiry-based activities during summer institutes. In addition, education faculty offer professional development for teaching staff.

A NEAR-PEER MENTORSHIP APPROACH TO CULTURALLY-RESPONSIVE STUDENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 9

Presenter:Mr. Sidney Frye II, Family Service Rochester, Rochester, MN

Student and family engagement play an obvious and significant role in impacting the trajectory of educational outcomes for children of color. This workshop will provide attendees with an overview of the PACE program, and how it utilizes strategies such as near-peer mentorship to celebrate cultural identity and improve students' educational wellbeing.

THE POWER OF HIGH-EXPECTATIONS AND COLLECTIVE EFFICACY FOR HIGH-RISK STUDENTS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Maple 3

Presenters:Ms. Jennifer Turnbull and Ms. Tracey McCormick, The New America School, Denver, CO

Participants will learn about, conduct a self-assessment, and develop a plan on how to set up a system of processes that have been shown to dramatically improve academic achievement. Learn how a small charter network, serving over 94% high-risk students, achieved double digit growth by: developing core practices, data collection-analysis-action, increasing student agency, adherence to research-based strategies, and collective efficacy.

PERSONALIZED LEARNING IN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Maple 4

Presenters:Ms. Ashley Ellis, Ms. Tashema Atkinson, and Ms. Kerry Shorr, Independence High School, Roswell, GA

Personalized Learning is the pathway to success at Independence High School! Each student receives personalized instruction to meet their specific needs in order to master concepts and move on! The presenters detail different technology tools used in daily instruction to identify areas of mastery and needs improvement in order to personalize instruction for each student. This is a hands-on presentation that will allow teachers to explore different tools that they can utilize at their own schools.

Sunday, 10/6/2019, 11:30 am-12:45 pm

NETWORKING LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)

Sunday, 10/6/2019, 1:15 pm-2:15 pm, FEATURED SESSIONS

SANDY ADDIS AND LATESHIA WOODLEY

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Adams Ballroom A

Presenters:Dr. Sandy Addis, National Dropout Prevention Center, Anderson, SC and Dr. Lateshia Woodley, , ,

TBA

BALANCING TRANSFORMATION AND INNOVATION WITH STRATEGY AND DISCIPLINE

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Adams B

Presenter: Mr. Ray McNulty, Successful Practices Network/National Dropout Prevention Center, Rexford, NY

In the world today, if you care deeply about the future of learning for all children, standing still is not an option. Fostering a school culture of creativity—one that sparks inspiration, collaboration, and innovation—is essential, yet many educators feel schools are trapped and can't innovate. This often stems from a sense of overwhelm or misunderstanding about what innovation is and how schools can adopt innovative practices. The hard truth about innovation is that it is messy, creates tension, and requires discipline while the breakthrough to innovation is in accepting this and launching change from there. In this session, Ray McNulty will share strategies used to help several schools across the country achieve this breakthrough needed for successful 21st-century learning.

Sunday, 10/6/2019, 2:30 pm-3:30 pm, CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CARS AND CANINES AND CADAVERS, OH MY! IMPROVING CTE PROGRAMS THROUGH THE INTEGRATION OF AR/VR

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 1

Presenters: Dr. Shanan Chappell Moots, Ph.D., Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA and Mr. Michael Carbenia, zSpace, Sunnyvale, CA

As teachers and leaders assess their CTE programs to ensure alignment among student interest and programs offered, augmented (AR) and virtual (VR) reality technologies are helping offer students more opportunities. In this session, we will discuss the findings of the research around decreasing dropout rates and the improvement of CTE programs through AR/VR.

BREAK THE CYCLE AND REENGAGE OVER-AGED AT-RISK STUDENTS: EXPLORE AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDENTS AT RISK OF DROPPING OUT OR DISENGAGING

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 2

Presenters: Mrs. Agnes Gonzalez, Mr. Andrew Campos, Mr. Brian Castano, Mrs. Veronica Pindell, San Antonio Independent School District, San Antonio, TX

Participants will gain a thorough understanding of how The Middle School Partners Program in San Antonio ISD inspires, motivates and accelerates overaged at-risk students. During this session, participants will gain knowledge of our program content and structures, challenges and successes and will be able to engage in in-depth conversations with Master Partner teachers and interact with other participants about what it takes to improve on student success in their schools.

