

Select-a-Session I: 9:45-10:30

ACCESS Meets AQuESST – Stateroom A & B

Sheri Chittenden, Deborah Meyer, Jean Spencer – Paxton Consolidated Schools

Find out how you can maximize 20 minutes each day at your school to engage your students and address AQuESTT tenets! Paxton Consolidated Schools developed ACCESS (Achieve, Commit, Complete, Excel, Study, Succeed) a 20-minute daily study period in which all 6-12 grade students are divided into cross-age (GR 6-8, GR 9-12) groups. ACCESS is designed to develop supportive, caring relationships with each team of students to promote positive attitudes about learning, homework completion, and goal setting. ACCESS time is also devoted to reaching our AQuESTT college and career readiness goal. Students complete Nebraska Career Connections surveys and career cluster exploration. Students also create and share a Genius Hour Project ending with a product that is matched to their unique interests and talents. At the end of each quarter students and staff do ACCESS group activities that are tied to the school improvement goal to improve math skills K-12. Such activities have included Minute to Win It math games, Human Sudoku, Metric Olympics and tower building. Paxton school administrators and teachers will share their story and describe the ACCESS evolution to meet AQuESTT tenets and more!

Lockdown: This is Not a Drill! – Stateroom C

Brent Gaswick, Dr. Jeff Edwards, Brian Hoover, Craig Taylor, Scot Davis, Jason Hippen, Matt Koehler - Nebraska City Public Schools

On April 26th, 2018 Nebraska City Schools experienced a multiple threat event which forced all of the Nebraska City Public Schools, the Parochial School and NCECBVI (Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired) into a Lockdown. The threat resulted in the Nebraska City High School students and staff remaining in lockdown for several hours with law enforcement tactical teams escorting the individual classes out of the building, at gun point, to a reunification point. You can practice lockdowns and discuss your Emergency Response plans, but can never fully understand the dynamics of working with law enforcement, community, media and parents until you experience an actual event. The session will be a panel discussion with some of the Nebraska City Schools Administrative Team who will share their experiences, what was learned, what changes need to be made, and answer questions you may have.

2019 Legislation Updates for Pupil Transportation – Stateroom D

Mick Anderson, Erin Howard - Nebraska Safety Center; Rich Casey - Bellevue Public Schools

The Nebraska Safety Center and transportation experts will provide an update on pupil transportation changes with LB 347 being passed and the transition into the new procedures that will take effect January 1, 2019.

Developing a Culture of GRIT and Student Resilience – Stateroom E

Seth Ford, David Spencer, Josh Struckman, Cameron Miller– South Platte Public Schools

We would like to share our GRIT program we have implemented with our students at South Platte. To us grit stands for: Greatness Requires Inherent Toughness. We believe that work ethic and resiliency supersede all other attributes when it comes to student success. We use a variety of teaching techniques and activities to bring this message to all of our 7-12 students on a weekly basis. We have had school-wide challenges and competitions, mental toughness activities, lessons from the Angela Duckworth book: Grit, lessons from the strategies of E+R=O framework, and lessons on developing a growth mindset rather than a fixed mindset (ideas from Carol Dweck).

Principal Coaching: Even Michael Jordan Had a Coach – Stateroom F

Larianne Polk, Marci Ostmeyer, Mark Brady – ESU #7

If coaching can help personalize professional learning and assist teachers in achieving their own goals, shouldn't principals have access to these opportunities as well? This session will feature an in-depth look at ESU 7's Principal Coaching model and how the Nebraska Performance Framework for Principals is used to help building leaders focus on the importance of personal, professional growth in the midst of the day-to-day routine.

Facilities: Bricks, Mortar, and Dozens of Legal Issues – Loper North

Karen Haase and Coady Pruett - KSB School Law

Believe it or not, school facilities are some of the most legally complex issues schools face. From construction, insurance, third-party use, liability, and other considerations like the First Amendment, these issues are best addressed after careful deliberation by boards and administrators. This presentation will cover some of the most hot button issues related to facilities, from Gay-Straight Alliance to liability for third-party use and many things in between.

