The National Association of Independent Schools provides services to more than 2,000 schools and associations of schools in the United States and abroad, including more than 1,600 nonprofit, private K-12 schools in the U.S. that are self-determining in mission and program and are governed by independent boards. For more information, visit www.nais.org.

**CONNECT WITH NAIS**

- Twitter: @NAIS
- Instagram: NAISAC
- LinkedIn: NAIS
- Facebook: NAIS

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**NOVEMBER 29–DECEMBER 2**
2023 NAIS People of Color Conference
St. Louis

**FEBRUARY 28–MARCH 1**
2024 NAIS Annual Conference
St. Louis

**2023 NAIS ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
FEB 22–24 | LAS VEGAS | NAISAC
ANNUALCONFERENCE.NAIS.ORG

National Association of Independent Schools
## Schedule-at-a-Glance

All times listed are Pacific Time.
This schedule is subject to change.
Please visit the NAIS Conference app for the most up-to-date information.

### Ticket required
- General Sessions
- Workshops
- NAIS Expo

### Wednesday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM – 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom Prefunction 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM – 12:30 PM</td>
<td>School Visits</td>
<td>Off-site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Three Hour Workshop + School Visit</td>
<td>Off-site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Three-Hour Workshops</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 – 5:15 PM</td>
<td>General Session with Jason Patera Open to all conference participants!</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom 118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 – 6:30 PM</td>
<td>First-Time Attendee Reception</td>
<td>Room 310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Dine-Arounds Sign-up required</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
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### Thursday

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 – 7:00 AM</td>
<td>Run/Walk</td>
<td>Meet in Caesars Forum Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 – 7:00 AM</td>
<td>Morning Yoga</td>
<td>Unity Boardroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom Prefunction 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 – 9:00 AM</td>
<td>President’s Breakfast</td>
<td>Room 411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:00 AM</td>
<td>Leadership Lab Session</td>
<td>Room 413-414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:00 AM</td>
<td>Workshop Block 1</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 3:30 PM</td>
<td>NAIS Expo Open</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom</td>
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### Friday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 – 7:00 AM</td>
<td>Run/Walk</td>
<td>Meet in Caesars Forum Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 – 7:00 AM</td>
<td>Morning Yoga</td>
<td>Unity Boardroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom Prefunction 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:00 AM</td>
<td>Workshop Block 4</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 1:15 PM</td>
<td>NAIS Expo Open</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:15 AM</td>
<td>Networking Expo Open</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom Prefunction 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 – 10:45 AM</td>
<td>General Session with Tracy Dennis-Tiwary</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom 118</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Workshop Block 5</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>PechaKucha Session</td>
<td>Room 410</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 12:30 PM</td>
<td>Leadership Lab Session</td>
<td>Room 413-414</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Master Class with Jamil Zaki</td>
<td>Room 411</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Complimentary Lunch in the NAIS Expo</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Chair Yoga</td>
<td>Council Boardroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45 – 2:15 PM</td>
<td>Leadership Lab Session</td>
<td>Room 413-414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 – 2:15 PM</td>
<td>Workshop Block 6</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 – 3:45 PM</td>
<td>Closing General Session with Jamil Zaki</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom 118</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**REMINDERS**

**CONFERENCE NAME BADGE**
Please wear your badge at all times in Caesars Forum. If you misplace your badge, we can help you at the registration desk. If you forget it, we’ll ask you to go retrieve it.

**SAFETY**
NAIS works with safety experts, local law enforcement, and venue security staff to address safety from multiple angles. NAIS policy prohibits all firearms in event space leased from the Caesars Forum for the duration of the Annual Conference event.

In addition to contracted security personnel, NAIS will have emergency medical personnel on-site to address any health emergencies that arise. We will also provide addresses for local hospitals and urgent care clinics to attendees on-site if needed. However, if you experience or witness a medical emergency, please dial 9-1-1 as a first step.

If you have additional questions, please visit the NAIS information booth.

**COVID**
NAIS works with state and local public health agencies and the venues hosting our events to follow best practices for COVID safety. All participants at NAIS events are encouraged to wear masks indoors (except when actively eating, drinking, or presenting) and to follow the CDC’s recommendations for vaccination against COVID-19. Any participant who feels ill or who tests positive for COVID is asked to stay home or away from the event.

**NAIS EXPO**
**Summit Ballroom**

**NAIS CENTRAL**
Located within the NAIS EXPO NEW! Find the NAIS Member Resource Center and Bookstore together in one place.

**WHAT’S IN THE EXPO?**
- Exhibitors
- Complimentary Lunches
- Networking Breaks
- Coaches’ Corner
- Complimentary Headshots
- Complimentary Massages
- Virtual Reality Experience
- Lounge Space

**DEDICATED SPACES**
**Nursing Mothers’ Room**
Location: Across from room 105 and 124
A quiet, peaceful space, the Nursing Mothers’ Room includes a refrigerator, electrical outlets, and other accommodations.