DRIVING KEY GRADUATION METRICS: IMPLEMENTING ON TIME GRADUATION PLANS FOR EACH STUDENT WITH CAREER PATHWAYS, WRAPAROUND SERVICES, AND SYSTEM CHANGES

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students, Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students, Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 3

Presenters: Dr. Deirdre Pilch and Dr. Rhonda Haniford, Greeley-Evans School District 6, Greeley, CO
With Superintendent Dr. Deirdre Pilch's leadership, District 6 increased on-time graduation rates and decreased dropout rates using Systemic Renewal. Participants will learn how D6 launched a clear vision and strategic plan to align wraparound resources, monitor graduation plans for seniors, increase credit recovery, develop career pathways with industries, and provide internships/apprenticeships. These systems drive district policies and school procedures to ensure continuous improvements.

EFFECTIVENESS OF CHECK & CONNECT WITH HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH IN CARE IN UTAH

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students, Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 5

Presenter: Dr. Nicole Pyle, Utah State University, Logan, UT

Check & Connect is an evidence-based student engagement dropout prevention intervention. Mentors delivered Check & Connect with the Youth in Care in Utah high schools. Findings of the fidelity of implementation and of the effectiveness of Check & Connect will be presented.

INTEGRATING HIGH-INTEREST NOVELS WITH SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CONTENT TO INCREASE LITERACY & KNOWLEDGE FOR HIGH-RISK STUDENTS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 6

Presenters: Ms. J.J. Babb and Mrs. Mary Renton, Douglas County Student Support Center, Parker, CO

Many high-risk students lack the social-emotional skills needed to navigate traditional schools and their lives. Yet the knowledge of these skills (locus of control, Kohlberg's levels of emotional development, anger management) can seem to exist in a vacuum. By teaching these skills in conjunction with high-interest novels, students are able to see skills applied to characters' lives--less threatening than applying to themselves first.

A BRAVE NEW WORLD: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF SCHOOL-WIDE PBIS AND RESTORATIVE PRACTICES AS A FOUNDATION FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 7

Presenters: Mrs. Lynne DeSousa and Mr. Luke Yoder, Center for Restorative Programs, Alamosa, CO

The integration of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) and Restorative Practices in Schools (RP) can turbocharge a school's overall efforts in building school cultures that lead to student success. The result is a more robust environment that is built on relationship, respect, responsibility, empathy, and compassion. This session will offer best practices of each framework, pitfalls to avoid, and ideas to take back to your educational context to integrate these two approaches.

DEVELOPING A GRADUATION-CENTERED CULTURE

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 8

Presenter: Mr. David Riegel, Ohio Department of Education, Cincinnati, OH

Culture can be difficult to define, but key school-wide practices will create a culture that supports on-time graduation and improves outcomes. School leaders can shape the culture of their school by promoting these practices and making graduation the primary focus of the school.

PRACTICAL RE-ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMMING

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 9

Presenters: Ms. Jolee Mann, Mr. Dave Kollar, and Mr. Jason Firestone, Jeffco Public Schools, Golden, CO

In this session you will learn about four innovative programs that could work to serve the needs of disconnected learners in any school district. This presentation will cover programming connected to diploma, GED/HSE, special education, and blended learning pathways.

STRATEGIES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS: LEVERAGING THE POWER OF SCHOOL TEAMS TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY, DROPOUT PREVENTION, & STUDENT RE-ENGAGEMENT

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Maple 3

Presenters: Ms. ToniJo Niccoli, Colorado Alternative Education Association and St. Vrain Valley School District, Longmont, CO; Ms. Jessica Watson, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO; and Board Members of the Colorado Alternative Education Association, Co

This interactive panel discussion will provide school/district leaders an opportunity to engage with members of Colorado's Alternative Education Association Board Members and the Colorado Department of Education on effective strategies and aligned practices to implement accountability, dropout prevention, and student re-engagement. Participants will also be provided with an opportunity to network with other leaders and practitioners from the conference.

CREATING SAFE SCHOOLS: A GUIDE FOR SCHOOL LEADERS, TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, AND PARENTS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Maple 4

Presenter: Mr. Franklin Schargel, School Success Network, Albuquerque, NM

Students, parents and school staff want, need and deserve a safe learning environment. Yet recent headlines of violence, bullying, and drug abuse have shown the vulnerability of schools. The workshop will provide school leaders, teachers, counselors, parents and students with the necessary information to address and diminish safety problems in schools by providing the strategies and tools to address them.

