

EDUCATORS RISING 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

June 28-July 1, 2024 | @EducatorsRising
#EdRising24 | #DiscoverYourPotential

discovering your potential

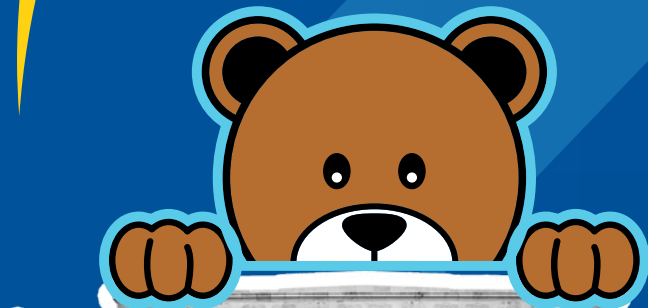


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BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Welcome Letter

I am so excited to welcome you to the **2024 Educators Rising National Conference!** Each year, this event is the place where the nation's top middle and high school rising educators compete, showcase talent, network, and join in our movement with other like-minded future educators and their teachers and sponsors.

Thank you for being a part of the movement. After all, your commitment and passion make Educators Rising such an amazing place to come together and share in our calling in education. As the CEO of PDK International and Educators Rising, I'm thrilled to be here with you for my first conference as the new leader of our organization and can't wait to be inspired together. Our Educators Rising movement is growing, and I can't thank you enough for your passion for our program and your interest in becoming a teacher in your community. Congratulations on getting to nationals and good luck as you strive to become a national champion!

These accomplishments build on our legacy of inspiring high school students to pursue a career in education. You may not know that Educators Rising began as Future Teachers of America in 1937 and since PDK's acquisition of the program in 1994, more than

Educators Rising has had a greater impact than ever before:

- This year's conference is our largest ever with nearly 3,300 attendees! This record number shows the strength and power of this movement.
- Our membership has grown to more than 20,000 students and 1,000 chapters nationwide. We are now in every state and the District of Columbia, with 38 formal affiliate states.
- More states and districts than ever have applied to add Educators Rising to their budgets.
- We anticipate that Educators Rising curriculum use is up by more than 150% over 2023.
- We are launching our curriculum assessments to help teachers and students better track their learning and understanding.
- We have partnerships with committed organizations like the NEA that have endorsed Educators Rising's middle and high school program and curriculum.
- We are building partnerships with the U.S. Department of Labor as well as the Department of Education.

346,600 aspiring educators have been helped by our programs, with **155,700** in the time since we have become Educators Rising.

Educators Rising has grown from an after-school club to a **career and technical student organization (CTSO)** offering a curriculum, competitions, conferences, networking, micro-credentials, and more.

Now, in 2024, we're poised to expand and grow even more as you serve communities throughout America. **We couldn't do that without you and your hard work**, and I'm so proud of everything you're doing to strengthen our profession. Our 2024 National Conference promises to be a fun and engaging opportunity to learn, grow, and compete. Over the next four days, you'll have the chance to:

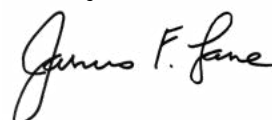
- Compete for national recognition.
- Learn from leading education professionals in nearly 60 breakout sessions.
- Meet representatives of associations and colleges and universities in our exhibit hall.

We want to thank our conference sponsors who have helped make this event possible. Thank you to the following sponsors:

- AFT
- *ets
- Golden Apple Foundation
- Impexium
- James Madison University
- National Education Association
- Old Dominion University
- PPGAV
- Stagetime Productions
- Study.com
- Teaching Channel
- The University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
- Towson University
- Virginia State University
- XQ Institute

I continue to be optimistic about the future of education in our country because I see the incredible work you're doing now and that you will do in the future for our children and communities.

Thank you and have a great conference.



James F. Lane, Ed.D.
CEO, PDK International



PDK International Board of Directors

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Educators Rising Mission

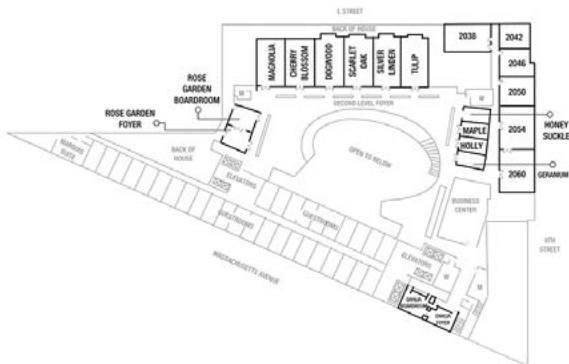
Educators Rising is cultivating a new generation of highly skilled educators by guiding young people on a path from high school through college and into their teaching careers. By working with aspiring educators who reflect the demographics of their communities and who are passionate about serving those communities through public education, Educators Rising is changing the face of teaching.

Educators Rising Vision

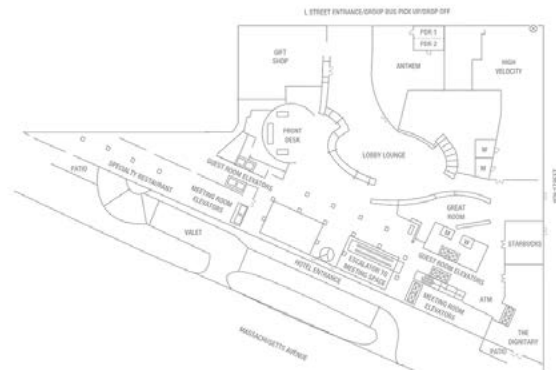
A clear pathway in every school district in America for young people who want to serve their communities as highly skilled educators.

Marriott Marquis Hotel Map

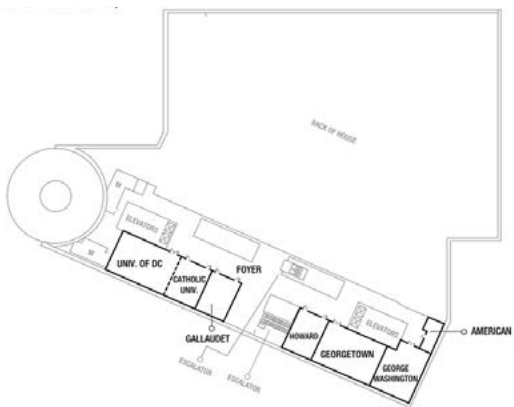
2ND FLOOR (ONE FLOOR ABOVE LOBBY)



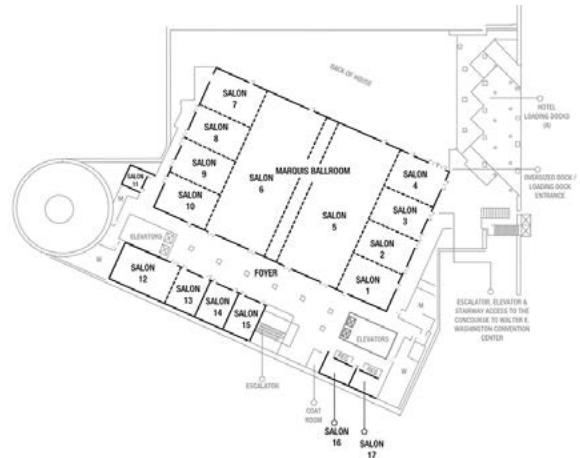
LOBBY LEVEL



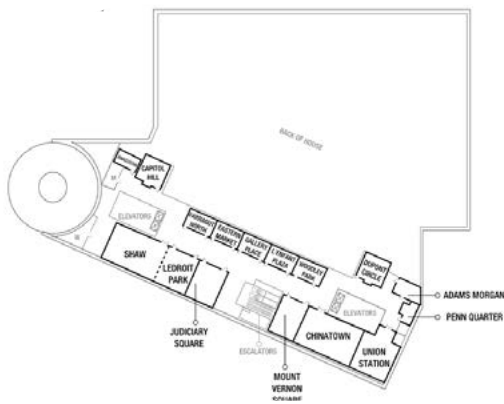
MEETING LEVEL 1 (M1) (ONE LEVEL BELOW LOBBY)



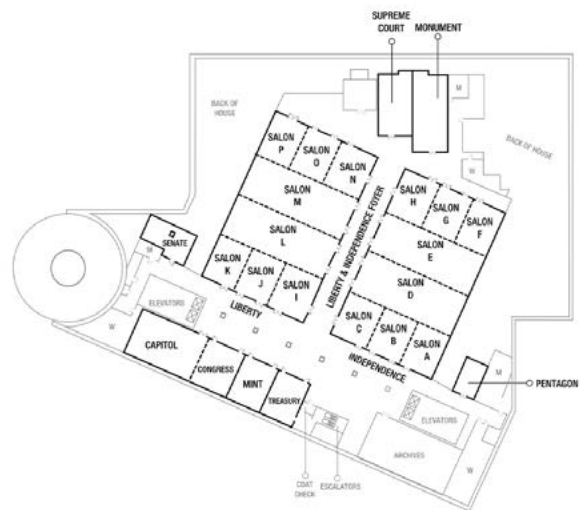
MEETING LEVEL (M2) (TWO LEVELS BELOW LOBBY)



MEETING LEVEL 3 (M3) (THREE LEVELS BELOW LOBBY)



MEETING LEVEL 4 (M4) (FOUR LEVELS BELOW LOBBY)



Educators Rising Conference Agenda



THURSDAY, JUNE 27

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
1 – 6 p.m.	Magnolia	Preconference Meeting: State/Regional Coordinators (by invitation only)
3 – 6 p.m.	Independence Foyer	Registration
3 – 6 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Bundle Pick-Up
3 – 6 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Educators Rising store open

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Independence Foyer	Registration
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Bundle Pick-Up
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Educators Rising store open
9 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Independence Ballroom	Competition judge training (by invitation only)
11 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Independence Ballroom	Competition judge lunch (by invitation only)
12 – 1 p.m.		Lunch on your own
1 – 5 p.m.	Cherry Blossom	Emerging Leaders/Distinguished Educators Meeting (by invitation only)
1 – 5 p.m.	Independence Foyer/ Liberty M	College and Innovation Fair
1 – 5 p.m.	Dogwood	Community Service Project/Game Room
1 – 7 p.m.	Various	Competition judging (see page 13 for locations)
2 – 2:45 p.m.	Various	Breakout session block #1 (see page 19 for sessions)
3 – 3:45 p.m.	Various	Breakout session block #2 (see page 20 for sessions)
4 – 4:45 p.m.	Various	Breakout session block #3 (see page 22 for sessions)
7 – 9 p.m.	Marquis Ballroom	Opening General Session
	(Independence Ballroom)	Opening General Session Overflow



SATURDAY, JUNE 29

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Registration
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Educators Rising store open
8 a.m. – 7 p.m.	Various	Competition judging (see page 13 for locations)
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Magnolia	Curriculum Training (by invitation only)
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Cherry Blossom	Emerging Leader/Distinguished Educators Fellows

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Liberty O	Praxis Core testing (by invitation only)
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Dogwood	Community Service Project/Game Room
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Independence Foyer/ Liberty M	College and Innovation Fair
9 – 9:45 a.m.	Various	Breakout session block #4 (see page 23 for sessions)
10 – 10:45 a.m.	Various	Breakout session block #5 (see page 24 for sessions)
11 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Independence Foyer/ Liberty M	Dedicated time to visit College and Innovation Fair
12 – 2 p.m.	Marquis Ballroom (Independence Ballroom)	Member Recognition Lunch with Keynote Member Recognition Lunch with Keynote Overflow
2 – 2:45 p.m.	Various	Breakout session block #6 (see page 26 for sessions)
3 – 3:45 p.m.	Various	Breakout session block #7 (see page 27 for sessions)
4 – 4:45 p.m.	Various	Breakout session block #8 (see page 28 for sessions)
7 – 8 p.m.	Marquis Ballroom	National Signing Day Event
8 – 11 p.m.	Marquis Ballroom	Lip Sync Battle/Karaoke

SUNDAY, JUNE 30



TIME	ROOM	EVENT
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Registration
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Marquis Foyer	Educators Rising store open
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Various	Competition Judging (see page 13 for locations)
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Magnolia	Curriculum Training (by invitation only; pre-registration is required)
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Cherry Blossom	Emerging Leader/Distinguished Educators Fellows
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Dogwood	Community Service Project/Game Room
9 – 9:45 a.m.	Various	Breakout session block #9 (see page 30 for sessions)
10 – 10:45 a.m.	Various	Breakout session block #10 (see page 31 for sessions)
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Independence Ballroom	Student Delegate Meeting
11 – 11:45 a.m.	Various	Breakout session block #11 (see page 32 for sessions)
12 p.m.		Time to explore Washington, D.C., on your own

MONDAY, JULY 1

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
9 – 9:45 a.m.	Various	Breakout session block #12 (see page 35 for sessions)
10 – 10:45 a.m.	Various	Breakout session block #13 (see page 38 for sessions)
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Marquis Ballroom	Closing General Session and Awards Celebration – students only
	(Independence Ballroom)	General Session Overflow



2023–2024 Educators Rising National Student Officers

Elected by their peers, the Educators Rising National Student Officer team consists of four trailblazing leaders. They represent the organization from a unique perspective and are committed to leading and serving in education. Throughout this past year, these four student leaders have used their voices to represent the organization, serve different communities, and advocate for education. They also serve as your MCs at this year's conference.