**First Aid Office**
Location: Across from room 223
Get medical assistance in this space, which is open throughout the conference.

**Luggage Check**
Location: Room 407
AVAILABLE FRIDAY, 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**MEDIA RELEASE**
By attending the NAIS Annual Conference, attendees grant permission to NAIS and its agents to use the attendee’s image or likeness in an effort to promote NAIS. Attendees waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product or products and the advertising copy or other matter that may be used in connection therewith or the use to which it may be applied.
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

NEW! LEADERSHIP LAB

All sessions located in Rooms 413-414
Whether you’ve been thrown into a leadership position or are trying to get there, the Leadership Lab will help you explore what it takes to be successful. Attend one or many of these sessions and walk away with sound advice, concrete takeaways, and new connections.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
8:00 – 9:00 AM
Panel Discussion: Demystifying Leadership
Presenters: Shannon Montague, Sabot at Stony Point (VA); Natalia Hernandez, Breck School (MN); Jennifer Tolbert, Saint Mark’s School (CA); Chase Mitsuda, Punahou School (HI); Liz Davis, Alta Vista School (CA)

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
What Would You Do? Case Studies for New Leaders
Presenter: Hanale Vincent, Wichita Collegiate School (KS)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
8:00 – 9:00 AM
Panel Discussion: The Upsides and Downsides of “Middle Management”
Presenters: Stacy Cohen, Crossroads School (CA); Jason Novak, Brooklyn Friends School (NY); Hanale Vincent, Wichita Collegiate School (KS)

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
What Would You Do? Case Studies for Admin Team Members
Presenters: LeRhonda Greats, iChangeCollaborative; Irene Mortensen, Gill St. Bernard’s School (NJ)

12:45 – 2:15 PM
Build Skills: Design Thinking for Leaders at all Levels
Presenters: Ryan Welsh, Providence Country Day School (NC); Ryann Fapohunda, Bullis School (MD)

NEW! WEDNESDAY GENERAL SESSION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
4:15 – 5:15 PM
Location: Forum Ballroom 118
This new pre-conference session is open to all attendees.

NEW! FIRST-TIME ATTENDEE RECEPTION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
5:30 – 6:30 PM
Location: Room 310
Join fellow first-time attendees at a casual reception and forge new connections.

DINE-AROUNDS

Sign-up Required
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
6:30 PM
Location: Off-site
Take advantage of the culinary scene in Las Vegas by joining other attendees at a small group dinner, hosted by an independent school educator.

PRESIDENT’S BREAKFAST AND ANNUAL MEETING

Ticket Required
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
7:30 – 9:00 AM
Location: Room 411
Join other heads of school for breakfast and a presentation by NAIS President Donna Orem and the NAIS Board of Trustees. The Annual Meeting for members immediately follows the breakfast.

NEW! COACHES’ CORNER

Sign-up Required
Located in the NAIS EXPO
Go to the conference app to sign up for a complimentary 45-minute time slot with a certified coach who will help guide you through a personal or professional challenge.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
SESSION 1
8:00 – 9:00 AM
SESSION 2
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
SESSION 3
1:30 – 2:30 PM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
SESSION 4
8:00 – 9:00 AM
SESSION 5
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
SESSION 6
12:00 – 1:00 PM

NEW! PRESIDENT’S WELCOME RECEPTION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
4:45 – 6:30 PM
Location: Forum Event Plaza
Join us for a welcome reception featuring complimentary food, drinks, entertainment, and more. Meet new friends or connect with current and past colleagues in a beautiful and inviting open-air space.

PECHAKUCHA SESSION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Location: Room 410
Attend this session where presenters follow a 20x20 rule: 20 slides that advance automatically at 20 seconds per slide.

NEW! AFFINITY AND AFFILIATION GROUP LUNCHES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
12:00 – 1:30 PM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
12:00 – 1:00 PM
Location: NAIS Expo
Grab your lunch and head to a labeled table to grow your community. Based on registration feedback, these groupings will connect attendees based on personal and professional identifiers.

NEW! ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR EVENT.
Some events have on-site registration.
Advance registration required for event. Some events have on-site registration.

### SPEAKERS

**JASON PATERA**, a head of school and fierce advocate for arts education, will be talking to us about the power of community.

**NEW! WEDNESDAY GENERAL SESSION**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

4:15 – 5:15 PM

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**VAN JONES**, a political commentator and CNN host, will explore ways to address our polarized world.

**OPENING GENERAL SESSION**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

9:15 – 10:45 AM

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**MICA POLLOCK**, an anthropologist and education equity expert, will help us embed DEIJ work into our schools.

**MASTER CLASS**

*Ticket Required*

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Photo by Erik Jepsen, UC San Diego

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**PETER T. COLEMAN**, a professor of psychology and education will offer research-based insights on polarization and navigating conflict constructively.

**FEATURED SPEAKER**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

1:30 – 2:30 PM

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**SUSAN FONSECA**, a revolutionary thinker and education innovator, will help us imagine what the future of school and work will look like.

