*Please NOTE, as of 10/15/2021, this is a tentative schedule and subject to change.*
Welcome to the National Alternative Education Association Annual Conference!

The conference is being held at the Marriott Conference Center. It is adjacent to the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel. We look forward to seeing you at the conference center.

At the conference, during our first break, you meet as a Region and network with your Region Director. You will need to know your Region Number and color. Here is a reference chart for your convenience for Monday, October 18th at 2:10 pm:

- **Region 1**: Will Meet in Majestic D
  - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

- **Region 2**: Will Meet in Majestic A
  - Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D.C.

- **Region 3**: Will Meet in Majestic D
  - Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, West Virginia

- **Region 4**: Will Meet in Majestic B
  - Alabama, Bermuda, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Virgin Islands

- **Region 5**: Will Meet in Majestic A
  - Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D.C.

- **Region 6**: Will Meet in Majestic D
  - Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

- **Region 7**: Will Meet in Majestic F
  - Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Hawaii, Pacific Islands

- **Region 8**: Will Meet in Majestic
  - Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington

- **Region 9**: Will Meet in Majestic C
  - Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin
Conference SPONSORS

Edgenuity
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Inspiring Hope. Powering Potential.

Kennesaw State University
## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Program Event</th>
<th>Room</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, October 17, 2021</strong></td>
<td>Registration Open – 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, October 18, 2021</strong></td>
<td>8:00 am – 12:00 pm Exhibits Set-Up</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 am – 4:00 pm Registration Open</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 am – 11:00 pm Pre-Conference Workshops</td>
<td>Majestic D, F, G, &amp; H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch On Your Own</td>
<td>Majestic A, B, C, D, F, G, &amp; H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Exhibits Open</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Opening General Session</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:10 pm – 2:40 pm Meet your Region Rep, network with your Region, and get a SNACK</td>
<td>Majestic A, B, C, D, F, G, &amp; H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:50 pm – 3:40 pm Breakout Session A</td>
<td>Crystal Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:50 pm – 4:40 pm Breakout Session B</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 pm – 7:00 pm NAEA Reception – Everyone Invited! Good Food &amp; LIVE DJ!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, October 19, 2021</strong></td>
<td>7:00 am – 4:00 pm Registration Open</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 am – 4:00 pm Exhibits Open</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 am – 8:00 am FULL HOT Breakfast Buffet</td>
<td>Majestic E</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 am – 9:30 am Opening Session &amp; Keynote Speaker, Josh Shipp</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:40 am – 10:30 am Breakout Session C</td>
<td>Majestic A, B, C, D, F, G, &amp; H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:40 am – 11:30 am Breakout Session D</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 am – 1:00 pm Lunch On Your Own</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm – 1:50 pm Breakout Session E</td>
<td>Majestic A, B, C, D, F, G, &amp; H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:50 pm – 2:10 pm Refreshment Break – Visit Exhibitors</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:20 pm – 3:10 pm Breakout Session F</td>
<td>Majestic A, B, C, D, F, G, &amp; H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:20 pm – 4:10 pm Breakout Session G</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:20 pm – 4:50 pm Ice Cream Parlor Social – Visit Exhibitors</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 pm – 7:00 pm President’s Reception – By Invitation Only</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, October 20, 2021</strong></td>
<td>7:00 am – 1:00 pm Registration Open</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 am – 8:00 am FULL HOT Breakfast Buffet</td>
<td>Majestic E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 am – 12:00 pm Exhibits Open</td>
<td>Majestic Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 am – 9:00 am Opening Session &amp; Keynote Speaker, Dr. Jose Enriquez</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:10 am – 10:00 am Breakout Session H</td>
<td>Majestic A, B, C, D, F, G, &amp; H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:10 am – 11:00 am Breakout Session I</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:10 am – 12:30 pm General Closing Session, Annual Meeting, and Elections</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We are so pleased to offer four pre-conference sessions. The pre-conference sessions will take place on October 18, 2021 – 8:00 am – 11:00 am. You are only able to register for one session. These sessions are not included in your registration. The cost of each session is $100.00.

You can add these sessions during the normal registration process.

Pre-Conference Session #1: NAEA Exemplary Practices through School Tours

**THIS WILL BE HELD IN MAJESTIC D**

**Session Description:**
The NAEA Exemplary Practices will be showcased in this pre-conference session. Collaborate with four model alternative/non-traditional schools/programs from around the country. Each school will showcase two or more of the NAEA Exemplary Practices that they implement exceedingly well. This is a great opportunity to learn about alternative/non-traditional schools that excel in implementation of exemplary practices, engage with panelists, ask questions and take back practical nuggets for your school and school district.

**Presented by:**

**Archer Learning Center** is the premier alternative school in Northwest Arkansas. The program supports at-risk youth enrolled in Springdale Public Schools. During the past year, Archer provided services to over 600 students. Archer provides personalized learning experiences for students in an open-concept learning environment. Collaboration, project-based instruction and student-centered instruction help engage students with a new found appreciation for education. Archer currently offers on-site instruction, night school, and virtual school to meet the needs of its diverse learner population.

**Pearce Hall** is an alternative middle and high school that houses six distinct programs meeting a wide range of student needs. With Reclaiming Youth at Risk’s Circle of Courage as a guiding framework, Pearce Hall takes a whole-child, two-generational approach in working with students therapeutically and relationally rather than behaviorally or punitively. Students can participate in a variety of therapeutic groups and expressive arts including yoga, music therapy, sports group, boxing therapy, art, and career readiness. Students leave Pearce Hall not only with the credits they need to graduate, but also with the ability to maintain healthy relationships, self-regulate, successfully gain post-secondary employment, and have increased control over their mental health.

**Student Choice High School** in Surprise, AZ provides a unique and flexible learning experience for students in which highly qualified staff members are present and available to provide the instructional, social, and emotional support for students. This is combined with a standards-based online curriculum, which allows for self-pacing, individualized progress monitoring, and assessment tools to measure student success. Upon student re-engagement, the focus becomes sequential steps toward both graduation and successful post-secondary opportunities through college and career readiness.

**Mountain High School** in Kaysville, UT is a school of choice for students who desire a smaller more personalized learning setting while still experiencing a rich high school experience. The school focuses on climate and culture, engaging curriculum, and personalized learning designed to meet individual student needs. Unique activity classes include fly fishing, biking and hiking, Zumba and yoga, international cooking, classic film study, to name a few. Students earn graduation credits in eight mini-terms during the traditional school year and an extended summer option. Students are assigned advisors who track personalized plans for each student including access to college and career coursework at the adjacent Davis Technical Center.
Pre-Conference Session #2:  
**Pure Edge, Inc. Breathing, movement, and rest strategies to reset and build resilience**  
**THIS WILL BE HELD IN MAJESTIC F**  
**Session Description:**  
Join us for an experiential session designed to support the integration of caring for yourself, the educator, while supporting the social and emotional learning (SEL) initiatives for your students. Participants will apply focused awareness of each of the 5 SEL competencies during each session. We will explore safe and supportive relationships, strengthening co-regulation with others, and building interaction skills that support social competence and academic success in a practical context with SEL.  
**Presented by:** Gill McClean  
Gill is Director of Professional Development. She trains educators across the country on self-care and integrating health and wellness best practices. She regularly presents at conferences to share best practices in managing stress.  
Prior to moving to Houston, Gill lived and worked in the United Kingdom, Colombia, United Arab Emirates, Oman and The Netherlands in a variety of roles to learn the culture and make a difference. She managed the allocation of low-cost government housing, working with the homeless, as well as, founded North East Scotland’s first dedicated yoga studio. During her overseas postings, Gill became a member of numerous Women’s Organizations supporting local charities. Her charitable efforts include fundraising for orphans in developing countries.  
She holds a Higher National Certificate in Local Government Administration from Langside College, and also attended Shawlands Academy, in Glasgow, Scotland.