The four Educators Rising National Student Officers accomplished many things throughout the year, included the following:

- Panelists for the National School Boards Association (NSBA)
- CUBE Conference Panelists for the American Association for Employment in Education (AAEE)
- Contributors to the inaugural Educators Rising Student Voices blog

Read the blog by scanning this QR code:



- Guest speakers at state conferences
- Recognition from state education leaders
- Webinar panelists
- Leading the #12DaysofEdRising, EdRising Week, monthly service projects, and multiple social media campaigns



National Student President

Milan Aranda | Omaha, Nebraska

Milan is a 2023 graduate of Burke High School. She is going into her second year at Northwest Missouri State University pursuing a career in elementary and special education. This is her fifth year in Educators Rising, and she has competed in various competitions such as Educators Rising Moment and Interactive Bulletin Board. In her leadership, she has served as the 2022 Educators Rising Nebraska State President. Milan was also a chapter officer for Educators Rising and participated in unified sports at her high school. In college, Milan has been involved in KIDS (Kind Individuals Dedicated to Students), a mentoring program for elementary school students. Milan decided to pursue education when she was very young. She has never had a teacher of color, so that drives her to pursue education. She hopes to be part of the reason students are excited to come to school and to create a safe environment where all students feel welcomed and heard. Milan's life goal is to always make people feel welcome, safe, included, and make people laugh in and outside of the classroom. Apart from school activities and education, Milan enjoys yoga and spin classes, going for walks with friends and family, traveling, and going shopping.





National Student Vice President of Engagement

Hailey Calderon | Stamps, Arkansas

Hailey Calderon is a 2024 graduate of Lafayette County High School. She graduated with her associate degree, Technical Certificate in Certified Teaching Assistant, and her high school diploma. This is her third year in Educators Rising and she has competed in Ethical Dilemma at the national level. In her leadership, she has served as an Arkansas State Officer consecutively for three years. She has also been a co-drum major, trumpet section leader, FCCLA treasurer, and vice president for her Educators Rising chapter. Hailey decided that she wanted to pursue education in a unique field, zoos. She hopes to teach all ages about animals and what everyone can do to help protect endangered species. She hopes to be part of the reason everyone leaves with knowledge and encouragement about helping and teaching. Hailey's goals are to make everyone feel welcomed, safe, and loved. She hopes that the knowledge they learn from her passes on and hopefully, her students will want to become teachers in any field they desire. This fall, Hailey will attend Southern Arkansas University where she will receive her bachelor's degree in biology and education. She will also be in the band playing trumpet. She hopes to eventually work at Little Rock Zoo in Arkansas. She hopes to expand it to provide more opportunities for learning on top of extra space for the people and animals. Apart from school, Hailey is in the National Guard, a local community service group, and has a job. She enjoys spending time with her friends, watching TV, and completing acts of service.



National Student Vice President of Communications

Brooke Hess | Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Brooke Hess is a 2024 graduate from Sheboygan North High School in Wisconsin. This is Brooke's third year being a part of Educators Rising. Brooke is proud to be a part of many organizations and clubs over the past four years. Brooke has taken on several leadership roles including lead costume designer from 2022-24 for Theater for Young Audiences on top of her current role as a national officer. In her role, Brooke has enjoyed advocating for Educators Rising and making it more well-known. Brooke wanted to be an officer to grow her knowledge, give herself a support system, and learn valuable professional development skills. She has had many wonderful opportunities such as speaking on panels for webinars and seminars, creating articles for the Student Speaks column in *Kappan* being on the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year Committee, speaking at the Educators Rising State Conference in Wisconsin, and more. Brooke enjoys creating graphics, posting, and sharing information with other Educators Rising members and hopes to continue to do so in the future. Apart from Educators Rising, Brooke is a valued vocal musician in her area as well as the founder of Sensory Sheboygan, an organization that provides sensory resources to different students and organizations in her community. She also enjoys being outside and spending a weekend with her family and dogs. In the fall,, Brooke will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, majoring in elementary education.



National Student Vice President of Service

Taylor Jenkins | Seaford, Delaware

Taylor Jenkins is a first-year student at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware. She is majoring in computer science with a concentration in cybersecurity. This is her fourth year being involved in Educators Rising, and she has competed in various competitions such as Job Interview, Impromptu Speaking, and Public Speaking, placing in the top three at the national conference for the Job Interview competition. She served as a state officer for Delaware Educators Rising. Taylor has helped many children become more confident in their learning abilities by offering one-on-one tutoring sessions for students in elementary, middle, and high school subjects as well as basic coding for students interested in learning basic computer science skills. Taylor discovered that she loved to help others learn through tutoring and her education pathway at her high school. It began when she tutored family members at home and that led her to partner with other organizations to reach more students in need. She wants to be the kind of teacher that students will feel comfortable and confident with. She plans to graduate with her bachelor's degree in computer science and work in the cybersecurity industry before entering the education field and using her knowledge and experiences to aid her in teaching computer science to students of all ages. Apart from college work and Educators Rising, Taylor loves to tutor children, go to the gym, and go on adventures to new places.

Educators Rising State/Regional Coordinators

Alabama

Suzanne Clemons

Indiana

Angela Miller

Montana

Sarah Piper

South Carolina

Kaneale Cornell

Alaska

Florence Scott

Iowa

Colleen Heinz

Nebraska

Chelsey Greene

South Dakota

Travis Lape

Arizona

Tracy Valichnac

Kansas

Idalia Shuman

New Hampshire

Carla Frank

SUNY Plattsburgh

Jean Ann Hunt

Arkansas

Jessica Thomas

Kentucky

Camille Overstreet

New Mexico

Christine Reyes

Tennessee

Tommie Leaders

**California
(Central Valley)**

Ana York

Louisiana

Aimee Barber

New York City

LaShaune Stitt

Texas

Monica Oliver

Colorado

Jordan Sveen

Maryland

Elizabeth Wynkoop

Ohio

Joshua Coleman

Utah

Ashley Higgs

Connecticut

Patricia Putnam

Massachusetts

TBD

Oklahoma

Melissa Anne Brevetti

Vermont

Susan Ladd

Delaware

Michael Shaner

Michigan

Annette Christiansen

Oregon

TBD

Virginia

Heather M. Jones

Idaho

TBD

Mississippi

Shanta Villanueva

Pennsylvania

Christopher Clayton

West Virginia

Roberta Goff

Illinois

Lindsey Jensen

Missouri

Samantha Hayes

Rhode Island

Colleen Callahan

Wisconsin

Leah Luke

Wyoming

TBD

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
1 – 6 p.m.	Magnolia	Preconference Meeting: State/Regional Coordinators (by invitation only)

Educators Rising staff will guide the state and regional coordinators through an in-depth day of reflection and planning for the 2024-25 academic year. This is a working session, and attendees should come prepared with laptops and ideas for the upcoming year.





The journey to becoming an accomplished teacher is a marathon. What should the first steps look like?

The Educators Rising Standards are the answer to this vital question. These seven standards define what aspiring educators need to know and be able to do to take their first steps on the path to accomplished teaching. They serve as the anchor for all Educators Rising programs and opportunities, and at the 2024 conference, they guide breakout session programming.

Educators Rising Standards

Standard I: Understanding the Profession

Rising educators learn about the profession to explore career opportunities, develop skills they need, and make informed decisions about pathways to accomplished teaching.

Standard II: Learning About Students

Rising educators learn about themselves and their students for the purpose of building relationships and supporting student development.

Standard III: Building Content Knowledge

Rising educators learn how to build content knowledge for the purpose of creating relevant learning opportunities for their students.

Standard IV: Engaging in Responsive Planning

Rising educators learn how to respond to students' needs through thoughtful planning.

Standard V: Implementing Instruction

Rising educators learn effective instructional strategies to engage students and promote learning.

Standard VI: Using Assessments and Data

Rising educators learn to use assessments and interpret data for the purpose of making decisions that will advance teaching and learning.

Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Rising educators learn how reflective practice enables them to advance student learning and grow professionally.

Created in partnership with the National Education Association



Using this program book to choose sessions

Use the Conference Agenda as your guide to conference events. The theme of the conference is “Discovering Your Potential,” and the conference features four different breakout session strands. Strand descriptions are listed below, under their intended audience. Read the strand descriptions to see which sessions are intended for you, then use the session descriptions to determine which ones interest you. For each period, select a first choice and a few alternatives, because you will need to choose another session if the room is full. (Tip: Arrive on time to ensure you get to participate in the sessions that interest you most.)

STUDENT PATH

Strands that focus on those looking to develop a classroom career. Adults are free to attend these strands as well.

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation Strand

Navigating the road to the classroom and the teaching profession can be challenging. According to the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, nearly 50% of new teachers leave the profession in the first five years. In this strand, participants will learn how to successfully land their first job, create a work-life balance, manage their finances to survive on a teacher's salary, and succeed in the first years of teaching.

College Prep & Success Strand

Applying to college can be an overwhelming task for some students. Helping students navigate the admission process can help them overcome the first hurdle they face in moving toward their education career. Adjusting to college life once they get accepted is another challenge. Many feel lost and unsupported and decide to change career paths or simply drop out entirely. In this strand, participants will learn skills and resources they need to navigate college successfully.

Leadership Training Strand

To help students discover their potential, our rising educators need to know how to be educational leaders in their schools, districts, and at the state and national levels. In this strand, participants will have the opportunity to build their leadership skills.

ADULT PATH

Lifelong learning is a necessity. Whether you are a practicing educator, a community leader, or a retiree, continuing your own education can help you promote student success. In this strand, adult participants will have the opportunity to grow their own skills so that they can more effectively shape the future.

2024 Educators Rising National Conference app

Download the 2024 Educators Rising National Conference app to learn more about our sessions and receive up-to-the-minute program changes and announcements. **Scan the QR code** below to download it today.

Apple



Android



Competitions/Contests

Competitions will take place **Friday afternoon, June 28**, through **Sunday morning, June 30**. Stop by any that are listed as “open to spectators” to cheer on the competitors. Please enter and exit during the breaks between presentations. The area outside the competition rooms is a quiet zone. Competition and contest winners will be announced during the awards celebration on Monday, July 1. **Scoring rubrics for all competitors will be emailed to students at the email address that student used to register for the competition within three weeks after the conference ends.** Competition rooms are as follows:

- **Children’s Literature – Higher Ed** – Floor M1 - Georgetown
- **Children’s Literature K-3 – Group A** – Floor M1 - University of DC
- **Children’s Literature K-3 – Group B** – Floor M1 - Catholic University
- **Children’s Literature K-3 – Group C** – Floor M1 - Gallaudet
- **Children’s Literature K-3 Spanish** – Floor M1 - George Washington
- **Children’s Literature Pre-K – Group A** – Floor M1 - Howard
- **Children’s Literature Pre-K – Group B** – Floor M1 - Georgetown
- **Children’s Literature Pre-K Spanish** – Floor M1 - American

OPEN TO SPECTATORS

- **Creative Lecture – Group A** – Floor M4 - Liberty I
- **Creative Lecture – Group B** – Floor M4 - Liberty J
- **Educators Rising Leadership Award** – Mezzanine Level (2nd floor) - Magnolia

OPEN TO SPECTATORS

- **Educators Rising Moment – Group A** – Floor M4 - Congress
- **Educators Rising Moment – Group B** – Floor M4 - Mint
- **Educators Rising Moment – Spanish** – Floor M4 - Treasury
- **Ethical Dilemma – Group A** – Floor M4 - Senate
- **Ethical Dilemma – Group B** – Floor M4 - Liberty K
- **Exploring Education Administration Careers** – Floor M3 - Farragut North
- **Exploring Non-Core Subject Careers – Group A** – Floor M3 - Shaw
- **Exploring Non-Core Subject Careers – Group B** – Floor M3 - LaDroit Park
- **Exploring Support Services Careers** – Floor M3 - Eastern Market
- **Impromptu Speaking** – Floor M3 - Adams Morgan (Prep room: Floor M3 - Penn Quarter)
- **Inside Our Schools Presentation** – Floor M4 - Liberty N
- **Inside Our Schools Presentation – Spanish** – Floor M4 - Liberty P

- **Interactive Bulletin Board - Group A** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Honey Suckle
- **Interactive Bulletin Board - Group B** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Maple
- **Interactive Bulletin Board - Group C** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Holly
- **Interactive Bulletin Board - Group D** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Geranium
- **Job Interview – Group A** – Floor M3 - Anacostia
- **Job Interview – Group B** – Floor M3 - Capitol Hill
- **Lesson Planning & Delivery – Arts** – Floor M3 - Dupont Circle
- **Lesson Planning & Delivery – Career & Technical Education** – Floor M3 - Union Station
- **Lesson Planning & Delivery – Humanities – Group A** – Floor M3 - Mount Vernon Square
- **Lesson Planning & Delivery – Humanities – Group B** – Floor M3 - Chinatown
- **Lesson Planning & Delivery – Spanish** – Floor M3 – Union Station
- **Lesson Planning & Delivery – STEM – Group A** – Floor M3 - L’Enfant Plaza
- **Lesson Planning & Delivery – STEM – Group B** – Floor M3 - Woodley Park
- **Outstanding Chapter** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Magnolia
- **Project Visualize Service Project** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Scarlet Oak
- **Public Service Announcement – Group A** – Floor M3 - Judiciary Square
- **Public Service Announcement – Group B** – Floor M3 - Gallery Place

OPEN TO SPECTATORS

- **Public Speaking – Group A** – Floor M4 - Supreme Court
- **Public Speaking – Group B** – Floor M4 - Monument
- **Researching Learning Challenges** – Floor M4 - Pentagon
- **Teacher Created Materials – Group A** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Silver Linden
- **Teacher Created Materials – Group B** – Mezzanine Level (2nd Floor) - Tulip

Activities



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

At the delegate meeting in 2023, the delegates voted to make the conference project theme one which highlights underrepresented populations. With this theme in mind, Educators Rising has partnered with Martha's Table, a local children's education, nutrition, and emotional wellness support organization, to host a book drive. Members are encouraged to bring early childhood books written by authors from underrepresented populations to the conference to donate. Books will be collected onsite and then sorted and counted by student attendees.