**GENERAL SESSION**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

3:30 – 4:30 PM

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**TRACY DENNIS-TIWARY**, a psychologist and author, will help us reframe anxiety for our students—and ourselves.

**GENERAL SESSION**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

9:15 – 10:45 AM

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**JAMIL ZAKI**, a professor and empathy researcher, will guide us toward a deeper understanding of how to build capacity for empathy and trust in our school communities.

**MASTER CLASS**

*Ticket Required*

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**CLOSING GENERAL SESSION**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

2:30 – 3:45 PM
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>THREE-HOUR WORKSHOPS (continued)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WS13</td>
<td>Science of Breath for School Leaders: Improve Wellness to Increase Performance</td>
<td>ROOM 314</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Matt Nink and Susan Ramsundarisingh, International Association for Human Values/SKY Schools</td>
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<td>WS14</td>
<td>So, Tell Me What You Want</td>
<td>ROOM 313</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hannah Nelson, Tim Breen, and Jen Curtis, The Watershed School (CO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WS15</td>
<td>The Story of Self, The Story of Us, The Story of Now</td>
<td>ROOM 417</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Aaron Griffin, The Epstein School (GA); Kynan Robinson, EnRusk</td>
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<td>WS16</td>
<td>The Structural Struggles: Sustainable Equity Work in Schools</td>
<td>ROOM 307</td>
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<td>Ivy Alphonse-Crean, Dedham Country Day School (MA); Shani Charles, Fessenden School (MA)</td>
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<td>WS17</td>
<td>Using Auxiliary Programs to Cultivate Community: 10 Areas of Critical Capacities</td>
<td>ROOM 303</td>
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<td>Karen McCann McClelland, Sidwell Friends School (DC); Nat Saltonstall, SPARC (Summer Programs Auxiliary Revenue Collaborative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WS18</td>
<td>Walking the Talk: Foundational Practices for Integrating and Applying SEL and DEI in Schools</td>
<td>ROOM 316</td>
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<td>Jennifer Dirga and Virginia Siu, The Chestnut Hill School (MA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15 – 5:15 PM</td>
<td>GENERAL SESSION with Jason Patera</td>
<td>Forum Ballroom 118</td>
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<td>Open to all conference participants!</td>
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THURSDAY

6:00 – 7:00 AM  ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 1

**8:00 – 9:00 AM ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 1 (continued)**

- The Importance of Training Faculty and Staff on Basic Mental Health Interventions
  - Janani Buford, JG Bailey, and Samantha Bosco, Charlotte Country Day School (NC)
  - ROOM 403-404

- In Flux: Leader and Learner Adaptability
  - Jessica Fiarman, Rye Country Day School (NY); Clare Sisisky, Global Education Benchmark Group
  - ROOM 303-304

- Liberatory Education and the Role of Independent Schools: Four Possible Futures to Guide Strategy
  - Andrea Saveri, Saveri Consulting; Madeleine Rogin, Prospect Sierra School (CA)
  - ROOM 103-104

- Map Your Future
  - Brett Jacobsen, The Mount Vernon School (GA)
  - ROOM 307-308

- People Will Remember How You Made Them Feel
  - Carrie Grimes, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University
  - ROOM 111-112

- Retrofitting a Traditional School for Mastery Learning
  - John Bennett, Merguscsburg Academy (PA); Gwyneth Connell, Pomfret School (CT)
  - ROOM 316-317

- Six Insights into Academic Leadership: What We’ve Learned With and About Academic Leaders
  - Sarah Hanawald and Brad Rathegeber, One Schoolhouse (DC)
  - ROOM 126-127

- STEAMing Up Shakespeare
  - Nancy Nagramada, Sofia Lopez-Ibor, Carly Reiter, and Sadie Wilcox, The San Francisco School (CA)
  - ROOM 415

- Strategic Multicampus Schools: A National Research Study on Form and Performance
  - ROOM 314-315

- Students of Color as School Leaders for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - Janay Eccles, Appleby College (Canada)
  - ROOM 405-406

- Thriving in Uncertainty: Growing a Vital and Unassailable School Culture
  - Amanda Packard and Amy Jolly, Applewild School (MA)
  - ROOM 306

- Vision for Tomorrow: Futures Thinking in Independent Schools
  - Jared Cloofelter, Currey Ingram Academy (TN); Wade Tapp, Asheville Christian School (NC)
  - ROOM 301-302

- Advance registration required for event.
- Some events have on-site registration.