Q & A for the Commissioner – Loper South

Dr. Matt Blomstedt - Nebraska Department of Education

Join Dr. Matt Blomstedt as he hosts a question-and-answer session on current educational topics.

Networking With New Principals – Ruby 6

Dr. Dan Ernst - Nebraska Council of School Administrators

This session is for first-time new or new-to-Nebraska principals or assistant principals. The session will highlight the NCSA Networking with New Principals Program and provide you with the opportunity to discuss concerns as new principals. This session will be led by the Networking Leadership Team that have years of successful experience in Nebraska schools. Please join us, as this session is extremely important to get your year and career as a Nebraska Administrator off to a great start.

Leading Best Practice in Nebraska Schools-AdvancED (201) – Ruby 7

Shannon Vogler – AdvancED-Nebraska

Every school or district, regardless of where they are today, can be better tomorrow. With this belief, the AdvancED Continuous Improvement System (CIS) provides an improvement framework that acknowledges the multifaceted factors at play in education. Instead of targeting silver bullet solutions, use the CIS to continuously and holistically evaluate policies, practices and conditions against research-based components in order to drive desirable learner outcomes: School and System Quality Factors (SQF), Learning Environments and Performance Standards. Learn how these components can inform your continuous improvement journey; the tools at your disposal and hear from Nebraska schools who are demonstrating best practice in these areas.

Teacher Vacancy: We're All in This Together – Diamond 1

Dr. Sara Skretta - University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Dr. Christopher M. Knoell - University of Nebraska-Kearney

Teacher Vacancy is a statewide challenge for Nebraska schools. The Teacher Vacancy Initiative is moving forward and UNK, UNL and Nebraska school districts have held initial discussions to begin defining strategies and making plans. At this session, you'll hear about the progress and future plans. Come join the discussion!

Helping First and Second Year Special Ed Directors Start Their Year Off on the Right Foot – Diamond 2

Peggy Romshek - North Platte Public Schools; Allison Jonas - Gothenburg Public Schools; McKayla LaBorde - ESU #3; Nikki Altig - Sandhills Educational Services Cooperative

This session will give tips and pointers to special education directors to help them start off their year off right. Those presenting will talk about their perspectives from being a director in an ESU, a district or in multiple districts. One of the presenters will talk about having no special education experience when being assigned this role. The presenters will also give an overview of the support available through the NASES New Member Program.

Shaping School Climate: The Impact of School-based Mentoring – Diamond 6

DeMoine Adams, Beth Roberts - TeamMates Mentoring Program

A positive school climate has been linked to student achievement and community involvement. Research studies have also shown that mentoring programs have a tendency to nurture personal qualities in a student such as creativity, critical thinking, problem solving skills, and interpersonal communication which all lead to productivity and accountability. This presentation will reveal how school-based mentoring contributes to

shaping a positive school climate through community engagement and Emotional Intelligence (EQ) development.

Fuel Up, Set Your Compass & Explore New Territories with #NEMAPS – Diamond 7

Josie Floyd - Sutherland Public Schools; Erin Sieh - Freeman Public Schools; Tessa Fraass - Creek Valley Public Schools; Keri Homan - Morrill Public Schools; Tammy Schaefer - Cross County Community Schools

Frequently, the principalship can leave you feeling like you are driving down a one lane road!. Fasten your seatbelt and get ready for the ride of your life! Set your compass along with principals who span the State of Nebraska, and identify the coordinates and direction you need to locate your PLN to “REV UP” your work/life balance. Avoid the ROAD LESS TRAVELED, FUEL YOUR RIDE & LET YOUR JOURNEY BEGIN with #NEMAPS (Nebraska Moms As Principals).

Personnel Requirements and Common Legal Issues: Everything You Need to Know – Crystal 1

Jim Gessford, Josh Schauer, Kelley Baker - Perry Law Firm

This session will focus on common personnel issues that administrators regularly face – from minor discipline to more tricky discipline scenarios. This session is a “must” for any administrator who must handle personnel discipline issues during the school year.