Dogwood: Friday, June 28, 1 – 7 p.m.; Saturday, June 29, 8 a.m – 7 p.m.; Sunday, June 30, 8 a.m – 5 p.m.



CONFERENCE DAILY

Make sure you look for your Conference Daily email delivered to your inbox during the conference. The Conference Daily is full of information about our conference speakers, education sessions, and other events. You'll see photos of student competitions, the awards ceremony, and more.

EDDY BEAR SPIRIT AWARD

Show your chapter spirit throughout the conference for a chance to be the recipient of Educators Rising's spirit bear, Eddy. Eddy will be awarded each day of the conference to a school that goes above and beyond to demonstrate the spirit of Educators Rising through teamwork, creativity, or service. The overall winner of our competitions will get to take Eddy home at the end of the conference!



EDUCATORS RISING GAME AND TEAM BUILDING ROOM

Looking for a place to chill, unwind, and have fun after your competition or just to meet new people? Educators Rising has set aside a dedicated space to play games and engage in team-building activities, as well as help with the conference service project, during each competition day of the conference. Play cards, board games, and engage in other fun activities with your National Student Officers, National Student Ambassadors, and PDK International staff along with conference friends from other schools new and old.

Dogwood: Friday, June 28, 1 – 7 p.m.; Saturday, June 29, 8 a.m – 7 p.m.; Sunday, June 30, 8 a.m – 5 p.m.

LIP SYNC BATTLE/KARAOKE

Do you have what it takes to mouth the words to your favorite song for 90 seconds? Are your dance moves compelling enough to keep the crowd entertained? Watch your fellow rising educators bust out their best moves on Friday night! While you're there, connect with old friends and meet some new ones, too. Enjoy great music as you lip sync on stage or sing along in the crowd — be sure to share your party photos using **#EdRising24** and **#DiscoverYourPotential**.



Afterwards, there will be karaoke. Make sure to sign up at registration as soon as possible since the list will fill up quickly for this popular event.

Marquis Ballroom: Saturday, June 29, 8 – 11 p.m.



NATIONAL SIGNING EVENT

Cheer on our graduating seniors from across the country as they celebrate their commitment to education or join the festivities yourself in our third annual National Signing Event!

Participants will be signing letters of commitment to continue to pursue education at the collegiate level, and we will capture the moment the way high school athletes do! Last year's event was a highlight of the conference, and this year's promises to be even larger.

Marquis Ballroom: Saturday, June 29, 7 – 8 p.m.

NATIONAL DELEGATE MEETING

Educators Rising, as a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO), is a student-led organization.



To further cultivate this leadership, the organization holds a delegate meeting annually to determine bylaw changes and discuss national programming. While the privilege of making motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to the designated voting delegates and the National Student Leaders, any member may attend the meeting. Come and watch your delegates in action.

Independence Ballroom: Sunday, June 30, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Testing and Training

CURRICULUM TRAINING

Our closed-session training will provide teacher leaders who have registered prior to the conference with an introduction to the Educators Rising Curriculum on how to use the lessons and resources to support their rising educators in learning the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to take their first steps on the path to accomplished teaching. Some of the topics will include how the curriculum is organized as well as how to implement a scope and sequence to begin selecting lessons and planning clinical experiences to use in your Educators Rising program. This session is only available to teacher leaders implementing the curriculum who have registered prior to the conference. Registration status of attendees will be verified at the time of the event.

**Magnolia: Saturday, June 29, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.,
Sunday, June 30, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

PRAXIS CORE TESTING

Through a partnership with ETS, PDK International will be giving 50 students a unique opportunity to take the Praxis Core exam at the 2024 Educators Rising National Conference with no testing fee. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors who signed up in advance, who have received a B or better in pre-Calculus and their most recent English class, are eligible.

Liberty O: Saturday, June 29, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

BE A STAR! SHARE YOUR STORY WITH THE TEACHING CHANNEL!

Teaching Channel is coming to the Educators Rising National Conference, and they want to hear from Educators Rising students! Teaching Channel will be interviewing students about their experiences, goals, and what excites them about education. They will also be capturing video from some of our public competitions and our general sessions. This is your chance to be featured on a national platform that inspires teachers across the country. Students who have signed permission slips in advance are eligible to participate.



Teaching Channel.



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Thank You to Our College & Innovation Fair Participants!

Meet representatives from colleges, universities, and organizations that can help you get one step closer to becoming an educator! Scan QR codes to help you win the scavenger hunt! **Join us in the Independence Foyer and Liberty M on Friday, June 28, from 1 – 5 p.m. and Saturday, June 29, from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. to learn about:**

240 Tutoring (Independence Foyer)

AACTE (Liberty M)

AFT (Independence Foyer)

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) (Liberty M)

Bowie State University (Independence Foyer)

Bridgewater College (Liberty M)

Carlow University (Liberty M)

Center for Black Educator Development (Liberty M)

Cleveland State University – Teacher Education (Independence Foyer)

Edifying Teachers (Liberty M)

EduMagic – Samantha Fecich (Liberty M)

ETS Praxis (Independence Foyer)

Florida Memorial University (Independence Foyer)

Frederick County Public Schools (Liberty M)

Frostburg State University (Liberty M)

George Mason University (Liberty M)

Golden Apple Foundation (Independence Foyer)

James Madison University College of Education (Independence Foyer)

LatinX Education Collective (Liberty M)

Longwood University (Liberty M)

Marist University (Liberty M)

Millersville University (Liberty M)

Morgan State University (Independence Foyer)

Nazareth University (Independence Foyer)

Norfolk State University School of Education (Liberty M)

Northern Virginia Community College (Liberty M)

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (Liberty M)

Old Dominion University (Independence Foyer)

Our Lady of the Lake University (Liberty M)

Partners for Rural Impact (Liberty M)

Radford University (Independence Foyer)

Real Men Teach (Liberty M)

Regent University (Liberty M)

St. John's College (Liberty M)

Study.com (Independence Foyer)

Teaching Channel (Independence Foyer)

Tennessee Tech University, College of Education (Liberty M)

Towson University (Independence Foyer)

Union University School of Education (Liberty M)

University of Iowa College (Independence Foyer)

University of Maryland Baltimore County (Independence Foyer)

University of South Florida (Independence Foyer)

University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point (Independence Foyer)

Utah State University (Independence Foyer)

Virginia Commonwealth University (Independence Foyer)

Virginia State University (Independence Foyer)

West Virginia State University (Independence Foyer)

Wilkes University (Independence Foyer)

XQ Institute (Independence Foyer)



Keynote Speakers

FRIDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Rebecka Peterson,
2023 National Teacher of the Year

Rebecka Peterson has taught high school math classes ranging from intermediate algebra to Advanced Placement calculus, for 11 years at Union High School in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Amid a difficult first

year of high school teaching, she found the “One Good Thing” blog. She credits daily posting there to helping her recognize the beautiful and positive experiences occurring in her classroom, which inspired her to stay in the profession. She has since contributed 1,400 posts to the blog. As Oklahoma Teacher of the Year, she has visited teachers across the state to highlight their important work through the Teachers of Oklahoma campaign.

As National Teacher of the Year, Peterson uses her platform to highlight teachers’ stories of the good that’s happening in education. Teaching is a profession that affords creativity, autonomy and purpose, and Peterson believes that highlighting the stories of joy happening in classrooms across the country will help encourage current teachers and attract new educators to the profession.

Peterson is a proud immigrant of Swedish-Iranian descent and lived in several countries around the world as her parents traveled as medical missionaries. Her own experience with supportive teachers who celebrated her diversity and math abilities informs her efforts to create a supportive and accessible classroom for students. She values listening to students’ stories as a way to better understand them and elevate their voice.

Before joining the faculty at Union High School, Peterson taught for three years at the collegiate level. She holds a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Oklahoma Wesleyan University and a master’s degree in mathematics from the University of South Dakota. She lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, with her husband, Brett, and son, Jonas, and she enjoys reading, crafting and playing board games.

Join Rebecka Peterson on Friday, June 28, from 7-9 p.m. in the Marquis Ballroom at our Opening General Session

SATURDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Amy Loyd,
Assistant Secretary, U.S.
Department of Education

Amy Loyd, Ed.L.D., is the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education at the U.S. Department of Education. In this role, she oversees national

programs related to career and technical education, community colleges, adult education and literacy, and correctional education.

Prior to joining the Biden-Harris administration, Dr. Loyd was a Vice President at Jobs for the Future (JFF), where she designed and led programs across the U.S. that improve education and workforce outcomes. Her work at JFF focused on state and regional policies, practices, and cross-sector partnerships that engaged K-12 education, community colleges, adult education, workforce development, economic development, and employers to build systems of college and career pathways, leveraging career and technical education. She also oversaw JFF’s work in workforce development with a lens on economic advancement, state and federal policy, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. She previously was the director of education at Cook Inlet Tribal Council, leading a network of schools providing culturally responsive education, training, and wraparound services to the Alaska Native and Native American communities.

Dr. Loyd attended Santa Fe Community College and Northern New Mexico Community College and holds a bachelor’s degree from St. John’s College and a doctorate in education leadership from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she was an adjunct lecturer on building career pathways to increase opportunity and equity.

Join Amy Loyd on Saturday, June 29, from 12-2 p.m. in the Marquis Ballroom at our Member Recognition Lunch

Breakout Sessions

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #1 2 – 2:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

DISCOVERING YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Leadership Training

Calvin Plante, Elizabeth Santella
Pinkerton Academy Career and Technical Center

Discover the eight different aspects of leadership from a student perspective and how they interact to help forge the future generation of leaders and educators. This workshop will help students discover more about who they are as leaders and change-makers in their world.

NEW RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR THE EDUCATORS RISING CURRICULUM

ROOM: CAPITOL

Adult Strand

Debbie Weaver
PDK International

Join us as we unveil the newest resources that are becoming available this school year to support your enhanced use of the Educators Rising Curriculum in your classroom and schools. Learn how you can use new supplemental materials to further engage your students and learn strategies that they will use in their own future classrooms.

BECOMING A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

ROOM: LIBERTY L

College Prep & Success

Holli Forrest

Have you thought about becoming a special education teacher? This session will help you prepare for a rewarding career of working with students with disabilities. It will review requirements, go over what to expect, and help participants understand some of the different pathways special education teachers can take in college.

TEACHING MYTHS 101: THE “AVERAGE LEARNER”

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Brigid Cadle, Lana Bresnahan, Emily Mae Stokel,
Sophia Van Epps
Portsmouth High School

What is Universal Design for Learning (UDL)? Does one size fit all? Do we teach to the average learner? These questions along with some tricks and tips will be answered in our workshop. The workshop will go into depth about UDL, including the 3 principles of UDL and the benefits of using it in the classroom. Our workshop will look into why the “average learner” does not truly exist and how we can break down barriers so that all students can be successful.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #2
3 – 3:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

FLYING ABOVE FAILURE

ROOM: ARCHIVES
Leadership Training
Journey Harris
Tarleton State University

In this hands-on workshop, we'll explore the transformative power of embracing failure as an integral part of the learning process. Using a simple yet impactful activity—the Paper Airplane Challenge—we'll illustrate that setbacks are not roadblocks but stepping stones on the path to success. Participants will work to create the perfect paper airplane, aiming for maximum flight distance. The initial attempts may result in varying degrees of success, providing a valuable opportunity for reflection. Through a group discussion, we'll delve into the emotions evoked by initial failures and uncover the lessons learned. The session will encourage participants to view failure not as a limitation but as a catalyst for improvement. After adjusting their paper airplanes, attendees will take part in a second flight test. By engaging in the iterative process, participants will gain insights into the importance of persistence and the transformative potential of learning from failure. They will get a newfound perspective on failure and a set of wings to soar above challenges in their personal and professional journey to allow them to become the leader that they were meant to be.