Pre-Conference Session #3:  
**Understanding How Trauma & Adverse Childhood Experiences Effect the Developing Bodies & Brains of Students**  
**THIS WILL BE HELD IN MAJESTIC G**  
**Session Description:**  
Come be informed about the next and the best practices related to behavior health and leave with a plan to transform your school climate through the implementation of the essential elements of a trauma informed system of support.  
**Presented by:** Dr. Lateshia Woodley  
Dr. Lateshia Woodley was an alternative education student now district administrator that specializes in working with at promise students and turnaround school transformation initiatives. Since 2008, Dr. Woodley has worked as a turnaround leader to help bring about positive changes in some of the lowest performing schools in Georgia and now in Missouri.  
While serving as the Principal of McClarin Success Academy, Dr. Woodley led the implementation of a community school model to assist students in overcoming barriers that hinder successful completion of high school graduation requirements. During her tenure McClarin's graduation rate increased from 19% in 2012 to 75% in 2017. She is the author of three books titled "Why Did You Choose to Get Pregnant", "Issues of the Heart" and "Transforming Alternative Education," that details her journey as a student then as an administrator. Through her leadership McClarin was recognized as a 2017 National Model School, 2016 NAEA Exemplary Practices School, and 2016 GAAE Spotlight School.  
Believing passionately in the impact of supporting the whole child, Dr. Woodley ventured to work for the Kansas City Public School District. She has had the honor of serving as an Assistant Superintendent supporting School Leadership and now serves as the Executive Director of Student Support Services where she is leading the charge of becoming a trauma informed school district.  
Dr. Woodley has received numerous awards and accolades which include the 2011 Outstanding Woman in Education Award, 2012 Resolution from the Georgia House of Representatives, 2013 Acknowledgments from the US Department
Dr. Woodley serves on the boards of Nelson Atkins Museum Incentive Advisory, the Center for Family and Community Wellness and Empowering Lives, Inc. Her life principle is to be a catalyst that ignites, motivates, encourages individuals and organizations to reach their full potential.

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**Pre-Conference Session #4:**

**A Trauma-Informed Approach for Success**

**THIS WILL BE HELD IN MAJESTIC H**

**Session Description:**

A trauma-informed approach equips educators with strategies and tools to better engage those affected by complex trauma as well as meeting the needs of all students. Understanding how to support children to form secure relationships is vitally important in establishing healthy environments to support peers and teachers and facilitate classroom engagement. Creating a trauma-sensitive classroom can provide transformational equity for all students. This 3-hour workshop will focus on the science of trauma and equip educators with the strategies and tools to fully implement a trauma-informed classroom. Educators will leave knowing that trauma-informed practices aren’t just something they do but how they “do business” every day.

**Presented by:** Pat Conner

Pat Conner is a Senior Policy and Practice Consultant for CASEL (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning). As a consultant with CASEL, she provides technical assistance and support to states on SEL who are involved in the Collaborative States Initiative (CSI). An educator for over 36 years, Pat began her work in a school district as the director of Safe Schools, Health Students before going to the TN Department of Education as the Executive Director for the Office of Student Support, retiring in 2019.

Pat believes that all students and adults thrive in a safe, just, and supportive school climate and that families, caregivers, and communities are critical partners in building equitable systems that support student success.

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We hope you find one of our Pre-Conference Sessions valuable to you.
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<tr>
<th>Breakout Session A</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding Trauma and Its Effects on Children</td>
<td>2:50 pm - 3:40 pm</td>
<td>Dr. Chanelle M. Sweet</td>
<td>Majestic A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internal Partnerships: The Untapped Resource You Didn’t Know You Needed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Celeste Johnson</td>
<td>Majestic B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exemplary Practices 101</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Morrow &amp; Dr. Amy Schlessman</td>
<td>Majestic C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breathing, Movement, and Rest Strategies to Reset and Build Resilience</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gill McClean</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What's in a name? Addressing critical conversations around diversity, equity, and advocacy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Marrielle Myers</td>
<td>Majestic F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creating Trauma Informed and Culturally Competent IEPs</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Melissa Sadin</td>
<td>Majestic G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project STAND! &quot;I know we CAN #begreat!&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Tarol Page Clements</td>
<td>Majestic H</td>
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<tr>
<th>Breakout Session B</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Being an Adult is HARD, Let’s Make it Easier!</td>
<td>3:50 pm - 4:40 pm</td>
<td>Natalie Stromberg</td>
<td>Majestic A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Navigating The Self-Care Journey</td>
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<td>Kristen Dua</td>
<td>Majestic B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industry Certification Exams with iCEV in Partnership with the Orange County DOE, ACCESS Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maggie McGill &amp; Fatinah Judeh</td>
<td>Majestic C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas City Public Schools – Transforming Codes of Conduct</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Lateshia Woodley</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disproportionality in Alternative Education- The Homewood Family Journey from Community Isolation to Community Engagement</td>
<td></td>
<td>Christina Krabitz</td>
<td>Majestic F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conscious and Unconscious Self Reflection and Its Impact on High-Risk Student Achievement</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sylvia Hooker</td>
<td>Majestic G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Strong Partnerships and After School Programming</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Pollitt and Yolanda Mahan</td>
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<tr>
<th>Breakout Session C</th>
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<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Room</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultivating Empathy for Collaborative Classrooms and Healthy Relationships</td>
<td>9:40 am – 10:30 am</td>
<td>Portia Richardson</td>
<td>Majestic A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building A Safe and Equitable Classroom: Integrating Restorative Circles into Content Delivery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brianne Parker and Jina Poirer</td>
<td>Majestic B</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAEA’s Model Alternative Education Program</td>
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<td>Tim Morrow &amp; Dr. Amy Schlessman</td>
<td>Majestic C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pandemic Pizza: Using 12 Slices of Wellness to Sustain and Strengthen the Mind, Body and Spirit of Your School Community.</td>
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<td>Dr. Robert L. Eichorn</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intentional Rapport</td>
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<td>Zachariah Rippee</td>
<td>Majestic F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative Schooling: The New Normal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Julia Daniely</td>
<td>Majestic G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Just Like Music: How Hip-Hop Can Be Used to Boost Up SEL Competencies</td>
<td></td>
<td>David Spellmon</td>
<td>Majestic H</td>
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</table>