Monday, 10/7/2019, 8:30 am-10:00 am

GENERAL SESSION: DR. ROBERT BROOKS

Strand:

Location: Adams Ballroom A

Presenter: Dr. Robert Brooks, , ,

The Power of Mindsets: Strategies to Nurture Motivation, Engagement, and Resilience in Students

Description: In his keynote Dr. Brooks will highlight a strength-based approach for preventing student drop-out—an approach rooted in the relationships that students have with teachers and other professionals in the school setting. He will describe the mindset and strategies of educators who are effective in nurturing motivation, positive emotions, self-discipline, and resilience. Special attention will be given to (a) helping students experience a sense of belonging and ownership in schools, (b) identifying and

reinforcing each student's "islands of competence," and (c) providing opportunities for students to engage in "contributory" activities.

Monday, 10/7/2019, 10:15 am-11:30 am, FEATURED SESSIONS

TEACH COLORADO – A WHOLE SYSTEM EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT APPROACH TO DROPOUT PREVENTION

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Adams Ballroom A

Presenters: Dr. Katy Anthes, Commissioner of Education, and Ms. Colleen O'Neil, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO and a panel of educators

To prevent students from dis-engaging, a whole-systems approach is warranted to create positive perceptions of education, address teacher shortages, improve cross-system coordination and collaboration and prioritize erasing equity gaps among historically underserved populations. During this Colorado hosted panel discussion, moderated by Colorado Commissioner of Education, Dr. Katy Anthes, a panel of Colorado educators, advocates, leaders, and change agents will discuss the TEACH Colorado initiative. TEACH Colorado is a statewide, cross-sector effort from education institutions, business, government, philanthropy and nonprofit stakeholders to improve the perception of teaching and recruit the next generation of teachers in Colorado. TEACH Colorado's statewide partners include educator preparation programs, school districts, the Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE), Colorado Department of Education (CDE), Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE), Colorado Education Association (CEA), Colorado Education Initiative (CEI), Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC), Landed, Public Education Business Coalition (PEBC), Rose Community Foundation and TEACH.

FROM EXTRAORDINARY TO EXTRAORDINARY: THE ROLE EACH OF US MUST PLAY

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Adams B

Presenter: Mr. Ray McNulty, Successful Practices Network/National Dropout Prevention Center, Rexford, NY

What is it that causes one school to become a top performer, while most others seem to struggle with the same challenge? The lack of success in most systems isn't "not knowing what to do", but "not applying consistently and correctly what we know works." In this session participants will learn about what it takes to become a high-performing system in today's rapidly changing world.

SUCCESS FOR STRUGGLING LEARNERS: SAFETY NETS AND SUPPORT

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Adams C

Presenter: Dr. Sue Szachowicz, Successful Practices Network, Rexford, NY

As accountability demands increase, many schools face performance gaps for students with disabilities. Closing those gaps requires an all means ALL commitment and a true collaboration between special education and regular education. In this session, specific strategies for a school wide approach to increasing student performance, targeted interventions, supports and safety nets for students with disabilities will be shared. When it comes to achievement, all means ALL!

MOVING BEYOND AWARENESS TO TRAUMA-SKILLED

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Adams D

Presenter: Mr. John Gailer, National Dropout Prevention Center, Anderson, SC

Everyday, the effects of trauma and chronic stress impact adult and student experience in school through negative effects on behavior and learning. As educators, behavior and learning are our specialty.

Addressing these issues requires a systemic, all-in approach. Adjustments in practice can improve the school experience for students, teachers, staff, and administration as academic performance and behavior improve.

Monday, 10/7/2019, 11:45 am-1:00 pm, LUNCH & LEARN SESSIONS

LUNCH & LEARN: NDPC'S CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 2

Presenter: Dr. Sandy Addis, National Dropout Prevention Center, Anderson, SC

The National Dropout Prevention Center offers three different certification programs. This lunch & learn discussion shares insight into each. Dr. Sandy Addis will share the requirements and processes for each certification program as well as the benefits and opportunities of each. The certification programs include two individual and one school/district certification.

LUNCH & LEARN: NDPC'S 15 EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 3

Presenter: Ms. Nancy Nielsen, National Dropout Prevention Center, Live Oak, FL

This Lunch & Learn Session focuses on the National Dropout Prevention Center's "15 Effective Strategies for Dropout Prevention." This research and work is written into state legislation and/or state school board policy in more than 30 states. For years, it has been considered the standard by which dropout programs are designed and implemented. This session focuses on a proper perception and implementation.