**INSPIRING EDUCATORS OF COLOR:
IMPROVING A GYO TEACHER PATHWAY**

ROOM: CAPITOL
Adult Strand
Amira Nash
University of Iowa College of Education Baker
Teacher Leader Center

In Iowa City, like many cities in the U.S., the racial, ethnic, and linguistic diversity of teachers is not representative of the students in the schools. The

Iowa City Community School District and the Baker Teacher Leader Center at the University of Iowa College of Education have created a partnership to build a pathway program to recruit and retain teachers of color. Utilizing Educators Rising, this partnership includes a unique focus on connecting students to the university teacher education program early and supporting students through their college education. This session will provide information on how to: create partnerships with local teacher preparation programs to offer high-retention pathways; provide formal and informal opportunities for mentorship between veteran and new teachers of color who share critical identities; compensate mentor teachers; and mentoring aspiring teachers with coaching and other professional, academic, and emotional support as well as collaborative planning time and seminars.

**EMPOWERING EDUCATORS: FREE ONLINE
PD FROM THE IRIS CENTER ON SUPPORTING
DIVERSE LEARNING**

ROOM: LIBERTY L
Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation
Naomi Tyler
IRIS Center

Join us to explore the innovative offerings of the IRIS Center, housed at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College and supported by the U.S. Department of Education. This session will highlight how the IRIS Center provides educators with free, dynamic online resources designed to enhance instructional strategies and behavioral practices. Discover tools and materials grounded in evidence-based research, dedicated to assisting struggling learners and students with disabilities. Engage with resources crafted to help all students reach their full potential. This presentation is a must-attend for educators seeking effective, accessible educational solutions. Bring a laptop, tablet, or smartphone and interact with the website during this hands-on session.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #2, CONTINUED
3 – 3:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

**IGNITING CURIOSITY AND FOSTERING EQUITY:
THE POWER OF PHENOMENA-DRIVEN
INSTRUCTION IN SCIENCE EDUCATION**

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Bonnie Nieves

Nipmuc Regional High School

Explore the potential of phenomena-driven instruction in science classrooms. Discover how this approach can ignite students' natural curiosity, inspire a love for scientific discovery, and create inclusive learning environments where every student thrives. Explore the what, why, and how of phenomena-driven instruction so you can understand its fundamental principles and the impact it has on student engagement and learning outcomes. This approach is integral to the Next Generation Science Standards style of teaching in K-12 education, emphasizing inquiry-based learning

and real-world application of scientific concepts. Through this session, educators will gain insights into effectively integrating science and engineering practices to guide students through exploring and explaining phenomena. Attendees will learn how to leverage students' inherent curiosity to enhance engagement, foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and deepen their appreciation for science. The session will equip attendees with a comprehensive toolkit of strategies and resources to design engaging, equitable, and phenomena-based lesson sequences. Emphasis will be placed on promoting inclusivity and equity, ensuring that each student can access and benefit from high-quality science education. Attendees will leave with everything they need to design a lesson sequence starting with phenomena and use science and engineering practices to coach students through the process of explaining the phenomenon.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #3
4 – 4:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

DEVELOPING LEADERS FOR A DIVERSE SOCIETY

ROOM: ARCHIVES
Leadership Training
Jenny Meers
Four Rivers Career Center

Join the Teaching Careers students from Four Rivers Career Center to learn about leadership. Cadets will share stories and lessons from the classroom, and participants will be able to identify skills needed for effective leadership. As a group, we will discuss the importance of setting a clear mission and vision, and everyone will participate in discussion and reflection activities that will equip participants with strategies to grow as leaders.

STRATEGICALLY SHIFT THE CLIMATE & CULTURE IN YOUR SCHOOL WHILE EMPOWERING YOUR COMMUNITY

ROOM: CAPITOL
Adult Strand
Ronnie Harvey
Calcasieu Parish School Board

Gain valuable insights from the esteemed Louisiana High School Principal of the Year 2022, NASSP Louisiana Principal of the Year recipient, ASCD Emerging Leader, the 2022 Ed Rising Champion, and acclaimed author of *The Playbook of Principles for Principals*. With Principal Harvey as your guide, you can confidently advance your school's progress through intentional engagement with the entire school community, leading to unprecedented success. Prepare to move forward, onward, and upward!

DEVELOPING BLACK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO BE EDUCATORS

ROOM: LIBERTY L
Leadership Training
Ansharaye Hines
The Center for Black ED

This session will explore the ideas and objectives that guide the high school component of the

Black Educator Pipeline. Participants will develop an understanding of the nuanced components of Black educator development, and the strategic programming that invests the work of Black education with a sense of purpose that centers current students and the society that will be shaped by the generations of people yet to be born. Our aim is to engage participants as collaborators and fellow change agents who are invested in education as a site for radical social movement toward a more equitable society.

This session invites participants to join us in a participatory examination and exploration of:

- The historical context of the current work to develop high school students as educators.
- The Instructional and Black Liberatory Educational strands that frame the trajectory of high school apprentice development.
- The structures and outcomes of Teaching Academy and the Junior Servant Leader Program—CBED’s high school educator development programming.

GET REAL: ENGAGING STUDENTS IN AUTHENTIC LEARNING

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13
Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation
Tanya Miller
Park Rapids Area High School

Would you feel more engaged in your schoolwork if it had a real-world application? Find out how authentic learning can be used to make intergenerational connections, solve real community problems, and leave a legacy in your hometown. All it takes is looking around to see problems in your own community and then putting your mind to solving them creatively. Instead of memorizing answers to test questions, you will be innovators, creators, and problem-solvers. Students of today will be solving problems that current teachers can't even imagine, so let's get our education system out of the past and prepare students for the future by teaching the 21st century skills of critical thinking, creative problem solving, and communicating.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #4

9 – 9:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

GETTING STARTED WITH THE EDUCATORS RISING CURRICULUM

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Adult Strand

Molly Kauffman

PDK International

In this session, educators will examine the components of the Educators Rising curriculum and the resources and materials available to help support Grow Your Own efforts through an Educators Rising chapter or class. Participants will explore the standards, features, and updates to the Educators Rising curriculum and how it can be adapted to meet the needs of the student learners while providing current teachers the tools they need to help students be successful and prepared future educators.

AI WITHOUT THE OVERWHELM

ROOM: CAPITOL

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Samantha Fecich

EduMagic

Incorporating artificial intelligence (AI) into the classroom, aligned with the Danielson Framework for Teaching, fosters an enriching educational environment. By seamlessly integrating AI tools, educators address diverse student needs while maintaining instructional rigor. AI facilitates differentiated instruction, tailoring learning experiences to individual learning styles and paces. This interactive and hands-on session will focus on incorporating AI aligned to the Danielson framework for teaching, which involves looking at tools to support planning and prep, classroom environment, instruction, and professional responsibility.

INTERVIEWING AND BRANDING 101 – THE ART & SCIENCE OF MARKETING YOURSELF FOR EMPLOYMENT SCREENINGS

ROOM: LIBERTY L

College Prep & Success

Paul Fox

Upper St. Clair School District

What are school districts looking for in future teacher candidates? How do you prepare for the interview process? How can you be considered for undergraduate and graduate school admissions, scholarships, and all types of employment? What ways can you practice enhancing your own storytelling skills in presenting your brand of unique skills, talents, past experiences, and achievements? This session will provide hands-on and interactive trial exercises, discussions, and mock practice on the dos and don'ts of interviewing. Participants will explore tips and techniques based on the "art and science" of advance planning, marketing, branding, and networking to "ace" those upcoming job screenings.

THE PLAYBOOK OF PRINCIPLES FOR STUDENTS

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Leadership Training

Ronnie Harvey

Calcasieu Parish School Board

In this dynamic session, Principal Coach Harvey offers a game plan of strategies designed to propel students forward, onward, and upward in school and their community. Principal Coach Harvey will delve deeper into *The Playbook of Principles*. Students will have the opportunity to fully explore the strategies and concepts outlined in the playbook. Through interactive discussions, engaging activities, and real-life examples, students will depart with the tools and mindset they need to overcome challenges and succeed in school and their community. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of how to navigate the educational landscape and make the most of their academic journey. Principal Coach Harvey will emphasize the importance of resilience, goal setting, effective communication, and collaboration in achieving success. This presentation aims to create a transformative experience for students, empowering them to take control of their education and reach new heights.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #5
10 – 10:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

RANKING HIGH SCHOOL FOR MEANINGFUL, ENGAGED TEACHING AND LEARNING

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Ann-Katherine Kimble

XQ

Crosstown High, an XQ school in Memphis, opened with an ambitious mission to break away from traditional high school structures. Instead of textbooks, lectures, and rows of desks, Crosstown set out to offer a different approach to learning—by using competencies and project-based learning. Through clips from XQ’s documentary, “The First Class,” and lively conversation, XQ’s Director of School Success Ann-Katherine Kimble, an XQ educator, and a recent Crosstown High graduate will share how this new approach transformed how Crosstown continues to define teaching and learning and encourages aspiring teachers to be bold, innovative, and creative in developing their own art of teaching.

Session attendees will also have the chance to participate in a design sprint utilizing XQ’s tools and researched-backed competencies to create a new learning experience that will serve as instructional inspiration as they continue to grow as future educators. And there will be swag! We hope to see you there!

This session is perfect for students, educators, and anyone passionate about creating a more meaningful and engaging learning experience for all students.

FINDING YOUR TEACHER VOICE: DISCOVERING HOW VOICE IMPACTS RELATIONSHIPS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

ROOM: CAPITOL

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Sandra Street, LaShaune Stitt

NYC Public Schools

Delve into the profound impact of teacher voice on relationships within and outside the classroom. Participants will be guided through strategies by seasoned communication experts. Gain insights into the intersection of relationship-building and effective teaching, ensuring your teacher voice resonates authentically. Explore practical approaches to positively influence the educational journey of students aspiring to become educators. This engaging session promises newfound understanding and tangible skills for crafting a teacher voice that fosters connection and inspires learning. Do not miss the opportunity to navigate the dynamics of teacher-student relationships and elevate your presence in the classroom.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #5, CONTINUED
10 – 10:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

EMBARKING THE E3-TRAIN – ESSENTIALS FOR FUTURE EDUCATORS – WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME A TEACHER: ETHOS, ETHICS, AND ENGAGEMENT

ROOM: LIBERTY L

College Prep & Success

Paul Fox

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention

Do you know the meaning of fiduciary, moral professionalism, and ethical equilibrium? Can you name the difference between a moral principle and an ethical standard, both of which will be used to guide your daily decision-making as an educator? What are the two types of codes that all professionals must embrace in their job, and why are they more essential than becoming a content expert in a preferred subject or teaching level? During this session, we will introduce the Model Code of Ethics for Educators of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification. Fostering open and interactive discussion, we will empanel a mock ethics jury (volunteers from the attendees) to assess fictitious fact scenarios of potential ethical issues, hazardous choices or vulnerabilities, and even tackle a few conundrums or problems in educator decision making.

EDUCATORS RISING COLLEGIATE POSTER SESSION

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Marisa Hooker, Emma Haley, Abbey Poirer
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Learn about educational research conducted by Educators Rising Collegiate students. During this poster session, you will hear from a variety of college students sharing research projects about education topics. This interactive session invites you to walk among emerging researchers and aspiring educators while asking questions and engaging in conversations around these topics of interest:

- Social Media Issues in Education, **Marisa Hooker**
- How Fun and Play Help Children Learn, **Emma Haley**
- The Context of the School-to-Prison Pipeline, **Abbey Poirer**



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #6
2 – 2:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

MAKE IT REAL: TEACHING WITH PRIMARY SOURCES FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Adult Strand

Claire Machosky

TPS - Waynesburg University

This workshop for current and future teachers will discuss the connection between content curriculum and the Library of Congress’s wealth of primary source documents. You will become familiar with the analytical tools that promote classroom rigor and curriculum enrichment. You will hear about Teaching with Primary Sources Grants through Waynesburg University and receive information on how to apply for a grant from the Library’s Teaching with Primary Sources Program.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: NAVIGATING DIVERSE LEARNING NEEDS

ROOM: CAPITOL

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Carol Lubin

Paul Public Charter School

In this session, aspiring educators will participate in an in-depth discussion on the importance of differentiating educational experiences based on the known and unknown needs of their students. With a particular focus on equity in education and specialized instruction, participants will work in small groups to design -- and redesign -- a lesson plan based on dynamic scenarios that often present themselves in actual classrooms.