8:00 – 9:00 AM  ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 1

- **General Sessions**
- **Wellness**
- **Workshops**
- **Special Events**
- **Other Programming**

**THURSDAY**

6:00 – 7:00 AM  Run/Walk

- Meet in Caesars Forum Lobby

6:00 – 7:00 AM  Morning Yoga

- Unity Boardroom

7:00 – 8:00 AM  Registration Open

- Forum Ballroom Prefunction 1

7:30 – 9:00 AM  President’s Breakfast

- Room 411

8:00 – 9:00 AM  LEADERSHIP LAB

- Room 413-414

**Panel Discussion: Demystifying Leadership**

- Shannon Montague, Sabot at Stony Point (VA); Natalia Hernandez, Breck School (MN); Jennifer Tolbert, Saint Mark’s School (CA); Chase Mitsuda, Punahou School (HI); Liz Davis, Alta Vista School (CA)

8:00 – 9:00 AM  ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 1

- **Agentic Engagement: What It Is, Why It Matters, and How It Can Be Measured**
  - Anthony Elmore, University of San Francisco; Chris Mazzola, The Branson School (CA)
  - ROOM 313

- **Building Character in the Classroom: Research, Methods, and Tools Successful Teachers Use**
  - Amanda Quintanilla, Kory Gallagher, and Lindsay Zimmerman, The Barstow School (MO)
  - ROOM 108

- **Cultivating Community: The Board Leads the Way!**
  - Scott Hardister and Julie Falk, French International School of Oregon (OR)
  - ROOM 109-110

- **Data-Informed Wellness: Creating a Collective Responsibility for Positive School Culture**
  - Rachel Gorsky, Christina Kim, and Peter Kwiterovitch, Gilman School (MD)
  - ROOM 124-125

- **Designing and Leading a Connected Framework for Professional Development**
  - Julie King and Robert McMahon, The Buckley School (NY)
  - ROOM 131-132

- **Engaging Challenging Parents: Tools for Teachers**
  - Sara Stephenson and Polly Kronsberg, Ashley Hall (SC)
  - ROOM 416-417

- **Faculty and Staff Hiring: A Concierge Approach**
  - David Faus, The Benjamin School (FL)
  - ROOM 311-312

- **From George Floyd’s Death to Anti-Asian Hate to the War in Ukraine: Navigating Institutional Responses**
  - Alegría Barclay, Lick-Wilmerding High School (CA); Rachel Freeman, The Nueva School (CA)
  - ROOM 101-102

- **From Lessons to Experiences: A New Vision for Course Design and Development**
  - Amanda Burch, Global Online Academy (CO); Jennifer Bray, Providence Day School (NC) and Global Online Academy (NC)
  - ROOM 408-409

- **Hacking the Future: Creating Social Justice Innovations**
  - Charles James, Delonte Epsuwatu, and Husam Shabazz, St. Andrew’s Episcopal School (MD)
  - ROOM 401-402
Navigating the Culture War: School Culture Matters More Than Ever
Measuring How Students Are Thriving and Flourishing
Managing Student Needs and School Needs During a Health Crisis
How a Tuition Reset Inspired Trust, Nurtured Community, and Increased Enrollment
Grit and Resilience: The Interplay Between Systems and Self
Getting on the Same Side: How to Optimize the Parent-School Partnership
The First Four Years: Supporting Teachers New to Your School
Developing Student Agency by Cultivating Community and Increasing Student Engagement

Double Binds and Concrete Walls: Women Navigating the K-12 Education Leadership Pipeline
Sarah Odell, The Hewitt School (NY); Julie Kallio, Breck School (MN); Loris Adams, National Cathedral School (DC); Jennie Weiner, University of Connecticut Neag School of Education; Barbara Chase, Carney Sandoe & Associates

The First Four Years: Supporting Teachers New to Your School
Jessica Romero and Sarah Williamson-Broadman, Village Community School (NY)

Getting on the Same Side: How to Optimize the Parent-School Partnership
Olaf Jorgenson, Almaden Country Day School (CA); Sheri Glucoft Wong, private practice

Grit and Resilience: The Interplay Between Systems and Self
Danielle Scorrano and Jonathan Rosenshine, The Windward Institute (NY)

Head on Swivel: Communicating About DEIB Efforts in the Face of Pushback
Jan Abernathy and Naledi Semela, The Browning School (NY)

How a Tuition Reset Inspired Trust, Nurtured Community, and Increased Enrollment
Nancy Lang and Erin Goerke, The New School (AR); Christopher Mitchell and Jesse Meadow, SchoolCraft Digital

How Can Schools Build Safe, Productive, and Affirming Cultures?
Ross Wehner, World Leadership School; Taryn Spybayrery, Valor Collegiate Academies

Zaheer Ali, The Lawrenceville School (NJ)

Managing Student Needs and School Needs During a Health Crisis
Lisa Culbertson, The Hockaday School (TX)

Measuring How Students Are Thriving and Flourishing
Fran Bisselle and Lisa Mortimer, Hathaway Brown School (OH)

Navigating the Culture War: School Culture Matters More Than Ever
Suzanne Bogdan, Roger Phillips, Whitney Walters-Sachs, Pine Crest School (FL)

Thrive: All Students with Teacher Language
Kerry O’Grady, Center for Responsive Schools; Sloane Castlemen, San Jose Episcopal Day School (FL)