Select-a-Session II: 11:00-11:45

Addressing Challenges in the Role of the Superintendent of Nebraska's Small Rural Schools – Stateroom A & B

Dr. Travis Miller - Bayard Public Schools

This session will highlight strategies rural superintendents have identified to address the challenges of the rural superintendency. This session is based on results from a recent study of the challenges and changes in the role of superintendents in Nebraska's small rural schools. Challenges experienced in small rural schools include board/superintendent relations, the demanding nature of the superintendency, financial concerns, political challenges, staffing/personnel, providing opportunities for students, and issues related to enrollment/demographics.

Random Mandatory Drug Testing: It Will Help! – Stateroom C

Jason Alexander – Beatrice Public Schools; Doug Smith and Derry Trampe - Ord Public Schools; Matthew Franz - SPORTS SAFE Testing Service

This presentation will discuss the economics, policies, procedures, and perspectives on Random Mandatory Drug Testing in your school and how it can benefit your students. The goal of this presentation would be to analyze the various options to a district to increase the student's perception of risk. By instituting a strong random testing program along with other prevention methods, a district could build a significant deterrent. Developing a strong program requires strict attention to a number of factors.

NWEA MAP Growth & Goal Setting: Millard Public School's Two-Year Process – Stateroom D

Dr. Todd Tripple, Dr. Darin Kelberlau, Jodi Grosse – Millard Public Schools

Looking to successfully implement NWEA MAP Growth and foster Student Goal Setting? Join administrators from Millard Public Schools as they share their K-8 two-year implementation process of NWEA MAP Growth and Goal Setting. This presentation will focus on the implementation timeline, building teacher and administrator capacity, training materials and structures, and utilizing a structure to support student goal setting. Participants will gain ideas and access to resources to assist in their own NWEA MAP Growth and Goal Setting implementations.

School Climate! Realistic Ideas on How to Turn Your School Year Into a Fun Journey that Everyone Can Enjoy! – Stateroom E

Gene Russel - Sidney Public Schools

Let's face it, school is a drag when your climate and culture stinks. This session is dedicated to being realistic with what works really well to develop and build a fun, energetic and electric atmosphere to where teachers come to work everyday happy, positive, creative and excited. In this session, you will learn how Sidney Public Schools creates a culture of teachers and staff who have fun and are driven from within to be successful. If you are a leader of your school and want some great ideas on how you can impact your culture and climate, come ready to be engaged and entertained during this breakout session.

It Should Be Easier Than This! Improving Classroom Management Skills in Teachers – Stateroom F

Dr. Matthew McNiff - ESU #5

Behavior management is hard. As an administrator, not only do you have to have a plan to manage the behaviors of the students but training the teachers is not much easier. Just like the students in the teachers' classrooms, you too have teachers who need assistance in improving their skills. As an administrator, it is imperative that you have a plan to help teachers improve their classroom management skills for the sake of the students in your building. This session will discuss topics such as quick solutions and strategies, assessment of skills, energizing and inspiring staff, perspective analysis, and conflict resolution.

Contract Mistakes NOT to Repeat in 2018-19 – Loper North

Bobby Truhe and Tim Malm - KSB School Law

We know; we know. No one likes talking about contracts in July. However, schools and ESUs get stung every year by mistakes made in staff contracts. From paying for unused vacation to certificated staff renewal

processes, most of the contract mistakes we see are avoidable. This presentation will move through the most frequent and also some of the hot button contract issues you should think about before school starts.

Profile of a School Shooter: What We NEED to Know – Loper South

Monica Shambaugh, Check Elley, and Jolene Palmer - Nebraska Department of Education

Reports of school shootings are in the news far too often. Lessons have been learned from past incidents that can help inform potential future incidents. This session will be the "Cliff Notes" version of what is known to equip schools to recognize potential threats.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Gallery Walk – Ruby 6

Dr. Nick Pace, Dr. Shavonna Holman – University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Participants in this session will have the opportunity to review a variety of school improvement initiatives developed by graduate students from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). During the gallery walk, participants may review program designs, interact with aspiring school leaders, and meet members of the EDAD Department. Please come and review these innovative school improvement initiatives and engage in conversation about ways to impact student achievement and student success in Nebraska schools.