DISCOVERING YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Leadership Training

Calvin Plante, Elizabeth Santella

Pinkerton Academy Career and Technical Center

Discover the eight different aspects of leadership from a student perspective and how they interact to help forge the future generation of leaders and educators. This workshop will help students discover more about who they are as leaders and change-makers in their world.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #7

3 – 3:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

LAUNCHING YOUR TEACHING CAREER: BENEFITS OF ASPIRING EDUCATORS & EDUCATORS RISING COLLEGIATE

ROOM: ARCHIVES

College Prep & Success

Mary Kate Gebhart

PDK International

In this session, we will dive into the advantages of joining Aspiring Educators and Educators Rising Collegiate, two organizations designed to empower and support you on your journey to the classroom.

Why join?

- Network & connect: Build relationships with current educators and aspiring colleagues through conferences, workshops, and online forums. Gain valuable insights and share experiences.
- Develop your skills: Access professional development opportunities like Praxis test prep, competitions, leadership training, and workshops on best practices.
- Advocate for change: Be a voice for future educators! Learn how to advocate for policies that improve teacher education and public schools.
- Scholarship & grant opportunities: Unlock financial resources to help you pursue your teaching dreams.
- Jumpstart your career: Find job openings, explore mentorship programs with experienced educators, and get a head start on your teaching career.

Bringing together Educators Rising and NEA Aspiring Educators resources is a winning combination as you learn, explore your profession, and face the challenges and issues that impact teachers today. This combined membership offers a unique advantage — one membership, double the benefits! Don't miss out on this chance to jumpstart your teaching journey.

SOL REVIEW WITH EDIBLE MATH

ROOM: CAPITOL

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Jewel Worthy

Hunter B. Andrews PK-8/Hampton City Schools

Would you like to review various skills before the SOL (Standards of Learning) tests in an engaging way? This session will suggest how to use edible

manipulatives to review critical vocabulary for several standards. Help your students to identify different polygons, angles, and lines with the everyday objects in the kitchen cabinet. The creative activities will provide an opportunity to find the perimeter and area with tasty four-sided figures. Each middle school and high school student and teacher leader in the session will receive interactive ideas that support the mastery of the various standards in math. Participants will even have a chance to tackle probability using colorful objects. One way to get students excited about finding the mean, median, mode, and range is by using a set of data that they can eat after they create a bar graph or line graph.

CONQUERING PUBLIC SPEAKING 101

ROOM: LIBERTY L

Leadership Training

Albert Chen

PDK International

Educators are often asked to speak in public but may not be trained to speak beyond the classroom. In this session, we will learn to embrace public speaking through learning the mechanics of creating a dynamic presentation and using your nerves to be an even better speaker. Albert Chen, PDK's COO, has trained thousands of speakers at all levels to be the best they can be. Join us and begin your own path to becoming a successful public speaker.

BREWING BRILLIANCE: NAVIGATING THE START OF TEACHING

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Jose Carrillo

PDK International

Just as crafting the perfect cup of coffee requires the right blend of elements, launching into the teaching profession involves a thoughtful mix of preparation, passion, and perseverance. Join former Educators Rising national officer and current educator Jose Carrillo as he demonstrates how to navigate the bitter and sweet moments of teaching. Whether you're about to embark on your teaching journey or are entering your first year as an educator, get ready to savor the journey of becoming an exceptional educator, one carefully brewed cup at a time.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #8

4 – 4:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

COMMUNICATION IS A HUMAN RIGHT

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovations

Kate Stephens, Melanie Johnson

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)

School-based Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) play an integral role in serving students with communication challenges. A diverse community of clients needs a diverse community of clinicians; your unique perspective can be a valuable asset in helping students learn to communicate. Learn more about how these professionals work within the education system, the variety of services they provide, and what the next steps are in pursuing these careers.

SPEAK TRUTH AMERICA: LEADING CIVIC DISCUSSIONS WITH PEERS

ROOM: CAPITOL

Leadership Training

Aleta Margolis

Center for Inspired Teaching

Students often don't get to practice the skill of having meaningful discussions with peers around controversial topics. Such conversations require careful planning and management to ensure participants feel seen, heard, and respected. Practice leading such discussions is excellent preparation to be a teacher who instigates thought and creates an engaging learning environment. In this session, participants will learn about the Speak Truth approach that the Center for Inspired Teaching has been using for nearly a decade. A group of high school students will lead participants in a Speak Truth seminar, illustrating what these powerful conversations entail. After the seminar, the students and Inspired Teaching staff will share resources to support the program's implementation where you live, including an invitation to facilitate conversations across cultural, social, and physical divides among high school students throughout the U.S.

TEST LIKE THE TEST MAKER: BEATING HIGH STAKES EXAMS

ROOM: LIBERTY L

College Prep & Success

Albert Chen

PDK International

If you don't know how test items are constructed and how they are designed, you will fall prey to their pitfalls and traps. To be a great test taker, you must learn how to be a great test item designer.

In this session, you will not only learn how to create great questions and answers but more importantly you will learn the major distractor types and how they are used to weed out the good test takers from the uninformed, and why to understand how to critically think through the exam is often more important than getting a question right. You will then be empowered to use this knowledge to deconstruct them on the fly when you take these exams yourself.

In our profession, we decry the use of standardized tests and multiple-choice exams to the point that we turn a blind eye to them in professional development. However, the SAT, the ACT, the Praxis, and the like are all realities that you and your students must face regardless of your stance on them. Test prep programs themselves are an equity concern for the haves and have-nots, and not all test preparation is made equal. Please join Albert Chen, COO of PDK International and veteran of the standardized test wars. Albert has not only been working in education for the past 30 years but spent 12 of those years at Kaplan Test Prep's field and corporate offices learning how to deconstruct the exams, and taking apart question types to help tens of thousands of students succeed in their dreams despite the biases and inequities of these exams.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #8, CONTINUED
4 – 4:45 P.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

USING OUR VOICE FOR CHANGE: STUDENT OFFICER PANEL

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Leadership Training

Milan Aranda, Hailey Calderon, Brooke Hess, Taylor Jenkins
Educators Rising

offers leadership opportunities as a student officer or ambassador! Our National Student Officers act as liaisons to the organization and showcase what it means to amplify student voices in education. This panel and information session will consist of our current student officers sharing their experiences as leaders, why they became officers, and what it takes to be a student leader.

Thinking about taking your involvement in Educators Rising to another level? Educators Rising



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #9

9 – 9:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint)

SUPPORTING EDUCATORS WITH ETHICAL DECISIONS IN THE CLASSROOM

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Lisa Colon Durham

ETS

Making ethical decisions in the classroom can be a challenging prospect. However, ProEthica helps to establish ethical frameworks with guiding principles. During this session, we'll discuss ProEthica and the greater value of professional ethical standards in positively shaping a future educator's professional interactions and relationships.

ProEthica helps teachers do the following:

- Develop an understanding of professional ethics.
- Understand the principles embodied in the Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE).
- Prepare to make decisions that minimize risk, protect students, protect educators, and elevate the profession.

Through this interactive session, participants will:

- Learn a common language for conveying educator ethics.
- Study video narratives with ethical dilemmas.
- Engage with Scenario Based Learning activities.
- Make decisions, and then learn how those choices affect the classroom.

Join us to see how ProEthica can support the educators of tomorrow!

TEACHING IS SOCIAL JUSTICE

ROOM: CAPITOL

Leadership Training

Tamir Harper

PDK International

You don't want to miss this interactive session that prepares future teachers to discuss "real" topics in their classrooms and brainstorm how to best advocate for their students against systems not built for diverse students. This session is hosted by Tamir Harper, an early-career Black male educator in the School District of Philadelphia, the 2022 National Educators Rising keynote speaker, and the 2017-18 Educators Rising National Student Officer.

UNDERSTANDING THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

ROOM: LIBERTY L

College Prep & Success

Angela Walmsley

Concordia University Wisconsin

Students will leave this session understanding some of the key components of the college admissions process, including the Common App. Students will learn what is needed for college admission, including strong academics, community service, school and non-school activities, and a strong essay. Students will learn about how and why to consider taking ACT and SAT exams. Lastly, students will understand the different types of application deadlines and decisions.

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF STUDENT VOICE TO TRANSFORM THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Leadership Training

Anika Yu, George-Constantinos Charonis

National Student Board Member Association

The National Student Board Member Association (NSBMA) empowers students on school boards across the U.S. We also focus on building equitable student voice and representation, such as through student advisory councils (SACs) and including student voices at every level of the decision-making process. This session will focus on discovering the potential, power, and impact of student voice within the education system. We will discuss meaningful student representation and intergenerational collaboration within the education system.

This presentation will answer the following questions:

- Why does student representation matter?
- How can adults and students work together towards meaningful change in their communities?

NSBMA works to connect, support, and educate student school board members and other educational stakeholders to strengthen student representation in education decision-making.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #10
10 – 10:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint)

SPECIAL SESSION

EDUCATORS RISING ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP NETWORK - FOCUS GROUP

ROOM: TREASURY

Are you an Educators Rising alumni who wants to stay connected and support your fellow educators?

Educators Rising is excited to explore the possibility of launching a membership network for its alumni! We'd love your feedback to help us design a network that truly meets your needs.

What will we discuss?

- The benefits you'd hope to gain from an alumni network
- How you envision staying connected with Educators Rising and your fellow alumni
- Preferred communication channels and types of content
- Ideas for ongoing professional development and support

Who should participate?

This focus group is for any educator who has participated in Educators Rising programs or events. If you have enjoyed your experience with Educators Rising, we want to hear from you. Your voice matters!

RELATIONSHIPS WITH FACULTY: A KEY TO SUCCESS DURING AND AFTER COLLEGE

ROOM: ARCHIVES

College Prep & Success

Oris Griffin

James Madison University

In this session, learn how and why building relationships with faculty can support you not only during your college years but can also positively impact you well after graduation. Tips and tricks will be shared about how to initiate and sustain key faculty connections within your program of study and beyond.

BRAINSTORMING SESSION: REFLECTIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM LOUISIANA'S INAUGURAL ASPIRING EDUCATORS SUMMER ACADEMY

ROOM: CAPITOL

Adult Strand

Amy Weems

University of Louisiana Monroe

Leadership staff from Louisiana's first-ever summer academy for aspiring educators will share their reflections and lessons learned from this transformative experience. This five-day, residential camp for high school students in pre-educator programs from across Louisiana included professional leadership seminars, city tours with community leaders, co-planning and co-teaching of SEL lessons in local community centers, problem solving, team building, and much more. Resources shared in this session will include staffing structures, sample planning documents, stakeholder partnership roles, budgets, logistics documents, and more. Participants will collaborate with session presenters to brainstorm how to adapt ideas from the session to implement with their own community and statewide partners.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #10, CONTINUED
10 – 10:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint)

IYKYK: NURTURING LEADERS, FOSTERING EMPATHY, AND SUSTAINING COMMUNITY IMPACT IN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

ROOM: LIBERTY L

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovations

DeWana Hadder
University of Louisville

This presentation delves into the transformative potential of service beyond the classroom for middle school and high school students, exploring how it serves as a dynamic catalyst for leadership development, the cultivation of empathy, and the creation of sustainable community impact. Drawing from successful case studies and practical strategies, scholars will gain insights into fostering a culture of service that goes beyond mere obligation, engaging students in a journey of personal growth and holistic development. By the session's end, scholars will leave equipped with actionable tools to implement effective service-learning initiatives, creating a lasting positive impact on students and the communities they serve. Join us in exploring how service can be a cornerstone for shaping socially responsible, empathetic, and empowered youth leaders of tomorrow.

WRITING FOR PUBLICATION

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Leadership Training

Teresa Preston
PDK International

Educators and rising educators have important stories and perspectives about the state of our schools and education system. So how can you share your ideas and experiences with the public? As PDK's director of publications and *Kappan's* editor-in-chief, Teresa Preston reviews hundreds of manuscripts each year from educators hoping to get their work into print. In this session, she will share tips for getting your work published. Learn how to identify the right audience, find places to publish, and craft an article that will capture readers' attention. Find out how to avoid some of the common mistakes that land manuscripts in the reject pile. This session will focus on articles for magazines and websites, but the suggestions can apply to other forms of writing as well.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #11
11 – 11:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint)

EMPOWERING TOMORROW: THE INFLUENCE OF LATINO REPRESENTATION IN EDUCATION

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Classroom Tip, Tricks, and Innovation

Edgar Palacios

Latinx Education Collaborative

This presentation explores the profound impact of Latino representation in education. It delves into the transformative potential when students see themselves reflected in their teachers, curricula, and leadership roles. By highlighting success stories and research findings, it illustrates how diverse representation fosters a sense of belonging, enhances academic performance, and cultivates cultural pride among Latino students.

Furthermore, the presentation examines the broader societal benefits of Latino representation in education, such as breaking down stereotypes, promoting inclusivity, and enriching the learning experience for all students. Through interactive discussions and compelling data, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of why representation matters and how educational institutions can foster a more inclusive and equitable environment.

Attendees will leave inspired and equipped with actionable strategies to promote and support Latino representation in their own educational communities, contributing to a more diverse, equitable, and enriched learning environment for all.