**Vendor Hours**

- **Monday October 18, 2021:** 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
- **Tuesday October 19, 2021:** 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
- **Wednesday October 20, 2021:** 8:00 am – 10:00 am
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<tr>
<th>Date: Tuesday, October 19</th>
<th>Session: Breakout Session D</th>
<th>Time: 10:40 am – 11:30 am</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Lightning Project</td>
<td>Mike Moran</td>
<td>Majestic A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative Education in Georgia: Support + Engagement + Accountability = Quality Education for Alternative Students</td>
<td>Dr. Sam Taylor</td>
<td>Majestic B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cobb Horizon High School, The New Face of Alternative Education: It’s Better #ontheHORIZON</td>
<td>John Kelly</td>
<td>Majestic C</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Brick at a Time: An Administrator Guide to Building a Whole-Child Alternative School</td>
<td>Dr. Ben Hebisen &amp; Erik Bruner</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Speakers for Good: Course Credit, Community Engagement, Impactful Long-term Outcomes</td>
<td>Lori Burton</td>
<td>Majestic F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet Them Where They Are: Re-Imagining Alternative Education to Create Learning and Healing Spaces for Students</td>
<td>Darryl Clark &amp; Andy Campbell</td>
<td>Majestic G</td>
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<tr>
<td>One-on-One Conferences for Equity and Learning</td>
<td>Shelley Aschliman</td>
<td>Majestic H</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date: Tuesday, October 19</th>
<th>Session: Breakout Session E</th>
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<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Schooling: The New Normal</td>
<td>Dr. Julia Tuckeriely</td>
<td>Majestic A</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Secrets to Social Emotional Learning</td>
<td>Tierica Berry</td>
<td>Majestic B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demystifying the Digital</td>
<td>Jed Patrick</td>
<td>Majestic C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mentoring Teachers to Mentor</td>
<td>Wayne Tucker &amp; Mike Burns</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Using PurposePrep to Effectively Engage Students in Social Emotional Learning</td>
<td>Stephanie Day</td>
<td>Majestic F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Intervention Program to Prevent Dropouts</td>
<td>Christopher Kensinger</td>
<td>Majestic G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Using Community Partnerships to Support Mental Wellness at an Alternative School</td>
<td>Cyndi Cubillas</td>
<td>Majestic H</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date: Tuesday, October 19</th>
<th>Session: Breakout Session F</th>
<th>Time: 2:20 pm – 3:10 pm</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>And Justice for All-Using Critical Policy Analysis to Eliminate Barriers to Equity for Nontraditional Students</td>
<td>Dr. Robert L. Eichorn</td>
<td>Majestic A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Who Cares? Promoting Empathy in a Selfie-Centered Generation</td>
<td>Sakae Scott</td>
<td>Majestic B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raising the Bar with At Risk Youth</td>
<td>Nadene Klein</td>
<td>Majestic C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increasing Students’ Tolerance for Stress</td>
<td>Joshua MacNeill</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership for Cultivating an Emotionally Healthy School.</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Hylen &amp; Dr. Pam Bruening</td>
<td>Majestic F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Finding the SPARK Beyond Trauma: Speaking to the Potential, Ability and Resilience inside EVERY Kid.</td>
<td>Brooke Wheeldon-Reece &amp; Ashley Hunt</td>
<td>Majestic G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Game Changers</td>
<td>Tomee Call, Tyler Hoch, &amp; Kieffer Allen</td>
<td>Majestic H</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tuesday, October 19</th>
<th>Breakout Session G</th>
<th>3:20 pm – 4:10 pm</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From Army Green to Teaching Teens - Values in the Classroom</td>
<td></td>
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<td>David Miller</td>
<td>Majestic A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative Education Exemplary Practices: District-Wide Implementation</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Rachelle Morris &amp; Kimberly Franz</td>
<td>Majestic B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mindfulness, Empathy, and Enthusiasm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nadene Klein</td>
<td>Majestic C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Leads the Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Paula Tucker</td>
<td>Majestic D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Up to the Matthew Effect</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Angela M. Ritchie</td>
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<td>With every job that must be done... There is an element of fun</td>
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<td>Mindy Tulane</td>
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<td>Behind Digital Lines: Breaking Barriers and Building Connections Through SEL</td>
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<td>Shamira Bailey Jones, Roderick Holloman, &amp; Marion Williams</td>
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<th>Wednesday, October 20</th>
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<th>9:10 am – 10:00 am</th>
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<td>Lance McConnell</td>
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<td>A &quot;Math&quot; Made in Heaven</td>
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<td>Technology &amp; Innovation in Schools</td>
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<td>Embracing Assets: An Innovative Approach to Helping Latino Youth and English Learners to Become Leaders</td>
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<td>Teaching Social and Emotional Learning Skills Using Moral Reconciliation Training</td>
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<td>Scott McMullen &amp; Dr. Ken Robinson</td>
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<td>Reading, Writing, and Murder...</td>
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<td>Natalie Stromberg &amp; Matt McClellan</td>
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<td>Reach Disengaged Students with CTE Pathways</td>
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<td>Shaun Floyd &amp; Melanie Tuck</td>
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<th>Wednesday, October 20</th>
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<th>10:10 am – 11:00 am</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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<td>NAEA Partner’s Round Table</td>
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<td>Lead, Follow and Have Fun!</td>
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<td>Exemplary Practices &amp; Launch of NAEA’s Model School Program</td>
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<td>Tim Morrow &amp; Bob Eichorn</td>
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<td>Culturally Responsive Practices: An Interactive Opportunity to Take a Walk in the Shoes of the Students We Serve</td>
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<td>Stenisa Jones, Dr. Byron Brown, &amp; Dr. Cynthia Smalls</td>
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<td>Mentoring Teachers to Mentor</td>
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**Vendor HOURS**

- **Monday October 18, 2021:** 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
- **Tuesday October 19, 2021:** 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
- **Wednesday October 20, 2021:** 8:00 am – 10:00 am
Josh Shipp

Josh will be our keynote speaker on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 ~ 8:00 am – 9:30 am

Statistically, Josh Shipp should be dead, in jail, or homeless. But his success as a preeminent author, speaker, and global youth empowerment expert is living proof of the power of one caring adult. A former at-risk foster kid turned youth advocate, Josh is renowned for the documentary TV series on A&E that followed his groundbreaking work with youth and families. He has written two national bestsellers to date, “The GrownUp’s Guide to Teenage Humans” – winner of the Nautilus Gold Award for Parenting & Family – and “The Teen’s Guide to World Domination.”

To read the rest of Josh’s bio CLICK HERE.

Dr. Enriquez will be our keynote speaker on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 ~ 8:00 am – 9:00 am

Dr. Jose Enriquez is living his dream as the CEO of Latinos in Action (LIA), a non-profit he founded in 2001, LIA is now a national organization currently implemented in 210 schools in Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, and Utah, where the program was founded. LIA’s mission is to empower Latino youth to lead and strengthen their communities through college and career readiness. The vision of LIA is to be the model for Latino youth engagement through the development of personal assets, excellence in education, community service, and leadership. In 2014 LIA was honored as a Bright Spot by the White House Center for Excellence in Hispanic Education.

To read the rest of Dr. Enriquez’s bio CLICK HERE.
Understanding Trauma and Its Effects on Children
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: Dr. Chanelle M. Sweet
Description: Childhood trauma can have a direct, immediate, and potentially overwhelming impact on the ability of a child to learn. The impact of trauma on students is a growing concern amongst educators due to the impact on the student and educational environment. In this session, participants will learn the definition of trauma and the ways in which trauma effect children. Participants will receive strategies and resources to create trauma-sensitive schools.

Internal Partnerships: The Untapped Resource You Didn’t Know You Needed
Strand: Effective Partnerships (Internal/External Agencies)
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Celeste Johnson
Description: Do you need an alternative to your alternative? Canned courses getting stale and limited? Don’t burn bridges; build partnerships to create countless opportunities for your alternative students. How you can tap into the power of a network of teachers including but not limited to: Administrator, Instructional coach, traditional classroom teachers, and alternative teachers working together to create project-based courses.