Dyslexia Technical Assistance Document and LB 1052: What Educators Need to Know – Ruby 7

Dr. Eileen Vautraver and Gwelda Carlson - Nebraska Dyslexia Association

Learn what you need to know to implement LB 1052 this coming year. Eileen Vautravers, M.D. will explain what dyslexia is and what it is not, provide characteristics of dyslexia found in preschool, elementary and secondary school students, and discuss conditions frequently associated with dyslexia. Gwelda Carlson, M.A. will explain the importance of universal screening and early identification, assessments, evidence-based instruction and accommodations.

A Conversation with NPERS – Diamond 1

Orron Hill - Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems

In this session NPERS Legal Counsel, Orron Hill, will field questions presented by school/ESU personnel through an interactive dialogue with audience members. We will address contract requirements related to retirement, how seasonal employment, temporary employment, and volunteer service are impacted by retirement, retirees performing substitute service, the most common reporting errors of the past year, and the Early Retirement Inducement and Termination Certification Forms.

NASES Washington Update – Diamond 2

Kami Jessop - Westside Community Schools; Terry Houlton - Millard Public Schools; Dan Bombeck - ESU#2

Your colleagues from the Nebraska Association for Special Education Supervisors recently visited the Hill! Join us to learn more about our interactions with Nebraska's representatives in DC, the latest proposals under consideration by the Administration and Congress, relevant legislative updates, and the impact of state and federal decisions on special education in Nebraska.

School Privatization and What It Means for Your District – Diamond 6

Ann Hunter-Pirtle - Stand for Schools

School privatization in the form of charter schools, vouchers, and tax credits is a growing threat nationally as well as here in Nebraska. Learn about recently introduced bills, national trends, close calls, and how you can help protect public schools here in Nebraska.

Assistant Principals Panel – Diamond 7

Cameron Soester - Milford High School

This session for assistant principals will be a panel to help motivate, inform, and develop assistant principal leadership. The format will begin with a panel discussion featuring recognized assistant principals from across the state, followed by a short discussion among participants. Topics will be related to the assistant principalship

and will include pertinent issues like time management, advocacy, instructional leadership, student discipline, transition, and professional development.

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Student Discipline Requirements and Common Legal Issues: Everything You Need to Know – Crystal 1

Justin Knight, Josh Schauer, Kelley Baker - Perry Law Firm

This session will focus on common student issues that administrators regularly face – from special education matters to tricky discipline scenarios. This session is a “must” for any administrator who handles student discipline during the school year.

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Select-a-Session III: 2:45-3:30

It's A Family Affair – Stateroom A & B

Dr. Steve Joel - Lincoln Public Schools; Dr. Derrick Joel - Raymond Central Schools

Raising children as a school leader can be exciting and challenging. This session will look at the trials and tribulations of parenting while leading and will explore the pressures and opportunities faced by the children being parented. It will also answer the question; "does birth order matter?"

Developing and Implementing Your Own Mentoring Program – Stateroom C

Derek Ippensen - Norfolk Senior High School

Hiring a new teacher is an incredibly important task. Preparing those new hires for success in your building is just as important, and the best way to do that is through the development and implementation of your own mentoring program. In this session, Derek Ippensen will discuss the process Shickley Public School went through to develop their program, the components of their program, and help those in attendance begin the process of building or updating their mentoring program in order to help their new teachers be successful.

The “Playbook” Effect: Instructional Models in Action – Stateroom D

Amy Schultz, Kristen Slechta – ESU #9

Would a coach ever hand a playbook to a player and then expect precise execution without practice, support, and feedback? Would an instructional leader do the same with a teacher? No! An implementation of a common language of effective instruction and practice are needed. This is called the “Playbook” Effect, where an instructional model is defined, described, and activities are offered that support an understanding of effective "plays" for all content teachers and support staff. Elevating the skills and talents of educators to enhance learning is what Amy and Kristen from ESU 9 call a "win!" Press play and join us today.