ACTIVATING CIRCLES OF SUPPORT FOR NEURODIVERGENT LEARNERS

ROOM: CAPITOL

Adult Strand

DeShanna Reed

D. Reed Coaching, Consulting & Advocacy

According to U.S. Department of Education statistics for 2021, 15% of all public school students — about 7.2 million students — received services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Outcomes for neurodivergent students have shown little to no improvement. While many schools offer college and career readiness counseling for general education students, very little attention is paid to the post-secondary preparation needs of students in special education programming. Based on a TEDx talk Dr. Reed delivered at TEDxColumbiaCollegeSC, this session outlines concentric circles of post-secondary support and explains how activating each layer can improve readiness and successful transitions for neurodivergent students.

HOW WE UPSKILL HIGH SCHOOLERS TO BE READING AND MATH TUTORS IN THEIR FIELD EXPERIENCES IN ARIZONA'S LARGEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

ROOM: LIBERTY L

Classroom Tip, Tricks, and Innovation

Lennon Audrain

Arizona State University

Tutoring as a field experience is an evidence-based practice for preparing high-quality teachers. Arizona's largest school district's Education Professions program is preparing its students to be reading and math tutors as a major requirement of their work-based learning and field experiences. In this session, you will hear how we prepare students, in partnership with Arizona State University, to be reading and math tutors through ASU's Community Educator Learning Hub, rehearsals, and other high-leverage teacher preparation pedagogies. You will hear about how field experiences are structured, how feedback is provided to high school students, and how you can build tutoring-based field experiences into your Education & Training program in the coming school year.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #11, CONTINUED
11 – 11:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint)

HOW TO EFFECTIVELY TEACH AND COMMUNICATE WITH CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES IN U.S. MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Carolyn Peterson

University of Massachusetts Amherst

In this session, you will learn a variety of effective strategies and research-based best practices for working with culturally and linguistically diverse middle and high school students and their families. These strategies include differentiated instruction, ways to celebrate language and cultural diversity in the classroom, and translation and translanguaging tools that classroom teachers and preservice

teachers can utilize during instruction and for communication with culturally and linguistically diverse families. Communication with multilingual students and their families can feel daunting if you are not given the proper tools and support. My goal is to help you feel more prepared and confident in your current teaching role and/or future teaching role in a K-12 school when you are striving to help your multilingual students and families navigate learning the English language and achieve success in a general education classroom setting. Through providing you with easy-to-use and effective tools you can use during your classroom instruction, your current and future multilingual students will benefit from the variety of strategies and instructional practices designed to target their cultural and linguistic needs in the classroom setting.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #12

9 – 9:45 A.M.

THE ONE WITH ENGAGED LEARNERS

ROOM: ARCHIVES

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Katherine Chaney

Katy ISD

It can be hard to keep students engaged in learning. We are used to having the world at our fingertips thanks to smartphones. Come learn about easy, effective, and exciting engagement strategies for all classrooms! Your classroom will become a community of learners who actually enjoy coming to school every day!

USING THE KAPPAN MONTHLY DISCUSSION TOPICS TO SUPPORT EDUCATORS RISING CHAPTERS AND COURSES

ROOM: CAPITAL/CONGRESS

Adult Strand

Teresa Preston

PDK International

Monthly *Kappan* magazine articles are available as part of the Educators Rising chapter resources to allow rising educators to explore current education topics as well as discuss ways to put research to practice. Participants will learn how to incorporate these discussion topics into their Educators Rising chapter activities and courses.

TECHIE TOOLS: APPS TO USE IN YOUR CLASSROOM

ROOM: CHINATOWN

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Shelley Staples

Olathe East

Join students from Olathe Public Schools' Future Educators Academy for a highly engaging session featuring technology tools that engage students in learning. Join us to learn about AI and Image Creating, Bitmoji Classrooms, FlipGrid, Osmo, Green Screen, and other innovative ed apps that our future teachers are using to connect with students. This session focuses on building your knowledge of students' interests and passions by using different technology tools. Come to this session for 45 minutes of techie tools to add to your teacher toolbox!

EDRISING CURRICULUM SHOWCASE - JOIN US FOR A SAMPLE LESSON! (PART 1). TOPIC: HOW TO TEACH DAY 1 OF THE UNIT 5 FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS LESSON

ROOM: GEORGETOWN

Adult Strand

Debbie Weaver

PDK International

Looking for best practices for using your EdRising Curriculum resources? Interested in seeing the EdRising Curriculum in action? Now's your chance! Participants in this EdRising Curriculum Showcase session will have the opportunity to see a sample of the Unit 5 Formative Assessments lesson. This session provides a valuable perspective of the student experience while also showcasing how the curriculum can be used by Teacher Leaders in thought-provoking and meaningful ways to drive student learning in classwork and/or chapter meetings. There will be a follow-up model lesson in the next breakout session group to further demonstrate how the 3-Day/5-Day EdRising curriculum materials can be used over the course of several lessons to build key instructional skills. These are sessions you don't want to miss!

CREATING POWERFUL LEARNER-CENTERED SPACES THAT ENCOURAGE STUDENT AGENCY

ROOM: LIBERTY I-K

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Starr Sackstein

Mastery Portfolio

Being in charge of our own learning is essential for transformative experiences. In this session, participants will challenge their beliefs about what makes a learner-centered space and how they can develop a culture of curiosity and growth for all people. By exploring traditional beliefs about education spaces and challenging them, participants will think about their own educational philosophies. Additionally, we will explore some ways you can build relationships with the learners and partner with them for successful practices that empower agency. Specifically, we will discuss the formative assessment process — learner clarity, goal setting, self and peer assessment, and metacognitive practices. We will look at how this process shapes the way learners can achieve a personalized experience that will enhance the full learning community.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #12, CONTINUED
9 – 9:45 A.M.

THE FOCUSED LIFESTYLE CHOICE FOR COLLEGE PREPPING: START WRITING YOUR COMMON APP

ROOM: LIBERTY L

College Prep & Success

Colette Perrone
schoolberries, inc.

Being accepted into the program and college of your choice should be a fun and intentional process of self-discovery and pursuit of passions. Start thinking beyond a crammed application season of prettying up a montage of random activities you've done in high school to fill the Lilliputian boxes on the Common App. Plan early and strategically to make the most of your high school coursework and extracurriculars. Engage the right people in the process, reflect upon your unique strengths, experiences, and interests, and immerse yourself in a targeted exploration of an angular cause — your own cause. Through the rigor and selection of your courses in high school and a trajectory showcasing that you have a purpose and intention, create an application process that empowers you to select a college, program, and major suited to your individuality. Learn how to create and format your activity and awards lists, how activities are tiered by college admission panelists, and the how, when, and where of submitting an impactful Common App and personal statement. You provide the why!

THE EDUCATION ERAS

ROOM: LIBERTY N-P

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Alexis Lieb, Zach Vodika, Madison Vincent, Alexis Evans, Mackenzie Gnap, Lauren Falb
EdRising Ohio

Step into an educational time machine! Join us on a thrilling journey where students will learn about our history, exploring the evolution of teachers and students. We will present a captivating blend of historical events, visionary theorists, groundbreaking resources, and the dramatic twists of educational laws and court cases. Feel the beat of the past as we unravel the stories of education's pioneers and rebels, from Dewey's progressive vibes to Montessori's rhythm of self-discovery.

We will unravel the stories of those who came before us while we groove to the music of today. Rising educators will learn how to incorporate the history of education into current pedagogy and instructional strategies for students and teachers in the classroom.

TEACHING CREATIVITY TO NON-CREATIVE PEOPLE

ROOM: MARQUIS 12/13

Leadership Training

Albert Chen
PDK International

If you believe you are not creative, this session will open up the possibilities of becoming creative. If you have students who say they are not creative, you can use this lesson to encourage them to think otherwise. Come join Albert Chen, PDK and EdRising's COO, to begin your journey to creativity.

CHAPTER 101: HOW TO GROW YOUR CHAPTER

ROOM: MONUMENT

Adult Strand

Travis Lape, Monica Oliver
Educators Rising South Dakota and Texas

Join us for an engaging session diving into a comprehensive framework designed to support educators at all stages of their journey, whether you're just starting a chapter or seeking to build upon existing successes.

In this interactive session, we will provide practical ideas and strategies that will simplify your planning process for the upcoming year. Through collaborative discussions and hands-on activities, participants will gain valuable insights into effective recruitment methods, leadership development, and community engagement initiatives.

Walk away from this session feeling empowered and inspired to implement solutions that will contribute to the growth and success of your chapter. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, connect, and take your chapter to new heights.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #12, CONTINUED
9 – 9:45 A.M.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN LITERATURE

ROOM: SHAW/LADROIT PARK

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Jodie Tucker, Adrianna Cooper, Aaliyah Lehan
Whitmer Career & Technology Center

Do you want to learn more about adding diversity to the literature you share with your future students? During this session, future educators will learn the importance of diversity in books for early childhood students. You will engage in interactive activities with fellow attendees to brainstorm and share your own thoughts and ideas. It is vital to expose all students to diverse books at an early age to help ensure children feel like they have an authentic place in this world. Let us help you increase this diversity for your future students. You will take back ideas on how to provide a more diverse environment in your future classroom. Participants will also receive a link to a virtual library created with books that promote diversity!

LESSONS IN TEACHING FROM TAYLOR SWIFT

ROOM: UNIVERSITY OF DC/CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Jessica Wilson
Bryant High School

Calling all Swifties! Are you ready for it? Come hear about lessons learned in education and teaching through a T-Swift lens. This session is *sparkling,* as we trade friendship bracelets and take a tour through her eras to explore themes in education. There's no need to calm down! You can bring your own friendship bracelets you've made, and there will be some to share. As Taylor says, "Honey, life is just a classroom." You'll leave this session knowing that education has been waiting for you!



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #13
10 – 10:45 A.M.

EXPERIENCES OF FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS: CREATING, ENGAGING, AND GROWING A COMMUNITY THROUGH AN ED RISING COLLEGIATE CHAPTER

ROOM: ARCHIVES

College Prep & Success

Karen Kohler, Alyssa Renae Valdez, Janine Reynosa, Malena Salazar, Alyssa Garcia
Texas A&M University-San Antonio

First-generation college students can be more successful when they have opportunities to engage in a community in addition to traditional coursework. By sharing collective testimonies and embracing pedagogies of love, first-generation college students will share their individual experiences of creating and growing a new EdRising Collegiate chapter. Their narratives will depict the challenges and successes of first-generation college students as they adapt to the university environment and encourage all students to seek community within their schools and universities.

SUPPORTING LGBTQ+ STUDENTS IN OUR SCHOOLS

ROOM: CAPITOL/CONGRESS

Leadership Training

Grace Parisi, Deklan Davis, Melanie Rose Labrecque, Melanie Rand
Concord Regional Technical Center

Participants will leave the workshop with an understanding of the unique challenges faced by LGBTQ+ students and concrete strategies teachers can use to help students feel comfortable in the classroom environment.

TEACHER GLIMMERS, SELF-REFLECTION, AND MINDFULNESS

ROOM: CHINATOWN

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Shelley Staples
Olathe East

Have you heard the saying “You can’t pour from an empty cup?” Well, this applies to educators too. Educators can use self-care, stress management

techniques, and emerging research on the science behind happiness to recharge their emotional wellness and be the best version of themselves. Participants will learn strategies that they can use immediately. Mindfulness needs to become a daily practice in your classroom to cultivate a positive mindset and promote health in both students and teachers. Join us for a lesson of gratitude, finding your purpose, breathing, identifying your glimmers, and feeling refreshed and ready for whatever your day will bring you. This presentation focuses on stress management and self-care strategies. Attendees will complete a self-care assessment and create a self-care plan.

ED RISING CURRICULUM SHOWCASE – JOIN US FOR A SAMPLE LESSON! (PART 2). TOPIC: FOLLOW-UP INSTRUCTION FOR THE UNIT 5 FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS LESSON

ROOM: GEORGETOWN

Adult Strand

Debbie Weaver
PDK International

Come join the fun and experience an EdRising lesson in action! Participants in this session will have the opportunity to see another modeled lesson that takes the discussion of Formative Assessments to a deeper level. Even if you did not have the opportunity to attend Part 1 of this modeled lesson earlier today, you will love this follow-up to the Unit 5 Formative Assessments lesson. This is an opportunity to further explore using the suggested activities, projects, and discussions that are embedded in the teacher resources of the EdRising curriculum to enrich the learning experience for our rising educators and demonstrate how excellent instruction looks, both in theory and in practice.



BREAKOUT SESSIONS #13, CONTINUED
10 – 10:45 A.M.

**STAYING OUT OF HOT WATER: UNDERSTANDING
LEGAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

ROOM: LIBERTY I-K

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Patricia Williams, Lydia Zatopek

Sam Houston State University

Is corporal punishment in schools allowed in the U.S.? How do you handle a situation where you suspect child abuse? Are you required to step in to break up a fight between two students? Let's find out these and other answers during this interactive session.