Passing the Baton: Navigating Governance, Leadership, Diversity, and Social Justice in Headship Transitions
Nadine Tanio, Serita Young, John Huber, and Clarke Weatherspoon, The Waverly School (CA)

Reimagining Wellness: A Panel Discussion on Transforming School Culture Toward Well-Being for All
Christina Kim, Gilman School (MD); Rebecca Heller, Viewpoint School (CA); Cheryl Mitchell, The Kinkaid School (TX); Kavita Ajmere, Oakwood School (CA)

Revamping the Curriculum: Advancing Your School’s DEI Mission Through New Course Offerings
Hasani Sinclair, Brentwood School (CA)

The State of Financial Aid
Mark Mitchell, NAIS

The Sustainability of Small Independent Schools
Scott Collins, University School of Nashville (TN); Kristine Varney, Norfolk Collegiate School (VA)
12:00 – 1:30 PM  
Complimentary Lunch in the NAIS Expo  
Summit Ballroom

1:30 – 2:30 PM  
LEADERSHIP LAB  
Room 413-414

Build Skills: Actors’ Secrets for Telling Your Story With Confidence & Clarity  
Michelle Haner, French-American International School (CA)

1:30 – 2:30 PM  
Featured Speaker Session with Peter T. Coleman  
Room 411

Affirming Schools for Transgender Youth: Lessons Learned in a Yearlong Partnership Between Independent School Leaders and the Gender Clinic at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia  
Elizabeth Elizardi, The Agnes Irwin School (PA); Amanda Chang, Delaware Valley Friends School (PA)

1:30 – 2:30 PM  
ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 3  
ROOM 415

Beyond Strategic Planning—Progress Design for a New Era  
Tim Fish, NAIS

Attendance to Educator and Student Resilience: Best Practices Derived from Survey Findings and Firsthand Experience  
Nina Kumar, Authentic Connections; Quinton Walker, University School of Nashville (TN)

Beyond Strategic Planning—Progress Design for a New Era  
Tim Fish, NAIS

Board-Head Misalignment is an Accident Waiting to Happen  
Damian Kavanagh, MISBO; Aggie Walter, PAISBOA

Conflict, Cooperation, and Connectedness: Leveraging Cross-Disciplinary Curricular Design to Immerses Students in Global Critical Thinking  
Christy Mulhollem, Jon Riddle, Stephanie Simon, Ruth Neely, and Lindsay Downs, Sewickley Academy (PA)

Continuing Work on Demand-Side Innovation: Three Distinct Schools Collaborate for Shared Growth  
Peter Wickman, Nichols School (NY); Andrew Bishop, The Alexander Dawson School (NV); Megan Gray, Davidson Day School (NC)

Cultivating and Activating Resilience in Independent School Leadership During Times of Turbulence Gene Batiste, Dwight-Englewood School (N.J)

Cultivating Opportunities to Connect, Belong, and Contribute While Onboarding New Faculty  
Allison Schultz, Episcopal Academy (PA); Julie Rust, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Academy (MS); Tim Betzala, Pacific Ridge School (CA); Ali Baran, The Park School (MD); Laura Farmer, Colorado Academy (CO)

Hiring with Dignity: An Equity-Centered Approach to Recruiting and Retaining Top Talent  
Mikael Yisrael and Keisha Hirlinger, Abington Friends School (PA)

Homegrown Heads: Succession Planning in Independent Schools  
Gretchen Forsyth, Glen Urquhart School (MA); Peter Mason, Creosote Affects/Glen Urquhart School (MA)

1:30 – 2:30 PM  
ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 3 (continued)  
ROOM 306

Advance registration required for event. Some events have on-site registration.
FRIDAY

6:00 – 7:00 AM  Run/Walk  Meet in Caesars Forum Lobby
6:00 – 7:00 AM  Morning Yoga  Unity Boardroom
7:00 AM – 1:00 PM  Registration Open  Forum Ballroom Prefunction 1
8:00 – 9:00 AM  LEADERSHIP LAB  Room 413-414

Panel Discussion: The Upsides and Downsides of “Middle Management”
Stacy Cohen, Crossroads School (CA); Jason Novak, Brooklyn Friends School (NY); Hanale Vincent, Wichita Collegiate School (KS)

8:00 – 9:00 AM ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 4  ROOM 306
Brain-Based Methods to Lead an Organization Through Change
Maria Arelano, Ilise Faye, and Nathan Orr, Hollywood Schoolhouse (CA)
TRACK Leadership Development

Creating Changemakers: Teaching Students to Make a Difference
Rich Lehrer, The Alexander Dawson School (NV); David Saunders, Brookwood School (MA)
TRACK The Student Experience

Designing for Growth: Reframing Evaluation to Meet Community Needs
Sarah Wolf and JD Gladden, Polytechnic School (CA)
TRACK Leadership Development

Developing and Implementing a House System That Works
Angela Ringley and Elise Shelton, Pinewood Preparatory School (SC)
TRACK The Student Experience