“Students, How Does School Add Value to Your Life?” – Stateroom E

Ross Ricenbaw, Brad Doering – School District 145-Waverly

Come and see how Waverly Middle School is connecting students' strengths, talents, interests, and passions to our district essential outcomes in order to give students identity, agency, and options heading into high school while improving student engagement. Learn how we capture student voice and provide project-based learning opportunities to encourage active participation in the school community. Topics include big picture planning, school improvement, career exploration, personal learning plans, student voice, and reflection.

Coming to You: Strategic Planning – Stateroom F

Dr. Caroline Winchester - Chadron Public Schools; Dr. Julie Downing - ESU #13

Chadron Public Schools revised it's approach to strategic planning by going to places where people are already meeting rather than asking people to come to school for another meeting. The purpose is two-prong: 1) Elicit stakeholder's input and 2) Share the positive messages of success in our public school. We like to use the phrase... "It's More Than You Can See From the Street" This process was comprehensive and the results were used to inform the Board of Education efforts with long-range planning.

Discriminatory Chants/Signs at Games – Loper North

Rex Schultze - NSAA Legal Counsel; Jay Bellar - Nebraska School Activities Association

The session will inform school administrators of the law regarding student free speech and the limits thereon both in school and at school activities, with a focus on conduct that impinges on the rights of other students; and, the proactive measures being taken by state educational governing agencies, including NDE, and education support organizations lead by the NSAA to assist schools in providing a safe, secure and non-discriminatory environment for all students in school and at activities.

Work Smarter, Not Harder! Using Google Classroom & G Suite for Education to Streamline Your Workflow – Loper South

Ben Hanika - ESU #4; Scott Harrington - Sterling Public Schools; Gale Dunkhas - Falls City Public Schools

This session will showcase how using Google Classroom and other G Suite for Education tools can streamline your workflow by improving communication, providing opportunities for collaboration, and making it easier to stay organized.

Real World Research: UNL EdAd EdD Students Share Practical Research Findings (1) – Ruby 6

Dr. Nick Pace, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Facilitator); Dr. Montessa Munoz - Hastings Public Schools; Dr. Kandace Garwood - Mickle Middle School-Lincoln Public Schools

What if high school students with high absenteeism rates really do want to be at school? You are invited to come learn from the experiences of a Nebraska high school truancy team working with community leaders to overcome the barriers leading to student absenteeism. Resources used by the truancy team will be shared. Attendees will also be asked to think deeper about Alternative Education Programs. Disproportionality can be addressed by using MTSS and by having culturally responsive schools. Suggestions for future practice will be shared.

Providing CTE Programs in a Consortium Model with Small Northeast Nebraska Schools – Ruby 7

Joe Peitzmeier, Dr. Ted DeTurk - ESU #2; Chad Boyer - Wisner-Pilger Public Schools; Jeff Smith - Oakland-Craig Public Schools; Dr. Jon Cerny - Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools

Attendees will learn how 6 school districts in Northeast Nebraska used the reVISION process planning a regional approach to deliver career and technical education (CTE). We have developed a collaborative CTE model where a number of high schools are pooling students to support the types of CTE courses they could not offer on their own. This session will discuss the process used to encourage schools to form a consortium in order to offer those CTE programs. Attendees will leave this session with tools and roadmap to develop a CTE process that unites small rural schools, business partners, and post-secondary education that provides innovative programming to students. The presenters will review the Nebraska reVISION process that is changing the face of CTE in Northeast Nebraska.

Human Trafficking – Diamond 1

Glen Parks - Nebraska Attorney General's Office

This program is designed to teach education professionals the three 'R's of human trafficking: Realize, Recognize, & Respond. Participants will realize that human trafficking does exist in Nebraska, be able to recognize a trafficking situation or potential trafficking victim, and will know how to respond appropriately to a trafficking situation.