Exemplary Practices 101
Strand: Exemplary Practices
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Tim Morrow & Dr. Amy Schlessman-Frost
Description: This session will provide an informative and useful overview of the Exemplary Practices. Whether the attendee is hearing about the NAEA Exemplary Practices for the first time or already knows about them and wants a review, this session will be helpful for all. All 15 practices will be covered and discussed and at the end of the session, the presenters will briefly give an overview of the next session which will be focused on the launch of the model school program.

Breathing, Movement, and Rest Strategies to Reset and Build Resilience
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Gill McClean
Description: Join us for an experiential session designed to support the integration of caring for yourself, the educator, while supporting the social and emotional learning (SEL) initiatives for your students. Participants will apply focused awareness of each of the 5 SEL competencies during each session. We will explore safe and supportive relationships, strengthening co-regulation with others, and building interaction skills that support social competence and academic success in a practical context with SEL.

What's In a Name? Addressing Critical Conversations Around Diversity, Equity, and Advocacy
Strand: Issues in Equity
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Dr. Merrielle Myers
Description: Building on this year’s theme, we propose that an essential part of being the one is understanding diversity, equity, and advocacy for historically marginalized students. Despite their educational setting, all students deserve access to high-quality education that centers their culture, values out-of-school experiences, and is transformative. Over the years, many approaches to this type of pedagogy have been proposed. Among these are culturally relevant/responsive pedagogy, critical literacy, ethnomathematics, abolitionist teaching, etc. Recently, political attacks against Critical Race Theory have cast a spotlight on these approaches, with many states and local education agencies choosing to ban such pedagogical frameworks. What is the definition of these terms and what do they mean for innovative and non-traditional approaches that best serve students experiencing difficulty in traditional settings?
Creating Trauma Informed and Culturally Competent IEPs
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Dr. Melissa Sadin
Description: A recent study in Washington State showed that 80% of the children eligible for special education were exposed to early childhood trauma. More than 56% of all children in public schools are children of color. Participants will learn how trauma impacts the brain and how it can be linked to dyslexia, ADHD, emotional and behavioral disorders, and autism. The connection between ACES, the neurobiology of trauma and the impact of culture will be discussed. Recent court cases regarding special education, the development of IEPs and childhood trauma exposure will be shared. A small group activity will be conducted. Finally, the answer to the often-asked question, “How to I separate the disability from the trauma?” will be answered.

Project STAND! “I know we CAN #begreat!”
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Dr. Tarol Page Clements
Description: Historic research indicates U.S. juvenile courts handle an estimated 1.6 million cases where youth have been charged with a delinquency offense. Tennessee juvenile justice data (2019-2020) indicates a disappointing 85% of all youth delinquency offenses are from Shelby County Tennessee residents and special attention is being paid to the disproportionate representation of minority and at-risk students inside of the juvenile justice system. The collaborative relationship with the youth justice system and Shelby County Schools is critical. Project STAND is a mentor based juvenile justice program leading in reducing recidivism by providing programming options as a deterrent to crimes in youth aged 13-18. This presentation will provide strategies on how a school-based mentor program can affect the overall school environment and culture for at-risk students with using community support and resources to: decreased expulsion, improved grades, support college and career readiness and improve social/emotional learning.

Navigating The Self-Care Journey
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Kristen Dua
Description: Join the ride exploring critical components of educator self-care. We know educators and administrators face numerous daily stressors and even more so with all of the challenges navigating education during the Covid-19 pandemic. There can be a great cost to caring, especially for educators in high need schools so it is imperative for all to understand the impact of stress, counter the effects of burnout and instill strategies for self-care & wellness. Through the metaphor of a road trip, we will use real-world roads signs to help communicate information about stress, compassion satisfaction and fatigue, mindfulness, and self-care strategies to help improve educator & staff well-being. Metaphors are extremely helpful in processing information, especially when describing emotions and emotional experiences. The goal is to give educators a toolbox of information and practices that they can apply right away in their personal lives, classrooms, and schools.
Industry Certification Exams with iCEV in Partnership with the Orange County DOE, ACCESS Program
Strand: College & Career Readiness
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Maggie McGill & Fatinah Judeh
Description: Orange County Department of Education’s Alternative, Community, and Correctional Education Schools and Services (ACCESS) program provides alternate educational options for students throughout Orange County from Transitional Kindergarten (TK) to adults seeking to attain their high school diploma. ACCESS offers multiple instructional learning environments to help students in both community and court schools find their personal path in education through individualized, targeted, and differentiated instruction with standards-based curriculum and assessments. ACCESS collaborates on an ongoing basis with county specialists, local and regional partners to develop and implement a high quality CTE program tailored to the needs of our alternative education program. We utilize best practice approaches in curriculum and instruction for CTE courses to ensure all students have equitable access. ACCESS has partnered with iCEV Online to prepare students for postsecondary education, training and employment opportunities through industry certification. Industry certificates we offer include: Express Employment Professionals Career, Preparedness Certification, Southwest Airlines Professional Communications Certification, Center for Financial Responsibility Personal Financial Literacy Certification.

Kansas City Public Schools – Transforming Codes of Conduct
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Dr. Lateshia Woodley
Description: Kansas City Public Schools has set a goal to create safe school environments that do not rely heavily on exclusionary and punitive discipline practices. To achieve this goal, we have adopted the following strategies to ensure equity and fairness:

1) mandating implicit bias training for all new employees as part of our onboarding system;
2) creating a culture of caring and utilizing trauma-informed practices in our classrooms; and
3) utilizing restorative discipline and behavior-change interventions to reduce suspensions that disrupt learning time.

Come learn how we transformed our code of conduct policy and implemented supports districtwide in efforts to dismantle processes that perpetuate the school to prison pipeline.

Disproportionality in Alternative Education - The Homewood Family Journey from Community Isolation to Community Engagement
Strand: Issues in Equity (Social Justice/Restorative Practices)
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Christina Krabitz
Description: The Homewood Center, like many other alternative education centers, sees disproportionality every day. This presentation will take you on their journey about how a grass roots effort from staff has led to change within their program, within their district, and even within their community.

Conscious and Unconscious Self Reflection and Its impact on High-Risk Student Achievement
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Sylvia Hooker
Description: This session addresses Conscious and Unconscious Biases and the Leadership & Accountability Practices that Impact Teacher -Leader Effectiveness. Stereotypes exist when people hear the words Alternative, teacher, principal, students and parents. We will learn from each other while addressing and personalizing external and internal biases that inhibit our best work.
Building Strong Partnerships and After School Programming
Strand: Effective Partnerships (Internal/External Agencies)
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Chris Pollitt and Yolanda Mahan
Description: Securing funding for programming outside of the school day can be challenging. This session will walk you through the steps of building community partnerships both internally and externally to fund engaging activities for at-risk youth. Building partnerships that offer programming options before and after school in addition to providing meals for students in a safe environment keeps students off the streets and engaged in both academic work and mentoring opportunities.

Cultivating Empathy for Collaborative Classrooms and Healthy Relationships
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: Portia Richardson
Description: This training will challenge participants to examine their own empathy skills and will focus on practical and engaging activities and discussions that participants can have with their students and community to develop empathy and perspective-taking in the classroom.