**ELEVATE YOUR INTERVIEW GAME: KEYS TO
SUCCESS IN JOB SEARCH**

ROOM: LIBERTY L

College Prep & Success

Eric Hougan

Central Washington University

Navigating the teacher interview is pivotal in initiating your career in education. It's normal to feel nervous about this crucial step. Join us in this interactive, hands-on session designed to equip you with a solid interview framework and effective strategies that will set you apart as a standout candidate. In a supportive environment, you'll practice framing your responses, ensuring a positive impression on your interviewers. Through guided practice and learning about valuable interview resources (e.g., AI), you'll build the confidence needed to secure your ideal teaching position.

TEACH. INSPIRE. CONQUER: NATIONALS

ROOM: LIBERTY N-P

Adult Strand

Chafony Poole

Are you ready to become an Educators Rising Nationals competitor? This workshop is specifically crafted to equip educators with the essential strategies needed to teach, inspire, and help students conquer the opportunity to attend Educators Rising National Conference. Learn how to create an environment that sparks curiosity and passion, motivating students to aspire towards participating in national competitions. Discover techniques for connecting competition categories with classroom content and student interests, fostering a sense of purpose and excitement. Empower students to take ownership of their journey to nationals by guiding them through goal setting, action planning, and leadership skill development. Explore strategies for building confidence, resilience, and effective teamwork, essential for success in competitive settings. Dive into the benefits of motivation and learn how to inspire students to perform at their best during the national competition. From setting ambitious goals to providing constructive feedback and celebrating achievements, discover methods for nurturing a culture of excellence and continuous improvement.

**REAL MEN TEACH: THE CHANGING FACE OF
EDUCATION**

ROOM: MARQUIS 12-13

Leadership Training

Curtis Valentine

Real Men Teach

Real Men Teach is leading the movement to diversify the teaching profession through the recruitment and retention of men of color in education. Join the founder of Real Men Teach for an interactive discussion on how reimagining the profession through their own eyes is creating a national community for men of color that sustains and affirms them in all their uniqueness and individuality.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS #13, CONTINUED
10 – 10:45 A.M.

Competitions open to public: Educators Rising Moment (Rooms: Congress and Mint), Public Speaking (Rooms: Supreme Court and Monument), and Creative Lecture (Rooms: Liberty I & J)

CULTIVATING EQUITY: A WORKSHOP ON FOSTERING INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS

ROOM: MONUMENT

Leadership Training

Lara Crowley, Thelma Hinds
Wilmington University

In this interactive workshop, participants will engage in collaborative discussions and activities designed to define equity and meaningful opportunities to provide equitable opportunities in their future classrooms. Strategies for valuing culture and diversity in learning environments will be explored. Additionally, participants will discuss considerations when selecting books for classroom use to promote diversity.

FIRST YEAR TEACHING: KEEP GOING, IT GETS EVEN BETTER!

ROOM: SHAW/LADROIT PARK

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Jodie Tucker, Soniyah Britter, Thaliyah Hutchen
Whitmer Career & Technology Center

We have all heard the horror stories about the first year of teaching. We are here to help make sure you have an amazing first year. We talked extensively to first year and veteran teachers to figure out what they would have done differently to make their first year run more smoothly and be less stressful. We will give helpful tips and tricks that can be incorporated into your classroom immediately as you start. Participants will be able to participate in scenarios & their group will determine how to react. We will also complete interactive activities to help brainstorm and discuss how you can make your first year your favorite year ever.

TEACHING MYTHS 101: THE “AVERAGE LEARNER”

ROOM: UNIVERSITY OF DC/CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Classroom Tips, Tricks, and Innovation

Brigid Cadle Lana Bresnahan, Emily Mae Stokel,
Sophia Van Epps
Portsmouth High School

What is Universal Design (UDL)? Do we teach to the average learner? These questions along with some tricks and tips will be answered in our workshop. The workshop will go into depth about UDL, including the three principles of UDL and the benefits of using it in the classroom. Our workshop will look into why the “average learner” does not truly exist and how we can break down barriers so that all students can be successful.



2023-2024 Educators Rising Champion Award Winners

Teacher Leader Division

Valerie Koch, Concord Regional Technical Center, New Hampshire

School Leader Division

Maegan Schopper, Assistant principal and PreEducator Pathway Supervisor-Alexandria Middle Magnet School, Louisiana

District Leader Division

Lori Bowen, Director of Educator Development-Fayette County Public Schools, Kentucky

Higher Ed Division

Carole Basile, Dean of Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College-Arizona State University, Arizona

State Department Division

Karen Sher, Director, Teacher Recruitment, California Department of Education

Partner Organization Division

Marla Ucelli-Kashyap, Educational Issues-AFT, Washington, D.C.

Partner Funder Division

W. K. Kellogg Foundation, headquartered in Michigan, New Mexico regional division

PDK Funder Division

Joni Cordell, PDK Senior Member, Idaho



2024 PDK International Distinguished Educators and Emerging Leaders

PDK International is proud to relaunch our Emerging Leaders and Distinguished Educators program as a fellowship diving into the issues in education today. Seeking innovators, thought leaders, and problem solvers who are making a difference in the field of education, we encourage these fellows to support the organization's initiatives and contribute to projects that will make a significant impact in the field of education. Selected from a pool of applicants through a rigorous review process, PDK Fellows come from diverse backgrounds from all over the country and share a common desire to make an impact with the work they engage in. Nearly half of PDK's Board of Directors came from the previous incarnation of our Emerging Leaders who collectively have gone on to become superintendents, executive directors, renowned innovative thinkers, and luminaries in education. We eagerly anticipate the growth of this program through our impressive cohorts and look forward to offering you the opportunity to interact with like-minded colleagues from different areas to work together as a think tank and to lead and learn through community-driven professional development! **The Fellows meeting will take place June 28 - 30 in the Cherry Blossom room. (by invitation only)**



2024 Distinguished Educator Fellows

Michael Odell
Tyler, Texas

Starr Sackstein
Seminole, Florida

Samantha Salnave
New York, New York

Violet Jiménez Sims
Hartford, Connecticut



2024 Emerging Leader Fellows

Vanessa Buttler
Lipan, Texas

Sophia James
New York, New York

Jorden Melton
Lafayette, Louisiana

Amanda Ramoutar
College Place, Washington

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
1 – 5 p.m.	Cherry Blossom	Emerging Leaders/Distinguished Educators Meeting (by invitation only)

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Cherry Blossom	Emerging Leaders/Distinguished Educators Meeting (by invitation only)

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

TIME	ROOM	EVENT
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Cherry Blossom	Emerging Leaders/Distinguished Educators Meeting (by invitation only)



2024 Educators Rising Honor Society Members

The Educators Rising Honor Society is a distinction that recognizes the academic accomplishments of our student members. This honor serves to elevate the image of teaching by highlighting high-achieving students dedicated to a career path in education. To qualify for the Educators Rising Honor Society, students must be a high school junior or senior and have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 on a 4.0 scale.

Erin Ababio-Twi (IL)	Kelsey Brueggemann (MO)	Taylor Diehl (MO)	Jenna Heafner (MO)
Audrey Abrams (OH)	Kyrsten Buchanan (OH)	Hannah Dooly (AR)	Avery Heinrich (WI)
Alyssa Adams (AR)	Nevaeh Bush (MO)	Claire Doran (OH)	Ariel Heller (AZ)
Estefani Aguilar Rodriguez (NE)	Lillian Butzke (NE)	Molly Dougherty (PA)	Audrey Herrell (AR)
Neftaly Aguilar-Martinez (NE)	Devin Carirg (NY)	Claire Dufrene (LA)	Alexis Highland (CO)
Kimora Alexander (IL)	Gelsy Carranza-Garcia (MD)	McKenna Dunn (MD)	Malia Howard (AR)
Jhaylim Alvarez (MD)	Yaslin Castillo (TX)	Kate Durholz (IN)	Charlotte Hunsinger (MO)
Christine Amalraj (PA)	Isabella Cessna (OH)	Danyelix Echevarria-Figueroa (CT)	Samaria Jones (MS)
Lexi Anway (MO)	Sophia Cessna (OH)	Tyler Farr (MO)	kendall jones (MS)
Madilyn Arnold (UT)	Makenzie Chatfield (MO)	Rebeka Fielder (MO)	Ella Jones (MO)
Callista Asante (CT)	Adaline Clayton (OH)	Kaylin Fisher (OH)	Hannah Kamara (OH)
Allison Ayers (TX)	Courtney Clineff (PA)	Jacob Gill (NE)	Isabelle Karll (MO)
Nasiha Az-Zubair (MO)	Keenen Coe (TX)	Aliyah Giron (MD)	Kendall Kindred (TX)
Kylie Bagley (MS)	Elise Coleman (MO)	Sophia Giuliano (MO)	Lauren Kraenow (MO)
Jazmin Barajas (NY)	Adrianna Cooper (OH)	Camille Golinvaux (VA)	Kylie Lehrmann (WI)
Kaycee Berkley (IL)	Caitlyn Cotton (NE)	Ryan Gonzalez (CT)	Alexis Lieb (OH)
Myra Bishop (MO)	Hannah Crawford (AR)	Kaya Gorrow (MO)	Cyann Lilly (IN)
Holly Bock (WI)	Makenzie Crawford (WV)	Bella Gregory (IL)	Allee Little (AR)
Lilyan Bortell (MO)	Jeimy Cruz-Aguilera (MO)	Larissa Grotophorst (WI)	Madison Loomis (KS)
Anastasia Bouikidis (PA)	Finley Culver (TX)	Emma Hall (MO)	Kate Luebbe (NE)
Kathryn Britt (TX)	Kathleen Curry (TX)	Reagan Harmon (OK)	Averi Mason (MO)
Aspen Brown (SD)	Ella Dedo (IL)	Audrey Haroldsen (MO)	Hailly May (TX)
		Abigail Hartle (UT)	Maura McCabe (NE)
			Brynn McDowell (MO)

2024 Educators Rising Honor Society Members, continued

Delaney McNelis (WV)	Hannah Parker (MS)	Ellie Ruch (PA)	Natasia Steele (OH)
Maggie McTimoney (MD)	Holly Parker (MO)	Allison Rushton (MO)	Sarah Steeves (DE)
Caitlen Militello (LA)	Sarah Michelle Pascual (MD)	Elena Ryther (OH)	Macey Swensen (UT)
Brooklyn Muckey (MO)	Khushi Patel (TX)	Charli Scharfenkamp (MO)	Naomi Tanaka (MO)
Joshua Muehlberg (IL)	Madison Peters (AR)	Lillyana Scheidegger (MO)	Brayden Taylor (NE)
Kimberly Munoz (TX)	Chasity Phillips (SC)	Larkin Scherer (OH)	Maya Thomas (MD)
Emmalea Munsterman (MO)	Zach Pruitt (MO)	Olivia Schlumbrecht (LA)	Kayla Tomasevich (IL)
Chloe Myers (PA)	Jasmine Rai (PA)	Silas Schueler (OH)	Angiebel Torres (CT)
Nathen Nagle (OH)	Jenifer Ramos (MD)	Alexis Schwartz (OH)	Rosalinda Tovar (TX)
Sydney Nicholas (OH)	Lorena Ramos (TX)	Hannah Sian (TX)	Dana Tran (MD)
Gabriella Nichols (MO)	Georgia Ray (OH)	Joy Skaggs (AR)	Brooke Trembley (LA)
Pearl Nimoh (OH)	Lauren Raynes (WV)	Ivy Smith (TX)	James Tucker (VA)
Jonathan Nominee (OH)	Haden Richardson (AR)	Isabella Smith (TX)	Margaret Unerstall (MO)
Divine Nseliema (MD)	Phallyn Roberts (AR)	Addison Smith (MO)	Karli Van Aalsburg (MO)
Brieanna O'Brien (OH)	Mara Robinson (OH)	Christina Sohns (TX)	Mikel Watson (AR)
Abigail Olsen (WI)	Abigail Robinson (UT)	Censley Spears (TX)	Veronicka Webb (OH)
Mauricio Orejel (NM)	Marcelino Rodriguez (AR)	Hayleigh Spence (OH)	Christal Williams (IL)
Nayeli Palomeque (TX)	Laura Rodriguez (TX)	Terrell Spencer (TX)	Addyson Yedica (OH)

2024 Educators Rising Scholarship Recipients

Educators Rising is a division of PDK International. One of the many ways that PDK supports Educators Rising and fulfills its vision of cultivating great educators for tomorrow is through the PDK Educational Foundation. The PDK Educational Foundation awards more than 100 scholarships a year to individuals pursuing a career in education.