Equity-Powered Podcasting and Audio Storytelling: Centering Marginalized Perspectives, Empowering Student Voices, Deepening DEIB Dialogue
Arjuna Sayyed, Park Day School (CA)
TRACK The Student Experience

Equity, Inclusion, and Restorative Justice in Action: Bias Incident Reporting and Professional Development
Vanessa Cohen Gibbons and Suzanne DeBuhr, Milton Academy (MA)
TRACK Leadership Development

The Executive Committee: Purpose and Parameters for Board Effectiveness
Anne-Marie Balzano, Mission and Data; Barb Rosston, Barbara Rosston Consulting
TRACK Governance

Growing Leaders: Jeffrey Mitchell, Currey Ingram Academy (TN)
TRACK Leadership Development

How Students Deliver on a Global Call to Action
Marek Beck, The Elisabeth Morrow School (NJ); Jacklyn Beck, United Nations, Catholic University of America, The Elisabeth Morrow School (NJ)
TRACK The Classroom Experience

Leveraging Love and Partnership to Build Belonging in Your Community
Christopher Jones and Beth Wilner, Cannon School (NC); Chloe Valdary, Theory of Enchantment
TRACK Leadership Development

8:00 – 9:00 AM ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 4 (continued)  ROOM 307-308
Lifting Up Faculty Expertise: Centering Faculty Strengths and Modeling to Enhance Professional Development
Heidi Hojnicky, Kingswood Oxford School (CT); Stephanie Griffin, Trinity Episcopal School (NC); Julie Rust, St. Andrew’s Episcopal School (MI)
TRACK Leadership Development

Looking Back and Paying It Forward: Your Role as a Mentor
Meredith Godley and Dorothy Lopez, Moorestown Friends School (NJ)
TRACK Leadership Development

Nurturing and Assessing Intercultural Competencies in K-12 Educators
David Lynn, Charlotte Country Day School (NC)
TRACK Leadership Development

Queer Inclusivity: 10 Questions for Schools to Ask as They Build Community
Karen Rayne, UNHUSHED; Sam Davis, St. Stephen’s Episcopal School (TX); Nhalia Hendrickcise, St. Andrews Episcopal School (TX)
TRACK The Student Experience

Resetting Tuition: A Case Study
Christopher Brueningsen, The Kiski School (PA)
TRACK Management

A Restorative Approach to Promote Healing from Sexual Abuse
Christina Mazzola, JuanCarlos Arauz, Quoc Tran, and Nathalio Gray, The Branson School (CA)
TRACK The Student Experience

Straight-Talk Tech Questions Heads Need to Ask to Make Better Decisions
Christina Lewellen, Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools
TRACK Technology Management

We Are What We Teach: The Impact of Our Identities on Our Teaching
Le’Aqua Pruitt, Milton Academy (MA)
TRACK The Classroom Experience

When Student Interactions Go Wrong—Helping Teens Avoid Harm and Embrace Empathy
Nadine Hall and Kelly Williams, Greenhills School (MI)
TRACK The Student Experience

8:00 – 9:00 AM ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 5  ROOM 303-304
Lifting Up Faculty Expertise: Centering Faculty Strengths and Modeling to Enhance Professional Development
Heidi Hojnicky, Kingswood Oxford School (CT); Stephanie Griffin, Trinity Episcopal School (NC); Julie Rust, St. Andrew’s Episcopal School (MI)
TRACK Leadership Development

Looking Back and Paying It Forward: Your Role as a Mentor
Meredith Godley and Dorothy Lopez, Moorestown Friends School (NJ)
TRACK Leadership Development