BUILDING A SAFE AND EQUITABLE CLASSROOM: Integrating Restorative Circles into Content Delivery
Strand: Issues in Equity
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Brianne Parker and Jina Poirer
Description: Creating an educational climate that provides safe, equitable, and accessible learning opportunities is essential for ALL students. While many people use circles for problem solving and believe circles are something that only happen when educational goals are impeded, we advocate the integration of circles into the structures of teaching. Imagine a restorative circle with academic content as the topic. Lower the affective filter, create a connection to the content, and encourage students to communicate in a safe non-judgmental environment. Students need to feel safe with their teacher and peers in order to ask questions, admit confusions, and attempt unfamiliar tasks. Circles as the “opener” for academic lessons can bridge the gap between presence and engagement. Restorative Practices and academic content instruction should not be considered separate entities; rather, productive sidekicks that work in unison to achieve the ultimate goal of a safe and equitable classroom for ALL students.

NAEA’s Model Alternative Education Program
Strand: Exemplary Practices
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Tim Morrow & Dr. Amy Schlessman
Description: This session will provide an overview of the newly developed Model School Program. Information will be shared about how schools can register to be considered for the first cohort of schools. In general, the program is a 3-year program through which NAEA will identify two schools from each NAEA Region to form the first cohort. Professional Development specific to each practice will be provided to identified schools by NAEA Board Members and/or previous Board members who are very familiar with the practices. PD will take place during the first year of the Model Schools Program. Year Two will be considered an implementation year in which the schools/programs will work with their staff and the NAEA to implement the practices and review their effectiveness. The third year will be spent evaluating the implementation, celebrating successes and sharing them with others in the cohort and at the NAEA Conference. The third year will also be used to prepare schools to mentor the next cohort of schools who participate in this model program.
Pandemic Pizza: Using 12 Slices of Wellness to Sustain and Strengthen the Mind, Body and Spirit of Your School Community

Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Dr. Robert L. Eichorn
Description: What were the leadership lessons learned during the pandemic? How can you leverage these to not go back to “normal”, but create new, effective norms in your nontraditional school community? The answer: Wellness! Learn how to leverage the 12 Dimensions of Wellness to sustain and strengthen the mind, body, and spirit of your students and those that serve them through daily wellness tips which focus on an inspirational quote, wellness research, and a personal anecdote to inspire your school community. Facilitate a plan to foster the creation of a wellness team to incorporate wellness practices in your school. Learn how the utilization of wellness increased stakeholder performance during the pandemic resulting in record breaking student assessment scores and levels of staff satisfaction. Realize how a leader’s daily testimony coupled with best practice and inspiration not only enhances resilience but boosts the capacity of all stakeholders at your school.

Intentional Rapport

Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Zachariah Rippee
Description: Oftentimes the labels used to identify the individuals in our classrooms serve as misnomers. A few favorites are difficult, disengaged, behavioral problem, and (wait for it) ... student. Yes, in many cases the label of “student” has been thrust upon those whom never chose to wear it. The problem with these labels is their power to impact the way we as educators engage the individuals before us. In this interactive session we will attempt to peel away the labels, in order to obtain a clearer picture of those we intend to serve. We will discover and confront the misconceptions which coincide with the misnomers. We will strive to recognize the commonalities we all share, in order to build a foundation for further transparent communication. Finally, we will discuss intentional ways to build relationships which foster greater buy in and classroom engagement. We will learn to engage in intentional rapport.

Alternative Schooling: The New Normal

Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Dr. Julia Daniely
Description: The perception of alternative school is typically known for where you send “bad” kids when they commit Level IV and V offenses in their zoned middle or high schools. This is far from the truth in Bibb County Public Schools. Research shows that alternative "schooling" is so much more and is even becoming the "New Normal" on the backside of a national crisis. This presentation will provide district leaders and school administrators with tools to help them understand the different types of alternative schooling options and how these options can be maximized in their setting to prepare students for college or careers. The presenter will share her journey in re-engineering learning in first, a low-achieving high school and then, an alternative school program that was unintentionally designed as a pipeline to prison. Attendees will learn how to disrupt the traditional school day by develop meaningful learning experiences in personalized academies.

Just Like Music: How Hip-Hop Can be Used to Boost up SEL Competencies

Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Davis Spellmon
Description: In this presentation, participants will be introduced to the most comprehensive version of the CASEL 5 core competencies. Participants will explore the similarities that sampling (in music) and education share. Participants will learn how the presenter incorporated the sampling technique to create a Social Emotional Learning and Hip-Hop based curriculum.
The Lightning Project
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: Mike Moran
Description: This presentation will focus on Implementing “The Lightning Project”. It is the most impactful innovation I have done in my decades long career in Education. I will walk you through the impact of the implementation and discuss how it has dynamically changed the engagement and culture and climate for us. The Project’s main objective is to ensure that students are always engaged in new learning and not repeating standards they are proficient in already. By focusing on new skills and standards students get the opportunity to take new and innovative classes and coursework that teach them 21st Century Skills instead of being stuck repeating work they have already done. I will demonstrate how The Lightning Project provides an opportunity to “meet the student where they are ” in a standards based curriculum. I will discuss how students build on the standards they have achieved and been exposed to during their educational experience. You will see how teachers utilize this information and data to impact and modify their instruction and how they will build upon those standards checked off in the Performance Portfolio Checklist and help students focus on standards they missed in their academic journey.

Alternative Education in Georgia: Support + Engagement + Accountability = Quality Education for Alternative Students
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Dr. Sam Taylor
Description: Georgia is leading the way to improving student achievement for alternative schools. This session will include practices at the state and local levels that bridge the gaps between failure and success for students and leaders of alternative schools. Participants will learn how Georgia:
1. Supports District Improvement Plans through funding and monitoring.
2. Provides ideas, key information, and recommendations through an Advisory Board to State level leadership.
3. Ensures a quality education for alternative students through a seamless Site Application Process which clearly defines the requirements and expectations for an Alternative School or Alternative Program.

Cobb Horizon High School, The New Face of Alternative Education: It’s Better #ontheHORIZON
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: John Kelly
Description: In education today, “alternative programs” are many times looked at as the ugly stepchild and simply an afterthought as a “second chance” for students and educators when the traditional high school experience is not successful. In this session, we will present how the Cobb County School District took the leap of faith to create an academic alternative school, Cobb Horizon High School. Cobb Horizon High School is a non-traditional, academic alternative high school that was established to meet the needs of a growing population of non-traditional, at-risk, and credit deficient students. In this session, we will highlight the process of developing an academic alternative high school, share tools and strategies that have been an integral part of building our school culture and program, as well as our successes and struggles.

One Brick at a Time: An Administrator Guide to Building a Whole-Child Alternative School
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Dr. Ben Heibisen & Erik Bruner
Description: This workshop will take you through one school’s transformation from a traditional alternative and credit-recovery program into a trauma sensitive school providing wrap-around services to students and families. This discussion will include the school’s use of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE’s) data, child neurodevelopment, research on childhood trauma and toxic stress, and their guiding framework in determining areas of need and interventions. The workshop will also include a summary of how this alternative school took steps in implementing new alternative therapies, expressive arts programming, and a whole child approach in order to provide the resources and skills for students with social and emotional needs. Through creative partnerships and staff enthusiasm the school has become a community resource hub that provides whole-family support, a range of physical and behavioral health services, and impactful tools for post-secondary and vocational success.
Guest Speakers for Good: Course Credit, Community Engagement, Impactful Long-term Outcomes

Strand: Effective Partnerships (Internal/External Agencies)
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Lori Burton
Description: In the THRIVE Program (formerly Glenwood Alternative Program) we have for years been utilizing regional community programs as guest speakers for our students and in recent years have increased the variety, frequency, and engagement with guest speakers. The Outcome has been increased staff/student connection in the classroom, increased agency/student connection in our community, and long-term impacts on students relationships with law enforcement, welfare services, and employers. I would like to share with other programs how they can recruit guest speakers, engage students with speakers they may not otherwise have met, and structure their guest speakers in a way that can earn students credit toward graduation (which also increases participation and buy-in with an audience that may claim to be uninterested otherwise).