LUNCH & LEARN: LEARNING IS SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 4

Presenter: Ms. Finessa Ferrell, Colorado Education Initiative, Denver, CO

Everyone seems to be talking about "social emotional learning" but research indicates that a better way to think about it is "Learning is Social and Emotional." In fact, cognitive development and social emotional development are part of the same neurobiological process and one does not work without the other.

Critical executive functions such as inhibitory control, working memory and cognitive flexibility are only built when the pre-frontal cortex of the brain functions in particular ways. In order for this cognitive development to occur, the brain and body of the individual cannot be in a state of dysregulation. In this way, the key to understanding learning is to first prepare the brain to learn. This shift from educators as delivering content to educators preparing brains to learn is a powerful paradigm shift. In this session we will explore this shift, examine a developmental framework called Building Blocks For Learning and discuss learning happens neurobiologically. Participants will leave understanding the link between self-awareness, stress management and social connectedness to the development of executive function and will have a chance to discuss exciting work happening in Colorado to put all these pieces together.

LUNCH & LEARN: THE POWER OF CULTURE

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 8

Presenters:Mr. John Gailer and Mr. Hal Dunlap, National Dropout Prevention Center, Anderson, SC; and Mr. Tim McGowan, Networks of Support, Cheyenne, WY

Culture is the key to changing organizational, academic, and behavioral outcomes. Every school or organization has a culture. This lunch & learn will address the power of culture in changing outcomes. Methods for establishing, adjusting, and shaping culture will be shared during this lunch and learn session.

LUNCH & LEARN: LITERACY - A KEY TO SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 9

Presenter:Dr. Sue Szachowicz, Successful Practices Network, Rexford, NY

“But I’m a science teacher, how am I supposed to teach literacy skills?” We know that literacy is crucial, but what does it entail, how should literacy be implemented, and how do you get the buy-in for a literacy initiative? The essential ingredients of implementing literacy across the curriculum and dealing with the challenges will be the focus of this Lunch and Learn with Sue Szachowicz.

LUNCH & LEARN: HAPPINESS DRIVES PERFORMANCE

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Adams B

Presenter:Mr. Ray McNulty, Successful Practices Network/National Dropout Prevention Center, Rexford, NY

Many of us tell our students if you work hard you will be successful, once you become successful you will be happy. This pattern generally explains what might motivate our students, success comes first followed by happiness. Sounds great, but that formula is broken! Over ten years of research points us to a different model where the relationship between success and happiness is the other way around. Yes, happiness is the precursor to success. In this “Lunch and Learn” we will all discuss how mindsets and student voice all align in favor of happiness as a key to improved performance.

Monday, 10/7/2019, 1:15 pm-2:15 pm, CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CONNECTIONS MATTER

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 1

Presenter:Ms. Lisle Reed, Adams 12 Five Star Schools, Northglenn, CO

This interactive workshop will provide a broad overview of restorative approaches in schools and focus on the power of connection circles to foster an environment in which students and teachers can thrive together. At the end of the workshop, attendees will be able to describe the philosophy behind restorative approaches, facilitate connection circles, and engage in impromptu restorative conversations.

PROJECT BASED LEARNING: TRANSFORMING CLASSROOMS FROM TRADITIONAL TO PURPOSEFUL

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 2

Presenters:Ms. ToniJo Niccoli, Mrs. Deniece Cook, and Mr. David Glover, Olde Columbine High School, Longmont, CO

In the Fall of 2017, Olde Columbine High School in Longmont, Colorado, embarked on a journey of implementing Project Based Learning into their classrooms. The hope was to provide students with an opportunity to increase choice in the classroom. The results were a concerted effort amongst the school community that yielded positive social/emotional and learning outcomes for students, as evidenced by an increased graduation rate, attendance rate, and course completion rate.

ENHANCING ACADEMIC OUTCOMES FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS: POSITIVE RESULTS CREATED THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, AND COLLABORATION

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students, Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students, Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 3

Presenters:Dr. Jeffrey Ralph, JusticeWorks YouthCare, West Chester, PA and Mr. Ian Nutt, JusticeWorks YouthCare, Williamsport, PA

This interactive presentation discusses the creative approaches that have proven to be successful when working with Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY); specifically, regarding families, the community, and other stakeholders. These strategies can be applied to all levels of education and allows for an open dialogue with your peers.