Nurturing and Assessing Intercultural Competencies in K-12 Educators
David Lynn, Charlotte Country Day School (NC)
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<th>11:00 AM – 12:00 PM</th>
<th>ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 5 (continued)</th>
<th>ROOM 403-404</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Do Your Students Need More Extensions, Too? Exploring Equity and Loving Accountability in Grading</strong></td>
<td>Derek Kanarek, Catlin Gabel School (OR); Regan Galvan, Vistamar School (CA); Michael Peller, The White Mountain School (NH); Julia Griffin, Hawken School (OH); Jason Cummings, Global Online Academy (WA)</td>
<td>TRACK The Classroom Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Employment Contracts, Letters, and Other Options: What’s Best for Your School</strong></td>
<td><strong>Leadership Style?</strong> Heather Broadwater, Stanton Law</td>
<td>TRACK Management</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exploring Best Practices for Student Requests to Avoid Traumatic Material</strong></td>
<td>Theo Stripling, University of Chicago Laboratories Schools (IL)</td>
<td>TRACK The Student Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Impromptu Requests to Talk About It: How to Meet the Needs of All Students</strong></td>
<td>Darius Weil, Princeton University</td>
<td>TRACK The Classroom Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jazz and Controversy: Leadership Lessons from Both Sides of the Curtain</strong></td>
<td>Jason Patera, The Chicago Academy for the Arts (IL)</td>
<td>TRACK Leadership Development</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Making Auxiliary Student Programming Profitable</strong></td>
<td>Katie Peterson and Julie Kallio, Breck School (MN)</td>
<td>TRACK Management</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Managing a Crisis When Everyone Has a Microphone: Safety and Communications in Age of Social Media</strong></td>
<td>Myra McGovern, NAIS; Jim Hulbert, The Jane Group; Chris Joffe, Joffe Emergency Services</td>
<td>TRACK Communications and Advancement</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Neuroplasticity Exists—Let’s Align Teaching and Schools with How the Brain Learns Best</strong></td>
<td>Ian Kelleher and Christine Lewis, The Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning at St. Andrew’s Episcopal School (MD)</td>
<td>TRACK The Classroom Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Partnering in Permanent Whitewater: The Head-Board Relationship</strong></td>
<td>Jack Creeden, Whitby School (CT); Anne-Marie Balzano, Mission &amp; Data</td>
<td>TRACK Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proactive and Responsive Ways of Navigating Conflict in the Classroom</strong></td>
<td>Cabrina Kang, The Berkeley Carroll School (NY); Regina Hardatt, The Pingry School (NJ)</td>
<td>TRACK Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proudly Proclaiming the Value of Independent Schools: Making a Unifying and Winning Case</strong></td>
<td>Ross Peters, EXPLO Elevate; John Gulla, The Edward E. Ford Foundation</td>
<td>TRACK Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recentering Self, Recentering Community: Using Restorative Practices and Personal Coaching Strategies to Improve School Culture</strong></td>
<td>Paula Apostolou, Recentered LLC; Stephanie Harman, Maumee Valley Country Day School (OH)</td>
<td>TRACK Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ROOM 311-312**

**Solicitation Savvy: Ask with Confidence!** | **Supporting Youth-Led Mental Health Programming in Independent Schools** | TRACK Communications and Advancement |

**Supporting Youth-Led Mental Health Programming in Independent Schools** | Janie Egan, Active Minds; Stephen Popp and Diego Estrada, The John Cooper School (TX) | TRACK The Student Experience |

**Take Care of Your Chair: Improving (or Refining) Your School’s Department Head Support Models** | David Hamilton and Elise London, Exploration School (MA); Jenna Goldenberg, Greenhills School (WI) | TRACK Leadership Development |

**Teaching into Our Values: Creating a Values-Based Program by Identifying, Defining, and Operationalizing Shared Values** | Allison Erickson and Danielle Heyde, San Diego Jewish Academy (CA) | TRACK The Classroom Experience |

**Tending Trust: Practical Strategies for Administrators to Nourish Communities of Trust** | Sandy Nelson, Casady School (OK) | TRACK Leadership Development |

**Two-Way Mentorship: Building the Relationship Between the Head and Assistant Head of School** | Scott Parker, The Chestnut Hill School (MA); Lauren Miller, Seacrest School (CA) | TRACK Leadership Development |

**UnGrading: Lifting Learning Through Metacognition and Reflection** | Hassan Wilson and Cory Park, Constellation Learning Institute; Jesse Pasca, Friends Seminary (NY) | TRACK The Classroom Experience |

**What Does It Cost to Enroll an Independent School Student?** | Joe Corbett, NAIS | TRACK Management |

**Y’all Means All: Expanding Gender Inclusivity in the Elementary Space** | Amanda Boardman, Katy Roybal, and Jasmin Vara, St. Andrew’s Episcopal School (TX) | TRACK The Student Experience |

**Celebrating Community Through Classroom Connections** | Jesse Carley, Epiphany School (WA) | ROOM 410 |

**Discover, Define, Deploy: Creating a Design Thinking Course for Middle School** | Ryan Welch, The Mount Vernon School (GA) | ROOM 108 |

**Heroes Needed: No Masks or Capes Necessary** | Le’Aqua Pruitt, Milton Academy (MA) | ROOM 126-127 |

**I Jumped Off the QEII to Drive My Own Speedboat, Then Experienced the Perfect Storm** | Nancy Lang, The New School (AR) | ROOM 405-406 |

**My Homemade Blockchain Game: Turning the Crypto Craze into a Creativity (& Learning) Craze** | Nate Green, Sidwell Friends School (DC) | ROOM 131-132 |

**The Black People Show: Changing the Black History Month Narrative Through Student Empowerment** | Crystall Miller, The Alexander Dawson School (NV) | ROOM 316-317 |

**This Person Is Doing the Best They Can** | Elizabeth Perry, St. Luke’s School (CT) | ROOM 313 |
FRIDAY

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM LEADERSHIP LAB Room 413-414

What Would You Do? Case Studies for Admin Team Members
Leifhonda Greats, iChangeCollaborative; Irene Mortensen, Gill St. Bernard’s School (NJ)

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM MASTER CLASS with Jamil Zaki Room 411