Meet Them Where They Are: Re-Imagining Alternative Education to Create Learning and Healing Spaces for Students

Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Darryl Clark and Andy Campbell
Description: Changes in the educational landscape have presented opportunities for Alternative Schools to have a significant and positive impact in the lives of students who have historically struggled in school. By re-imagining the role and function of the Alternative School, districts can provide safe spaces for students to heal, regain a sense of hope for their future, and find academic success that leads to graduation and beyond. This presentation will demonstrate how implementing a Trauma-Informed model to address the social-emotional needs of students combined with a Mastery-based Learning Model has changed the trajectory of the program at Summit Ridge Academy to the benefit of our students.

One-on-One Conferences for Equity and Learning

Strand: Issues in Equity
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Shelley Aschliman
Description: In this session, we consider one of the most effective approaches to teaching alternative students: one-on-one conferences. While many alternative educators are aware that students benefit from individualized attention, we may wonder how to make the most of these vital minutes with students in the classroom. How can we ensure that our individual conferencing practices engage students’ attention most effectively for academic growth? And, how can one-on-one conferences be central to our work as culturally responsive educators? Drawing on experiences from the past pandemic year, we will describe how one-on-one conferences have become a primary pedagogical structure in our classrooms. With many examples from our own experiences, we will see how this practice can move from the margins to the mainstream within our own classrooms. We will provide practical strategies for implementing one-on-one conferences that support individual students and create an environment that is rooted in equity.
Alternative Schooling: The New Normal
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: Dr. Julia Daniely
Description: The perception of alternative school is typically known for where you send “bad” kids when they commit Level IV and V offenses in their zoned middle or high schools. This is far from the truth in Bibb County Public Schools. Research shows that alternative “schooling” is so much more and is even becoming the "New Normal" on the backside of a national crisis. This presentation will provide district leaders and school administrators with tools to help them understand the different types of alternative schooling options and how these options can be maximized in their setting to prepare students for college or careers. The presenter will share her journey in re-engineering learning in first, a low-achieving high school and then, an alternative school program that was unintentionally designed as a pipeline to prison. Attendees will learn how to disrupt the traditional school day by develop meaningful learning experiences in personalized academies.

7 Secrets to Social Emotional Learning
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Tierica Berry
Description: What is the source of disruptive behavior among students? What are the emotional triggers that escalate a situation into disruptive, disrespectful or violent behavior? What are the skills and strategies teachers need to de-escalate a potentially volatile situation with students? How can teachers and leaders help students more effectively process emotions that lead to disruptive behavior? Through an understanding of Social Emotional Learning, this professional development series offers teachers and leaders practical steps, strategies, tips and tools to address these issues in their classroom management and school culture. It empowers them to transform potentially volatile situations into opportunities for character development, greater student growth, engagement and achievement.

Demystifying the Digital
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Jed Patrick
Description: Have you ever seen the look on a high school student’s face when they hear, ”You need a computer science credit?” Across the nation, when computer science comes up, it’s hard not the think programming. In this presentation, you will discover what is left after removing programming from computer science and how to make those subjects fun for all students; including how to draw attention away from those pesky smartphones.

Mentoring Teachers to Mentor
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Wayne Tucker & Mike Burns
Description: Recognizing the impact that a trusting relationship with a reliable and caring adult can have upon at-risk students in alternative learning environments, PPEP TEC High Schools have formalized and implemented a Teacher-As-Mentor Program to foster these productive relationships within our classrooms. However, before students can begin to accept teachers as mentors, teachers must be prepared to become mentors. This presents a unique leadership challenge. Good teachers assiduously devote themselves to becoming and behaving as content experts but often find themselves at a loss at the prospect of becoming contact experts. PTHS has created a Mentor Manual for every teacher and has identified a number of administrative tasks, previously consigned to principals and other administrative staff that align with the mentor role and with NAEA’s Exemplary Practice #15, Personalized Education Plan.
Using PurposePrep to Effectively Engage students in Social Emotional Learning
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Stephanie Day
Description: Learn how the PurposePrep curriculum can be used to spark conversations and build relationships necessary for students to grow and improve mental wellbeing. We'll share real stories from our successes and failures.

Early Intervention Program to Prevent Dropouts
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Christopher Kensinger
Description: Sophomore Opportunity for Academic Recovery (SOAR) is a program in Springfield Public Schools that serves secondary students who did not successfully complete the required number of credits during their freshman year. SOAR is a small learning community that helps students acquire credits, develop employment skills, and explore potential careers. Students enroll in courses taught by SOAR staff and complete credit recovery coursework.

Using Community Partnerships to Support Mental Wellness at an Alternative School
Strand: Effective Partnerships (Internal/External Agencies)
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Cyndi Cubillas
Description: It has always been our task to support mental wellness, and the pandemic intensified that need. This session shares the successful collaborative work resulting from a partnership with a community non-profit to support mental wellness at an Arizona alternative school. Come join this session and learn 5 principles, Safety, Choice, Collaboration, Trustworthiness, and Empowerment of trauma informed care and how to heal trauma through positive experiences, caring connections, and healthy relationships. It is important that the relationships at your school include staff, not only students. We identify four helpful strategies and discuss how we have implemented them to help our students and staff. This includes creating a Suicide Awareness and Prevention Peer Support Club, Your Life Matters and a national organization called Text-Talk-Act as well. This session also shares free national resources available to all educators.

And Justice for All—Using Critical Policy Analysis to Eliminate Barriers to Equity for Nontraditional Students
Strand: Issues in Equity
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: Dr. Robert L. Eichorn
Description: Tired of your nontraditional school being afforded minimal fiscal and human resources to serve your most in-need and disenfranchised students? Do you have a vision for providing the best staff, instructional supplies, and technology to your school but struggle with making it a reality? Do you feel marginalized in your attempts to ensure equity for your students? Learn how to maximize instructional capital, leverage the best human and material resources, and engage stakeholders to create a thriving, sustained nontraditional school through the use of critical policy analysis. Dr. Robert L. Eichorn, past president of the NAEA and 2020 NASSP National Digital Principal of the Year, will show you how to turn district policy into equitable instructional realities for your students, those that serve them, and your community stakeholders. You will leave energized with the tools you need to make equity a reality for your nontraditional students!
Who Cares? Promoting Empathy in a Selfie-Centered Generation
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Sakae Scott
Description: Have you noticed a recent decline in social and emotional empathy in our society? Some research suggests this is partially due to the ever changing and constant barrage of social media aimed at this current generation, aptly labeled the “iGen” generation. Empathy is the social glue, which both binds us to others and restrains our selfish impulses. We can promote empathy by helping each individual learn to apply to others what they already know is true of themselves, “Everybody Has a Story”. In this session we will explore 4 key steps to empathic relationship building, model the suspension of judgement, and demonstrate one powerful and entertaining method to teach empathy. Buckle up for a trip back to 1985 for a visit to The Breakfast Club.