LEVERAGING OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME TO SUPPORT READINESS AND ENGAGEMENT

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 4

Presenters:Mr. Cody Buchanan and Mrs. Anna Young, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO; Ms. Terrie Blackwell, YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region, Greeley, CO; Ms. Elaine Menardi, Colorado AeroLab, Inc., Kremmling, CO; and Mr. Michael Seefried, Greeley-Evans School

This interactive workshop will feature a panel of urban and rural out-of-school time (OST) practitioners who serve both middle and high school students. The panel will share best practices for successfully engaging students in relevant, interest-based readiness learning during OST. Participants will then work together to develop age-appropriate dropout prevention implementation strategies for improving the readiness offerings at their own OST sites.

CONNECTING INTERESTS & TALENTS TO ACADEMIC CONTENT AND FUTURE CAREERS THROUGH PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 5

Presenters:Mrs. Amy Wagner, Ohio Hi Point Career Center & Bunsold Middle School, Bellefontaine, OH and Mr. Scott Davis, Mahoning County Career Center & West Branch Middle/High Schools, Beloit, OH Join us for project-based learning models from two middle school Career Based Intervention (CBI) programs that support academically & economically at-risk youth in Ohio. Each CBI program is unique and tailored to serve students to ensure academic and career success. These project-based learning strategies include active learning to enable students to explore interests, build positive relationships and

engage in authentic problem-solving while building knowledge, understanding and soft skill development.

BECOME AN EQUITY AMBASSADOR FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS WITH CTE!

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 6

Presenter: Ms. Lauren Jones, CTE in Colorado/Community College System, Denver, CO
Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Colorado re-designed the Alternative Cooperative Education (ACE) program which is inclusive of students identified as Special Populations. While Colorado dives deep into work-based learning, career development, capstones, entrepreneurship and Postsecondary Workforce Readiness (PWR) implementation, this session will provide resources, ideas, networks, and encouragement to copy this model and become an Ambassador of Equity and Special Populations in CTE!

CHANGING THE EDUCATIONAL TRAJECTORY OF AT-RISK YOUTH: A MULTIFACETED APPROACH

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 7

Presenters: Ms. Rebecca Knighton, Colorado Department of Education, Fort Collins, CO
Problematic behavior in school, especially in 6th grade, is highly correlated with an increased risk of dropping out of school. This session will illustrate the methods one middle school used to improve student success through a multifaceted approach to build staff efficacy, improve school climate, and support the social emotional learning of students. This session will equip participants with practical strategies to use within an MTSS framework to affect all three tiers of student support.

THE PERCEIVED IMPACT OF EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION MENTORS AMONG FORMER HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS WHO GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 8

Presenters: Dr. Greg Hickman, Walden University, Scottsdale, AZ; Mr. Steve Crooks and Ms. Maria Cuzzocreo, Grad Solutions, Scottsdale, AZ

The purpose of this qualitative case study was to gain an understanding of how mentors employed by Educational Management Organizations (EMOs) helped former high school dropouts graduate high school. The resulting themes were (a) communication, (b) encouragement, (c) motivation, (d) understanding, and (e) caring. Findings from this study may help inform educators how to improve communications with youth at risk of dropping out of school.

FOSTERING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING THROUGH STUDENT AGENCY AND COLLABORATIVE CONVERSATIONS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 9

Presenter: Dr. Debi Crimmins, Achieve3000, Frisco, TX

Gone are days where reading was an independent work in a silent classroom. Research proves engaging in collaborative conversations can increase students' comprehension and support components of students' social-emotional development with opportunities to engage grit, growth mindset, and tenacity through text. Join us for a session focused on cultivating literacy and social-emotional learning.

WHO WILL TEACH THE CHILDREN? RECRUITING, RETAINING, AND REFRESHING HIGHLY EFFECTIVE EDUCATORS

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Maple 3

Presenter: Mr. Franklin Schargel, School Success Network, Albuquerque, NM

The United States faces a serious educational crisis. Teachers are leaving the classroom almost as quickly as colleges and universities prepare them. Close to 50 percent of teachers leave within five years, including 17 percent of first-year teachers. The Wall Street Journal reported that teachers are quitting their jobs at record rates. The professional "life expectancy" of school administrators is three years except in minority and rural schools where it is 18 months.