Learning Center and Daycare Within a Public School Without Running as a Rule 11 – Diamond 2

Jeff Hoelsing, Mary Miller – Randolph Public Schools; Melissa Campbell – Cardinal Kids Learning Center; Gary Van Meter

In January of 2018, Randolph Schools implemented a year-round EC Learning Center/Daycare housed within their elementary building. Running into many "dead-ends" early in the process; it forced those involved to be creative in working out different solutions to meet a community need. Staffed and managed by a non-profit organization and licensed by HHS, the district is able to avoid the issues associated with running a Rule 11 program. It's a great example of the school and community partnering together to provide both high-quality daycare and Early Childhood education within school budget constraints.

Nebraska Loves Public Schools, Now What? – Diamond 6

Brittany Mascio - Nebraska Loves Public Schools

You're familiar with the films, your staff wear the I Love Public Schools shirts, your school is filled with pride... but what do you do now? Here we discuss how to bring the message of our films to your schools and communities through practical community-building events and ways to incorporate film into staff engagement, professional development, and community awareness. We'll also look at ways to elevate the I Love Public Schools message and demonstrate how to personalize this to fit your school culture.

A District's Growth in Blended Learning – Diamond 7

Beth Kabes - ESU Coordinating Council; Crystal Hurt - ESU #10

In 2016, ESU Coordinating Council and NCSA sponsored the Blended Pilot to provide professional development, resources and support for districts and schools using classroom strategies that impact student learning through time, pace, path and place. The initial pilot has concluded with a second cohort to begin in 2018-2019. Evidence and reflection from the first cohort report successes from the participating districts and schools. This session will review successes and offer suggestions for developing a plan to implement classroom strategies around pace, place, path and time.

New Administrator Legal Primer: Everything You Need to Know – Crystal 1

Greg Perry, Josh Schauer, Justin Knight - Perry Law Firm

This session is geared towards first or second year principals, superintendents and other administrators.

Understanding the laws of student discipline, personnel, and so forth is essential for a successful school year.

This is a "must attend" session for administrators in a new position.

Select-a-Session IV: 3:45-4:30

Educator Health Alliance Update – Stateroom A & B

Greg Long - Educators Health Alliance; Kent Trelford-Thompson - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska

The Educators Health Alliance will discuss the 2018-2019 Rate Renewal while introducing the advantages of healthcare working for you. BCBS and the EHA would like to hold a listening session for our members during the presentation for members to give ideas moving forward in health insurance plan design and optional benefits.

Developing a Mission-Driven Classroom – Stateroom C

Derek Ippensen - Norfolk Senior High School

Building a mission-driven classroom starts with the mission of the school, and answers the question of how this class, in particular, can help further progress toward the achievement of the mission of the school. In this session, Derek Ippensen will work with administrators to help them understand the reasons and process for developing classroom mission statements, and provide a template for teachers to write their own.

Curriculum Alignment – Stateroom D

Crystal Hurt, Dallas Lewandowski, Theresa Ritta-Olson – ESU #10

Given today's rapidly changing resource landscape, what counts as "curriculum?" How are districts taking on the challenge of curriculum alignment? What works best for teachers when aligning curriculum? This session will address these critical questions as well as share processes, tools, and tips for curriculum alignment.

Using Action Boards to Move School Improvement Plans Forward – Stateroom E

Shanna Gannon, Dr. Amy Mancini-Marshall – Grand Island Public Schools

This session will investigate action boards as a practical way to create forward momentum toward completing school improvement initiatives. Grand Island Public Schools implemented this strategy to make action steps manageable, track progress, and celebrate success. By using action boards, schools were able to complete action steps toward their goals and achieve measurable improvements in educator effectiveness. Attendees of this session will walk away with clear steps for creating and implementing the action board strategy as well as common mistakes to avoid.

Leading School Improvement By Focusing On Effective School Factors – Stateroom F

Brett Richards - Springfield Platteview Community Schools

When schools have a strong school culture, a rigorous curriculum and intervention system, effective teachers, and excellent stakeholder involvement, chances are they will be excelling in multiple areas, including student achievement. This session will focus on how district and school leaders can organize their school improvement process around effective school factors to help improve their schools and help meet their identified goals.