Raising the Bar with At Risk Youth
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Nadene Klein
Description: Proven strategies to engage "reluctant learners" in the learning process will be shared for you to increase the tools in your teacher tool box. You will also learn ideas to frame your class instruction. In addition, you will see/hear testimonials from at-risk youth.

Increasing Students’ Tolerance for Stress
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Joshua MacNeill
Description: Now, perhaps more than ever, our students are constantly facing high levels of stress on a daily basis. This stress impacts their academics, as well as behaviors and social skills. This session will explore the basic brain science behind how stress impacts the brain, and then introduce practical approaches to building resilience and increasing students' stress tolerance.

Leadership for Cultivating an Emotionally Healthy School
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Dr. Michael Hylen & Dr. Pam Bruening
Description: This session addresses how educators can help students understand and respond in a positive manner to their emotions. Specifically, the importance of trauma informed care in helping students understand their emotions is emphasized. Attendees will recognize the power of positive relationships in meeting student social emotional learning needs. Additionally, the session elaborates on the role of reflection, critical thinking, and positive role modeling as part of growing student emotional intelligence. The workshop presents critical emotional intelligence concepts while addressing key topics such as evaluation of student’s comprehension of their role in the process and creating a positive learning experience around a typically negative situation.

Finding the SPARK Beyond Trauma: Speaking to the Potential, Ability and Resilience inside EVERY Kid
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Brooke Wheeldon-Reece & Ashley Hunt
Description: There is a SPARK within every human-being, regardless of their circumstances, that cannot be damaged (yes even after 2020). This SPARK is the birthplace of resilience, well-being, commonsense, intelligence, solutions, creativity and innovation. This presentation will explore how, through a simple understanding of the mind, innate resilience is uncovered, and the stress resistance needed to overcome trauma is naturally formed.
Game Changers
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Tomee Call, Tyler Hoch, & Kieffer Allen
Description: The right culture and climate is a game changer for alternative schools. It goes without saying that school staff and student relationships are an influential component of any school’s culture and climate. Mountain High School staff has found a variety of ways to create meaningful relationships with students. These methods are game changers, and we are excited to share them with you! Some of our game changers happen on a regular basis throughout the school year, some happen seasonally, and others are special days that only happen once. Come hear about some of our favorite game changers like Lunch Bunch, HOPE Squad, Summer Satellite, Student Recognition Receptions, Day of Service, Quick Start and more. We are confident you will be able to implement game changers in your school to help improve culture and climate.

3:20 - 4:10 pm BREAKOUT SESSION G Tuesday, October 19, 2021

From Army Green to Teaching Teens - Values in the Classroom
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: David Miller
Description: This presentation explores how students can benefit from a hands-on, values-based curriculum. From learning self-confidence by constructing and crossing a rope bridge, to learning to apply first aid, to reading maps, to service learning in the community, our program invites teens to explore values and ethics and to make commitments to being good citizens. Although the Army Junior ROTC program is based on the Army Values, the principles can be applied in any classroom. We prepare students to graduate with not only the traditional fundamentals of a high school education, but also leadership and decision-making skills.

Alternative Education Exemplary Practices: District-Wide Implementation
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Rachelle Morris & Kimberly Franz
Description: Student Choice High School, located in sunny Arizona, is an Alternative Education High School Charter District operating 8 campuses across the state. Student Choice’s mission is to Motivate, Educate, Graduate, and Activate young adults needing a champion. SCHS uses a blended learning approach combining an online curriculum with the support of on-site content teachers.
In 2019, district leadership discovered NAEA’s Exemplary Practices and a light bulb moment was had! After juggling several best practice standards ranging from state and federal accountability, accreditation, and professional leadership, we knew there was a need to streamline our focus and have ONE compass for excellence. Beginning in 2020, the district operations team began the work of aligning district-wide systems to the Exemplary Practices which then snowballed to include all areas across the district. If you are looking for an authentic way to build capacity and efficiency in your district, consider learning about this grassroots approach using the Exemplary Practices as YOUR compass.

Mindfulness, Empathy, and Enthusiasm
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Nadene Klein
Description: This workshop will incorporate Mindfulness and Empathy practices in the Secondary Classroom. For some students, school is a high stress experience, especially when challenging topics/concepts are involved. It can be for the teacher too. This workshop will share some strategies to use mindfulness, elicit and model empathy, and explore the manner of the teacher enthusiasm; all of which can be interwoven in the classroom. The goal is to help reduce stress, establish emotional safety, and refocus your class.
Hope Leads the Way
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Paula Tucker
Description: What if... a group of students at your school could encourage unity, offer the student body a voice, give emotional support, prevent suicide and have a great time doing it? This is the story of how Mountain High School implemented a peer lead suicide prevention program called Hope Squad and combined it with leadership training. Over 2 years of trial and error it began to provide a safe, inclusive, educational space as well as offers emotional support to those who struggled with HOPE. Think of the Potential! Through leadership training students with a variety of traits and backgrounds can develop skills that influence the climate and culture of their school. This presentation offers techniques that have effectively trained student leaders in an alternative education environment. Ideas, activities and events will be shared to help you get started.

Standing Up to the Matthew Effect
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Angela M. Ritchie
Description: The correlation between ability and achievement is high; thus, what students bring to our classroom is heavily influenced by their achievement in previous years. This relationship is often called the "Matthew effect," which is based on the biblical idea that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Research does abound that indicates prior achievement is a powerful predictor; however, there are ways to reverse the "Matthew Effect." In this presentation, we will explore evidence-based practices that result in greater achievement in a blended learning environment.

With Every Job That Must be Done ... There is an Element of Fun
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Mindy Tulane
Description: How many times have you looked out to the faces of your students and noticed the blank stares? Trying to keep students engaged can be hard. But with some different activities related to the subject you are teaching, you can not only reinforce their learning, but it also allows students to have fun also.

Behind Digital Lines: Breaking Barriers and Building Connections Through SEL
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Shamira Bailey Jones, Roderick Holloman, & Marion Williams
Description: This session will discuss the importance of instituting SEL within the climate of the schools to help all stakeholders handle the changes within various societal conditions. The presenters will present various ways that SEL can be instituted both in a large and small group setting. In addition, it will assist with how build a climate within the school setting that will foster and promote a safe space for individuals to implement SEL practices to foster a climate that will allow for mental and social/emotional wellness.

Your Wildly Important Goal
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: Lance McConnell
Description: With so many things going on in and around school what is that one goal that will help lead you and your team to great success for you and your students? Through the work of 4DX and a lens on: Focus, Leverage, Engagement, and Accountability, this strategy can help you and your team determine your wildly important goal and help you create a laser focus to achieve great things!
A "Math" Made in Heaven
Strand: Effective Partnerships (Internal/External Agencies)
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Carmen Williams
Description: Co-teaching, an instructional delivery approach in which two equally qualified general and special educators share responsibility for planning, delivery and evaluation of instructional techniques, works well in the alternative high school setting. Research shows that general educators have expertise in knowledge of the curriculum while special educators have expertise in instructional processes used to teach individual students who may learn atypically. Many of our alternative education students, receiving special education services or not, are atypical learners which is why this approach is effective for all students. We will explore the transformation we saw in our math class, talk about the benefits to co-teaching in an alternative setting and address the different co-teaching strategies.