A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AND PRACTICES

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Maple 4

Presenter: Honorable Geri Joneson, Loveland Municipal Court, Loveland, CO

The Thompson School District and City of Loveland provides students an opportunity to review low level juvenile cases and render sentencing as means of steering young offenders toward more productive choices. Join us for an engaging discussion on an innovative approach to encouraging youth offenders to become youth leaders.

LEVERAGING AR/VR TO SUPPORT K-12 AND CTE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: zSpace Mobile Classroom

Presenter: Mr. Michael Carbenia, zSpace, Sunnyvale, CA

From troubleshooting engines to dissecting human hearts, discover how students in districts across the nation are inspired by AR/VR to join STEM and vocational careers. Attendees will get hands-on with different AR/VR applications to get a first hand view of how today's students are preparing for their future.

Monday, 10/7/2019, 2:30 pm-3:45 pm

GENERAL SESSION: PRINCIPAL BARUTI KAFELE

Location: Adams A Ballroom

Monday, 10/7/2019, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm

COLORADO RECEPTION

Location: Adams Prefunction Space

Tuesday, 10/8/2019, 8:30 am-9:30 am, CONCURRENT SESSIONS

PUSH, PULL, OR FALLING OUT: CATCH 'EM BEFORE THEY FALL

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 1

Presenters:Ms. Gloria Durosko and Mrs. Gail Lott, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO

No one factor is responsible for a student dropping out of school. Participants will learn how to spot the warning signs of three dropout factors, understand four different types of student engagement and leave with strategies, tools, and resources to improve school completion.

LEVERAGING OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME TO SUPPORT STUDENT READINESS AND ENGAGEMENT

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 2

Presenters:Mrs. Anna Young and Mr. Cody Buchanan, Colorado Department of Education, Denver, CO; and Ms. Terrie Blackwell, YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region, Fountain, CO; Mrs. Elaine Menardi, Colorado AeroLab, Inc., Kremmling, CO; and Mr. Michael Seefried, Greeley-Evans

This interactive workshop will feature a panel of urban and rural out-of-school time (OST) practitioners who serve both middle and high school students. The panel will share best practices for successfully engaging students in relevant, interest-based readiness learning during OST programs. Participants will then work together to develop age-appropriate dropout prevention implementation strategies for improving the readiness offerings at their own OST sites.

STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT PRESCHOOL CHILDREN AT RISK FOR EXPULSION AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 3

Presenter:Dr. Dolores Stegelin, NDPC Fellow, Columbia, SC

The rate of preschool expulsion has escalated rapidly in the last decade. Research indicates certain children are more vulnerable for expulsion and that male children from minority populations are most at risk. Also children with special needs and mental health issues are more likely to be expelled. This session provides strategies for school administrators and teachers to support preschool children at risk for expulsion, drawn from the research on trauma-informed education and ACES.

ADVOCATES FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS - AN INNOVATIVE TIER 3 APPROACH

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 4

Presenters:Ms. Ashleigh Valentine and Ms. Ellen Sarkisian, Generation Schools Network, Denver, CO and Ms. Jenny Wakeman, Weld County School District, Keenesburg, CO

In this session, we will explore how Tier III Advocates help youth develop protective factors (such as relationships with trusted adults and supportive peer groups) to keep them engaged in their education. Participants will learn how to create a successful advocacy program to help students set and attain goals, identify and address barriers to success, and create a safe and welcoming school community. You'll hear about the success of the program in the Weld County School District in Colorado.

DEVELOPING A GRADUATION-CENTERED CULTURE

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 7

Presenter:Mr. David Riegel, Ohio Department of Education, Cincinnati, OH

Culture can be difficult to define, but key school-wide practices will create a culture that supports on-time graduation and improves outcomes. School leaders can shape the culture of their school by promoting these practices and making graduation the primary focus of the school.

READING IS THE PROBLEM AND SOLUTION: PREPARING AT-RISK YOUTH FOR THE HIGH-PERFORMANCE WORKFORCE

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 8

Presenter:Dr. Patrick O'Connor, Kent State University, Kent, OH

Reading is an essential skill to be successful in the high-performance workforce. This is especially true for at-risk youth (the problem). This session describes the reading strategies (the solution) that support the at-risk student to be successful in today's workforce.