Embracing the Values of Activities Participation – Loper North

Jay Bellar - Nebraska School Activities Association

This session will focus on high school activities and the values that young people derive from participation. Included will be discussions of the benefits of participation in education-based athletics and activities. Discussions will also include sport specialization, risk minimization, legislative changes in effect for the new school year, emerging sports and activities and Board interpretations of the December Moratorium.

Tech Integration for the Lead Learner– Loper South

Mickie Mueller - Norfolk Public Schools

As lead learner of your building or district, how are you using technology with your teachers? You send them email, you say? What?! There is so much more to technology integration than email! In this session see a variety of technology tools that you can use to model technology integration for your teachers. From interactive presentations to video creation to online discussions and more, this session will fill your lead learner technology toolbox with tools and ideas.

Real World Research: UNL EdAd EdD Students Share Practical Research Findings (2) – Ruby 6

Dr. Nick Pace (Facilitator), Dr. Brad Stauffer - University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Dr. Laura Salem - Lincoln Public Schools

Participants will learn about one district's approach to staff working collaboratively to support the needs of English Language Learners who might also need Special Education services. Information will be shared about the collaborative problem solving process that is being used in Lincoln Public Schools. Resources will also be shared to aid districts in developing their own plan.

Additionally, we know that pre-kindergarten has long-term benefits for children, but findings from a recent study suggest pre-K and other high-quality early childhood programs may be a life line for rural communities. Dr. Brad Stauffer, director of external relations at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln's College of Education and Human Sciences, will share why rural Nebraska community leaders place high priority on ECE and how rural communities can build support for creating or expanding programs.

Teaching and Assessing Students for 21st Century Skills – Ruby 7

Shalee Lindsey – Grand Island Public Schools

What does “career ready” really mean, according to the business world? Some of the most vital skills students require involve not only cognitive processes, but mindset, resilience, and outlook, along with the ability to interact responsibly. This session will give you a glimpse of what a 21st Century curriculum looks like, based on Robert Marzano's book, *Teaching and Assessing 21st Century Skills* when it's taught as a core subject or embedded into any class.

What is Trauma Sensitive? How Can I Be That? – Diamond 1

Dawn Wright - Lincoln Public Schools

This session will explore strategies adults can use that help students be able to be engaged in the thinking parts of their brain when at school. We will cover ideas behind how we can respond to their behaviors in ways that promote giving students what they need and supporting students who might be bringing trauma responses with them to school. There will be opportunities to discuss response ideas, practice providing specific positive feedback and we will explore our own self-care needs in order to be the best we can for our students.

MTSS Secondary Style! – Diamond 2

Bobby Kelley - Cross County Community Schools; April Kelley - ESU #6

MTSS, formerly known as RtI, is a growing trend among secondary schools in Nebraska. Join us for this session to learn how Cross County has been effectively using MTSS (RtI) for the past four years to help all students grow academically. You will learn how the process was created, implemented, and modified to ensure effectiveness. This session is for all schools whether you have just started the process or have fully implemented and are wanting some different ideas.

From Awareness to Empathy: Helping Our Community Understand Mental Health in Our Schools – Diamond 6

Sally Nellson Barrett - Nebraska Loves Public Schools

Mental health is one of the most-pressing and complicated issues facing public education today. Schools are being asked to address immediate and varied needs of students and provide more social, emotional, and behavioral support services than ever before. In this session, discover the upcoming I Love Public Schools film series on mental health and see how this tool can bring empathy, support, and understanding to your school and community.

Best Possible Summer Experience – Diamond 7

Dr. Jackie Nielsen, Elizabeth Replogle – Beatrice Public Schools

Summer learning loss is a thing of the past in Beatrice Public Schools. Through the Best Possible Summer, we have found a way to engage our K-5 students in hands-on activities while creating connections to the core curriculum. All students are invited to engage in four weeks of activities which focus on future-ready skills promoting critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, communication, and so much more.

Special Education Law Primer – Crystal 1

Greg Perry, Haleigh Carlson - Perry Law Firm

Almost every district in the state addresses special education issues on a regular basis. Therefore, it is essential that administrators are aware of their legal obligations under the special education laws. This session will be a refresher for administrators of all backgrounds.

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