Technology & Innovation in Schools
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Andy Boyle
Description: What’s next for technology and innovation in schools? Take a look back at how technology has been used in education and explore what’s coming in the future. Dive into the real meaning of innovation and learn how to inspire creativity and innovation in your school. This session will highlight how Kennesaw State University (KSU) is working with K-12 schools to prepare innovative teacher educators!

Embracing Assets: An Innovative Approach to Helping Latino Youth and English Learners to Become Leaders
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Dr. Jose Enriquez
Description: Dr. Jose Enriquez will showcase culturally responsive Social Emotional Learning practices and demonstrate how to adapt them to a virtual learning environment. This includes specific examples of how these practices have been used to empower English Language Learners (ELLs). Working from within the educational system to create positive change, he will show strategies and data that have helped leverage ELLs’ personal and cultural assets; create innovative college and career preparedness strategies; and develop leadership skills. He will also discuss ways to bolster students’ current academic performance and prepare them for their futures as college-bound students and contributing members of society.

Teaching Social and Emotional Learning Skills Using Moral Reconation Training
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Scott McMullen & Dr. Ken Robinson
Description: As schools across the country return to in person learning experiences for students in the fall, there will be a significant need for interventions that help teach self-regulation, coping skills, and provide restorative practices to address discipline issues. Moral Reconation Training, MRT, is an evidence supported intervention that provides a sequence of twelve detailed lessons to help students improve their skills for self-awareness, social-awareness, self-management, building positive relationships, and responsible decision-making. The interactive lessons that are found in the MRT workbook incorporates components from art therapy, oral and written expression, and self-reflection, all of which help students identify and acknowledge the behavior(s) that prevent them from being successful, their triggers, and positive behaviors they can develop to replace the negative. Our presentation will explain how this intervention helped decrease discipline referrals by nearly forty percent, while increasing attendance and graduation rates for two different alternative schools.

Reading, Writing, and Murder...
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Natalie Stromberg & Matt McClellan
Description: Looking for a great way to teach argumentative writing? Join us as we walk you through our crime scene that teaches students to develop claims, examine evidence, and write effective conclusions. Our English and Special Education department partner together to give students an excellent experience in creative thinking, deductive reasoning, argumentative writing and project-based learning. Students learn to work together and trust their instincts and abilities. We will give you the ideas and documents to implement this hands-on experience in your school!
Reach Disengaged Students with CTE Pathways

Strand: College and Career Readiness
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Shaun Floyd & Melanie Tuck
Description: 93% of students in CTE programs graduate compared to the national average. When students make a connection between school and work they are more engaged and find success. Learn how Warrior Academy has used eDynamic Learning CTE solutions in their alternative education program to offer enriching online projects and activities to keep students excited and prepared for their future whether learning from school or home.

10:10 - 11:00 am BREAKOUT SESSION I Wednesday, October 20, 2021

NAEA Partner’s Round Table
Strand: Effective Partnerships (Internal/External Agencies)
Location: Majestic A
Presenter: Glen Hoffman
Description: There are many people, businesses, and services who help make the NAEA what it is. Come join us for an open discussion based upon your needs. Are you having a challenge due to a pandemic? Are you trying to reach a hard-to-reach child? What does your district, school or classroom need? Bring your thoughts and questions, and let’s see if we can connect you with the resources or the expertise to help you “Be The One” for your students.

Lead, Follow and Have Fun!
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic B
Presenter: Coby Davis
Description: This session will focus on ways you can be involved in the NAEA beyond the annual conference. There are various opportunities to lead, serve or just have fun with other alternative educators. Participants will leave this session with an awareness of all committees and information about serving on the board. Participants will hear from current board members and have opportunity to sign up for volunteer positions as well as discuss timelines to run for office.

Exemplary Practices & Launch of NAEA’s Model School Program
Strand: Exemplary Practices
Location: Majestic C
Presenter: Tim Morrow & Bob Eichorn
Description: NAEA has made a major contribution to the field of alternative education by establishing a set of Exemplary Practices. Join NAEA leaders, past & present, for this quick review of the Exemplary Practices. Then, a former NAEA president will share how he implemented the Practices at his school and the benefits it brought to all involved, the students and the school staff.

Culturally Responsive Practices: An Interactive Opportunity to Take a Walk in the Shoes of the Students We Serve
Strand: Student Engagement (Culture/Climate)
Location: Majestic D
Presenter: Stenisa Jones, Dr. Byron Brown, & Dr. Cynthia Smalls
Description: There is a need to raise awareness on Culturally Responsive Practices. Students, especially those in Title 1 districts, are often living in homes that require the single parent or both parents in the household to make decisions that are out of the control of the student. However, these real-life decisions affect the student directly and their ability to:
1. Focus on class work
2. Build trusting relationships
3. Have access to sufficient food
4. Have limited access to after school activities.
This interactive session will focus on what these decisions may look like behind the scenes. As a result of the session, participants will discuss the experience of being “in the shoes” of the students we serve and consequently, share ways to be more “Culturally Responsive”.
Mentoring Teachers to Mentor
Strand: Leadership & Accountability
Location: Majestic F
Presenter: Wayne Tucker & Mike Burns
Description: Recognizing the impact that a trusting relationship with a reliable and caring adult can have upon at-risk students in alternative learning environments, PPEP TEC High Schools have formalized and implemented a Teacher-As-Mentor Program to foster these productive relationships within our classrooms. However, before students can begin to accept teachers as mentors, teachers must be prepared to become mentors. This presents a unique leadership challenge. Good teachers assiduously devote themselves to becoming and behaving as content experts but often find themselves at a loss at the prospect of becoming contact experts. PTHS has created a Mentor Manual for every teacher and has identified a number of administrative tasks, previously consigned to principals and other administrative staff that align with the mentor role and with NAEA’s Exemplary Practice #15, Personalized Education Plan.

Unpacking the Emotional Suitcase
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic G
Presenter: Tierica Berry
Description: Unpacking the Emotional Suitcase: When individuals do not have a healthy way of processing and redirecting emotions, emotional suppression tends to be a common solution. For our students, each emotionally traumatic experience is shoved into their Emotional Suitcases that suitcase wherever they go. Over time the suitcase fills up with a plethora of traumatic experiences and becomes too heavy to carry, too messy to sort through and hopeless to unload. With no hope, relief, or help in sight they turn to at-risk behaviors such as drugs, bullying, gang life, and sometimes suicide to avoid facing that “Emotional Suitcase!” In this interactive workshop Tierica breaks down the Emotional Processing System and provides practical steps to help our students unpack their emotional suitcases.

Finding Our Voice - Celebrating Our Stories
Strand: Social Emotional Wellness
Location: Majestic H
Presenter: Brian “Fox” Ellis
Description: Storytelling is a powerful tool for helping students on the cusp of success take that next step towards redefining who they are within the context of their world while empowering them to become the author of their life story. Improving fluency and vocabulary, helping students become better readers and writers is just the beginning of the power of storytelling. Stories are the best tool for introducing content, building empathy, and expanding their world view. This engaging workshop will help you to become a better storyteller and give you the skills and tools to help your students find their voices.

Please be sure to complete a feedback survey after every session you attend! They are totally anonymous and HELP us tremendously to plan next year’s conference!
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