HOW TO MAKE COURAGEOUS DECISIONS THAT PROMOTE EQUITY AND GUIDE POSITIVE CHANGE

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 9

Presenter:Dr. Merriane Dyer, Gainesville City Schools, GA, Gainesville, GA

How do school leaders implement changes that challenge the "way we've always done things"?

Educational leaders today are faced with improving achievement and narrowing achievement gaps.

Implementing practices that promote equitable outcomes often disrupts common and accepted norms.

This presentation will describe leadership lessons learned during court-ordered segregation and how to apply those lessons for inspired leadership today.

Tuesday, 10/8/2019, 9:45 am-10:45 am, CONCURRENT SESSIONS

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT - LET'S GET TO THE POINT!

Strand: Behavioral Health and At-Risk Students

Location: Cottonwood 1

Presenters:Dr. Bobbie Skaggs, Ms. Hannah Bernaix, and Mr. Matthew Kansteiner, Colorado's Finest High School of Choice, Englewood, CO

This session requires you to think outside of the traditional education box in order to explore the point system. The point can MOTIVATE students in your school to actively ENGAGE in the learning process, while also EMPOWERING them to authentically determine their graduation date. Examining the point system might expand your thinking about student engagement possibilities.

CREATING ENGAGING AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 2

Presenter:Mr. Tim McGowan, Networks of Support, Cheyenne, WY

Culture within schools and communities happen regardless. Deliberately creating a cohesive and skilled workforce influences staff engagement and connectedness to each other and the students we serve.

This workshop will provide hands-on learning, inspiring ideas, & practical approaches attendees can use the next day.

- Experience facilitation that models the approach on how to be a “bridge” and how to find your “bridges” to embrace the changes in your life.
- Understand the value of building supportive social networks to promote cohesion and positively influence student success and their development of protective factors.
- Develop specific strategies for Culture Transformation.
- Reflect on current research that supports best practice implementation.

LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP

Strand: Leadership for Student Success

Location: Cottonwood 3

Presenter: Mr. Hal Dunlap, National Dropout Prevention Center, Anderson, SC

Valuable insights and perspectives on leadership for administrators and teachers. Most jobs require us to be leaders and followers simultaneously. This session will offer unique insights garnered from a lifetime of research, experience and observation. This presentation will illustrate how culture and climate can be dramatically changed through effective leadership.

USING DATA FOR DROPOUT RECOVERY

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 4

Presenters: Mr. Nick Conner and Mr. Brian Brinkerhoff, Colorado Youth for a Change, Denver, CO

In this session we examine the use of data in dropout recovery. From outreach, to enrollment, and beyond, we will work through data in each step of the reengagement process. We will also share examples of how this data has been used to make positive changes within school districts.

NEXT GED PLUS PROGRAMS ACROSS ZERO DROPOUTS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 7

Presenters: Ms. Jenn Edgar, Zero Dropouts, Denver, CO; Mr. Nathan Frasier, Littleton Public Schools, Littleton, CO; and Ms. Jolee Mann, Jeffco Public Schools, Golden, CO

Zero Dropouts partnering with local school districts in order to better serve students who are on a non-traditional completion pathway, focusing particularly on students who are not on track to complete their high school diploma or have already dropped out.

MULTIPLE TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT (MTSS)

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: Cottonwood 8

Presenter: Dr. Lisa Leith, Generation Schools Network, Denver, CO

We will examine systems and structures that are most often found in schools that successfully launch and sustain an effective MTSS program. Participants will share the student outcomes and system-wide indicators that have been chosen as evidence of positive growth and examine common data sources that inform progress. We will explore the importance of shared leadership and decision-making in the MTSS process and learn new strategies for team-building, communication, and inviting student voice.

LEVERAGING AR/VR TO SUPPORT K-12 AND CTE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

Strand: Supporting the Academic Needs of ALL Students

Location: zSpace Mobile Classroom

Presenter: Mr. Michael Carbenia, zSpace, Sunnyvale, CA

From troubleshooting engines to dissecting human hearts, discover how students in districts across the nation are inspired by AR/VR to join STEM and vocational careers. Attendees will get hands-on with different AR/VR applications to get a first hand view of how today's students are preparing for their future.

Tuesday, 10/8/2019, 11:00 am-12:15 pm

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION: FRANK DEANGELIS

Location: Adams Ballroom A