12:00 – 1:00 PM Complimentary Lunch in the NAIS Expo Summit Ballroom

12:30 – 1:00 PM Chair Yoga Council Boardroom

12:45 – 2:15 PM LEADERSHIP LAB Room 413-414

Build Skills: Design Thinking for Leaders at All Levels
Ryan Welsh, Providence Country Day School (NC); Ryann Fapohunda, Bullis School (MD)

1:15 – 2:15 PM ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 6

Alphabets and Alpha Waves: Embedding Innovation and Learning Science in the Classroom Jim Eagen and Elizabeth Toomarian, Synapse School (CA)


Board Transparency: Seeing Through the Legal Looking Glass Grace Chan and Casey Williams, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore; Pamela Jordan and Jeffrey Dvorak, Idyllwild Arts Academy (CA)

Considerations for Teaching Hard Histories: Positionality, Perspectives, and Pedagogy Alegra Barclay, Lick-Wilmerding High School (CA); Elizabeth Rossini, Agnes Irwin School (PA)

Creating Interdisciplinary Connections Through Signature Projects Lindsay Kelland, Shannon Schmidt, and Emma Parsons, Garrison Forest School (MD)

Design for Change! Understanding Systems-Based Thinking Through Video Games Chris McNutt and Nick Covington, Human Restoration Project

Designing Compensation Systems for Mission Congruence and Financial Sustainability—Now Is The Time John Littleford, Littleford & Associates; James Hickey, Austin Preparatory School (MA)

Do Say Gay: LGBTQ+—Affirming Schools Patti Hearn, Verge Services; Drew Bensen, author


1:15 – 2:15 PM ONE-HOUR WORKSHOP BLOCK 6 (continued)

Is Your Onboarding Program Aligned with Your School’s Values and Teaching Philosophy? Corbett Simons and Jennifer Liu, Town School for Boys (CA)

The Kids are Not OK, Yet: Post-COVID-19 Support—and Structure—to Uplift Students Jessie Royce Hill, Yale University; Amy Selinger, Buckingham, Brown & Nichols (MA); Tawanda Owens, Roland Park Country School (MD)

Leadership Sustainability and the Emotional Labor of Heads of School Seth Yocum, Saint Paul’s School (CA); Anne-Marie Balzano, Mission and Data

Leading, Parenting, and Growing Up in Public: Administrators and Their Enrolled Children Navigating Schools Together Mitch Bostian, The Berkeley School (CA); Roslyn Benjamin, The Children’s School (GA); Cheryl Ting, Saint Paul’s Episcopal School (CA); Nate Lundy, San Francisco University High School (CA)

Myspace: Using Virtual Reality as an Empowering DEI Tool Lisa Fournier Kowaleski and Jeffrey Thompson, Cape Cod Academy (MA)

Navigating the Reputational Minefield of Culture Wars Christopher Lukach, AKCJ—Public Relations Counselors; Kristin Smith, Fisher Phillips

Personalized Tuition—It’s Not Just for College Anymore Lisa Fournier Kowaleski and Jeffrey Thompson, Cape Cod Academy (MA)


Reinforcing Global Education Programs Post-Pandemic Joana Wheeler, NAIS; Karina Basm, Buckingham, Browne & Nichols School (MA); Linda Sills, Global Issues Network

Relationships Reset: Classroom Practices to Build Sustainable and Healthy Post-Pandemic Communities Mike Orlando, Helios School (CA); Jane Murphy, Almaden Country Day School (CA)

Teach “Unteachable” Subjects: Infuse Competencies like Creativity, Resilience, and Metacognition into Lessons and Instructional Design Robbie Taylor and Carol Atwood, Center for Curriculum Redesign

Trends in BIPOC Board Representation Cathy Shelburne, Carney, Sandoe & Associates; Shelly Luke, Wille Children’s Day School (CA); Patricia Kong, Pilgrim School (CA); Gary Krahm, La Jolla Country Day School (CA); Luthern Williams, New Roads School (CA)

2:30 – 3:45 PM CLOSING GENERAL SESSION with Jamil Zaki Forum Ballroom 118

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Ryann Fapohunda, Director of Teaching & Learning, Bullis School (MD)

Nicole Thao Girvan, Head of Lower School, Ravenscroft School (NC)

Peter Gordon, Head of School, Adelson Educational Campus (NV)

LeRhonda Greats, iChangeCollaborative

Jeremy Gregersen, Head of School, Dwight-Englewood School (NJ)

Philip Kassen, Director, Little Red School House and Elisabeth Irwin High School (NY)

Derek Krein, Dean of Faculty, Tabor Academy (MA)

Robert (Bo) Lauder, Head of School, Friends Seminary (NY)

Shannon Montague, Head of School, Sabot at Stony Point (VA)

Irene G. Mortensen, Dean of Faculty, Gill St. Bernard’s School (NJ)

Cathy Shelburne, Executive Coach and Consultant

Joel Sohn, Director of Upper School, University Prep (WA)

Roxanne Stansbury, Head of School, The Alexander Dawson School (NV)

Hanale Vincent, Head of Middle School, Wichita Collegiate School (KS)