Alivia Afable (CT)

Grace Baker (NE)

Emily Barker (CT)

Rylee Beaudion (LA)

Duranis Beltran (CT)

Brooklyn Bishop (IL)

Matthew Carpenter (OH)

Kathleen Curry (TX)

Ivanna deFaite (CT)

Emma Dunn (IL)

McKenna Dunn (MD)

Danyelix Echvarria (CT)

Leah Forry (PA)

Gwen Garman (IN)

Madison Gaynor (MD)

Avery Heinrich (WI)

Brooke Hess (WI)

Dakota Johnson (MO)

Madelyn Justice (KY)

**Alejandro Kaio De Freitas
Rodrigues** (CT)

Natalia Karas (CT)

Carlos Kirkland Jr. (CT)

Kylie Lehrmann (WI)

Liliana Ruffini (CT)

Melanie Sanchez (CT)

Madelyn Sheffel (PA)

Janey Smith (NJ)

Mason Stielow (NM)

Maya Thomas (MD)

Angela Vega (CT)

Alora Watkins (CT)

2024 Educators Rising Conference Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to our 2024 Educators Rising National Conference Scholarship winners.

MaKenna Benson-Berger
(NE)

Jamysha Bowden (TX)

Andrea Gouripaga (NM)

Emma Reed (MO)

Damian Vazquez (TX)



2023–2024 National Student Ambassadors

The Educators Rising Ambassador Program allows students to add leadership experience to their college applications or résumés, have their voices heard on a national level, and network virtually with other rising educators and teachers from across the country. Educators Rising student ambassadors represent the organization through social media and events. Student ambassadors help the national student leaders in pushing initiatives and events to the Educators Rising members.

Katelyn Christopherson

Katelyn Christopherson has just finished her junior year at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, South Dakota. She hopes to attend college to pursue a secondary education degree for history and go on to eventually teach at the middle school level. Katelyn is active in Educators Rising from the local to the state to the national level. She is on the Harrisburg Chapter's Senior Leadership Team, President of South Dakota Educators Rising, and is passionate about her position as an ambassador. She was thrilled to attend the conference last year and took third place at Nationals in the Lesson Plan Humanities competition. This ambassador is excited to represent South Dakota and Educators Rising at the conference again through competition after receiving first place in Lesson Plan STEM at the South Dakota State Conference and wish all who are competing the best of luck. Katelyn has loved her position as an ambassador and is very excited to meet all of you.

Shae'Aunna Johnson

Shae'Aunna Johnson is a senior attending Many High School in Louisiana. This fall she will be a freshman at Northwestern State University. Shae has been an Educators Rising ambassador for three years, as well as a student leader for her parish. Shae hopes to one day be Dr. Johnson but first she will start with teaching English language arts at elementary level.

Elizabeth Kaufmann

Elizabeth Kaufmann is a 16-year-old from Sheboygan North High School in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. She's a junior and this is her second year being a member of Educators Rising. Her love for the organization came very easily as she thoroughly enjoys educating others, supporting her community, and connecting with those around her. Elizabeth is a National Ambassador, meaning she has a strong social media presence allowing people worldwide to see the positive influence of Educators Rising. She believes Educators Rising is a program for all people, because everyone is an educator in some way. Being an educator comes in many different shapes and colors, which means all teachers may not be in a classroom. She doesn't see herself in a classroom setting but instead on the stage. Elizabeth has an incredible passion for the arts, especially film and theater. In the future, she wants to be a teacher that provides a safe space for children to find confidence in themselves and feel inspired to show the world their beauty and talent. Teachers should be supportive, safe, and inspirational when it comes to their connections with children, and Elizabeth promises to be that for all her students one day.

Calvin Plante

Calvin Plante is a graduating senior from New Hampshire. He is his chapter spokesperson, a state officer, and a Educators Rising National Ambassador. In his free time, he likes to join a lot of clubs and organizations, such as AFJROTC, Class Office, and National Honor Society. He is planning on attending American University in the fall 2024 on an AFROTC Type 1 Scholarship. He is double majoring in secondary education and history and minoring in political science. He plans to commission into the U.S. Space Force as a 2nd Lieutenant, and then after serving for four to eight years, he plans to become a Space Force Junior Reserve Officer Corps Instructor or a high school history teacher.

2023–2024 National Student Ambassadors

Kali Sieger

Kali Sieger has been a member of Educators Rising for three years. She will be a graduate of the 2024 senior class at Lafayette County High School in Stamps, Arkansas. During her time in this program, she has competed in Ethical Dilemma, held the titles of Arkansas State Historian and Chapter officer for three years, and served as National ambassador for two years. Kali's love for teaching has done nothing but grow. Along with all the other clubs she is a part of, she enjoys her time in the classroom helping her students and learning to be the best leader she can be.

Ivy Grace Smith

Ivy Grace Smith is a recent graduate of Cleburne High School in Cleburne, Texas, and she is a proud Texan! She has been a member of Educators Rising for three years, but this is her first year as a National Ambassador. During her three years of membership, Ivy Grace has advanced to the Educators Rising National Conference twice and placed 3rd and 6th, respectively. She advanced to the National Competition for the third time this year and is eager to compete again in Washington, D.C. Outside of her involvement in Educators Rising, Ivy Grace is active in other school, community, and church events. She is passionate about helping others and strives to be a servant in all situations. Ivy Grace is a firm believer in the power of education and believes education is fundamental to a functioning democracy and a stronger society. This fall, Ivy Grace will attend The University of Alabama to study elementary education, hoping to become a licensed classroom teacher. However, after teaching, Ivy Grace wants to return to school to pursue a career in education law and policy. Ivy Grace is eager to teach and advocate for students every day.

Sarah Steeves

Sarah Steeves is a senior at Appoquinimink High School in Delaware. Next year she will major in elementary education at West Chester University. Sarah is involved in Educators Rising as chapter President and Social Media Manager, a Delaware State Officer, and a National Ambassador. She has competed with two Children's books that qualified for Nationals. Outside of Educators Rising, Sarah

participates in many clubs at her school including National Honors Society and Pathway Ambassadors. She is also part of the theater department as stage manager and sound board operator in many different productions. Sarah dedicates a lot of her time working for her small business. She crochets and sells stuffed animals. Sarah enjoys learning new things and being creative whether it is crocheting, sewing, baking, or digital design. She has wanted to be a teacher since she was young, but throughout high school she has learned the impact that she wants to have on kids' lives. Between volunteering at local schools, tutoring, and student teaching, Sarah wants to be able to inspire students and encourage them to want to learn. She is excited to attend her second National Conference and cannot wait to meet all of you.

Elbert Thomas

Elbert Thomas is a senior at Yazoo County High School in Mississippi where he wears many hats. This is Elbert's first time being an ambassador for Educators Rising. Elbert plans to be a music therapist and help students who have problems physically, socially, emotionally, and cognitively. He wants to be a music therapist because he feels it not only helps special needs students, but all students.

Riley Wagner

Riley Wagner, a senior at Tiffin Columbian High School and Sentinel Career & Technology Center in Ohio, aspires to become a high school history teacher. Committed to education, she plans to major in integrated social studies education at Bowling Green State University to obtain her AYA teaching license in history. Beyond academics, Riley is active in theatre, choir, dance, and bowling, while also excelling in organizations like the Tri-M Music Honor Society, National Honor Society, and National Technical Honor Society. She's been a dedicated member of Educators Rising for three years, recently achieving the title of 2023 National Champion in Interactive Bulletin Board, highlighting her creativity and teaching prowess. Alongside her extracurricular involvement, Riley contributes as a member of the Tiffin Community Foundation Youth Advisory Committee, showcasing her commitment to community service and positive change.



Thank You to Our Conference Judges and Volunteers

Educators Rising would like to extend our gratitude to the volunteers serving as competition judges at the conference this year. These individuals are:

Laura Ackerwold (SD)

Marilyn Barber (MD)

Jill Bergerhofer (KS)

Amberly Boxley-Davis (PA)

Miranda Bright (NE)

Lara Bronson (NM)

Andrea Broussard (LA)

Andrea/Lewis Brownlee (AZ)

Emily Buinicky (NH)

Kevin Carter (MS)

Theresa Carter (DE)

Sonya Chapman (MS)

Suzanne Clemons (AL)

Jewel Coleman (LA)

Lillian Coleman (MS)

Joni Cordell (ID)

Teresa Cowles (CT)

Cambria Crabtree (MO)

Lara Crowley (DE)

Joseph Current (MI)

Ahngelique Davis (PA)

Alicia DeVaul (TX)

Skylar Edgecombe (MD)

Colleen Elder (CO)

Ann Flynn (VA)

Holli Forest (TX)

Kimberly Fountain (MS)

Amanda Friendshuh (AK)

Michelle Fryer-Hanson (SD)

Deborah Gardner (CO)

Freelon Goodson (KS)

Jessie Jr Gravidez (SC)

April Greer (IL)

Cindy Griswold (NM)

DeWana Hadder (KY)

Michelle Hanson (SD)

Jennifer Harris (CO)

Jason Harrison (AR)

Thrusha Henderson (NY)

Thelma Hinds (DE)

Shavonna Holman (NE)

Jeremy Howe (OH)

Rosa Isiah (CA)

Bellanne Johnson (MO)

Jamie Juhl (SD)

Tracy Kern (SD)

Elizabeth Ketterling (SD)

Jordan Lanfair (IL)

Travis Lape (SD)

Marti Little (AR)

Patty Lofgren (OR)

Candy Lonzo (MS)

Samanta Lopez (DE)

Jenny Martin (VA)

Linda Marvel (DE)

Patrica Mikos (MD)

Moriah Miller (AL)

Jennifer NeToi (MD)

LaDonna Oates (AR)

Rozy Patel (IL)

Colette Perrone (NJ)

Carol Pierbon-Hofer (IN)

Chafony Poole (MS)

Naome Popepe (SD)

DeShanna Reed (TX)

Valeria Rios Giermakowski (NM)

Carol Roger (OH)

G Roybal (NM)

Melissa Rusho (NC)

Mary Russo (MA)

Kaitlyn Sagers (UT)

Rebecca Sagers (UT)

Betty Sanchez (NM)

Daniel Sanchez (NM)

Barbara Shannon (CA)

Idalia Shuman (KS)

Amy Smith (SD)

Tara Smith (NC)

Hilary Sparks-Roberts (CT)

Karlene Stable (SD)

Lisa Stooksberry (VA)

Tabitha Strickler (VA)

Amethyst Tagle (CA)

Sandra Thompson (TX)

John Tovar (TX)

Sandy Townsend (MS)

Kristen Walker (LA)

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Patricia Williams (TX)

Taylor Womack (LA)

Lidia Zatopek (TX)

Stacie Zdrojewski (DE)



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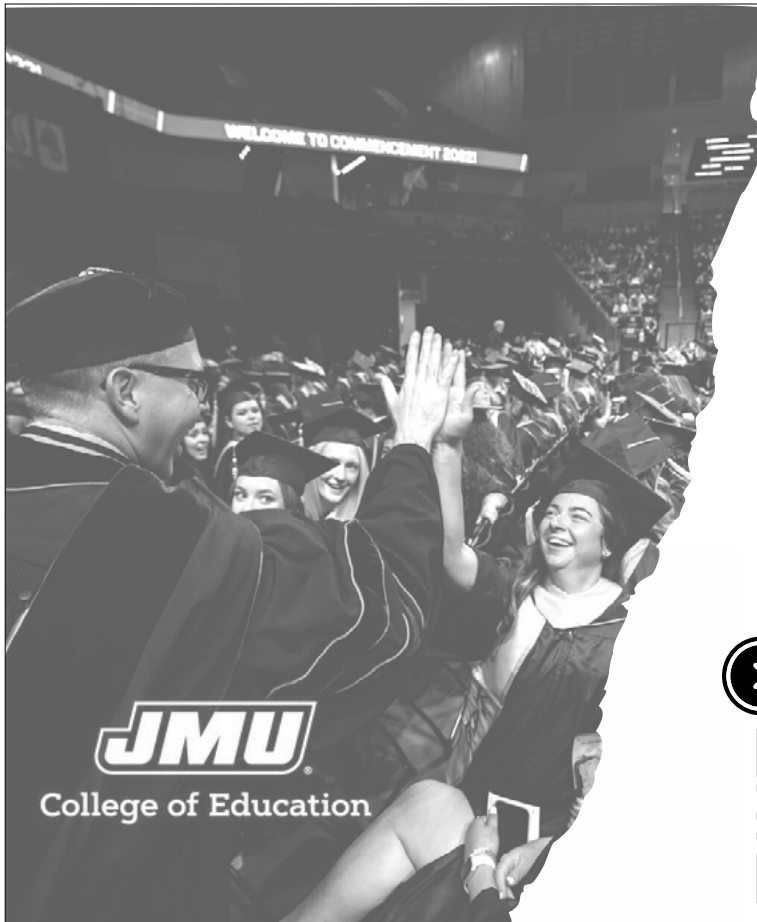
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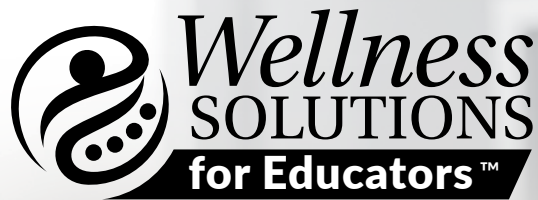
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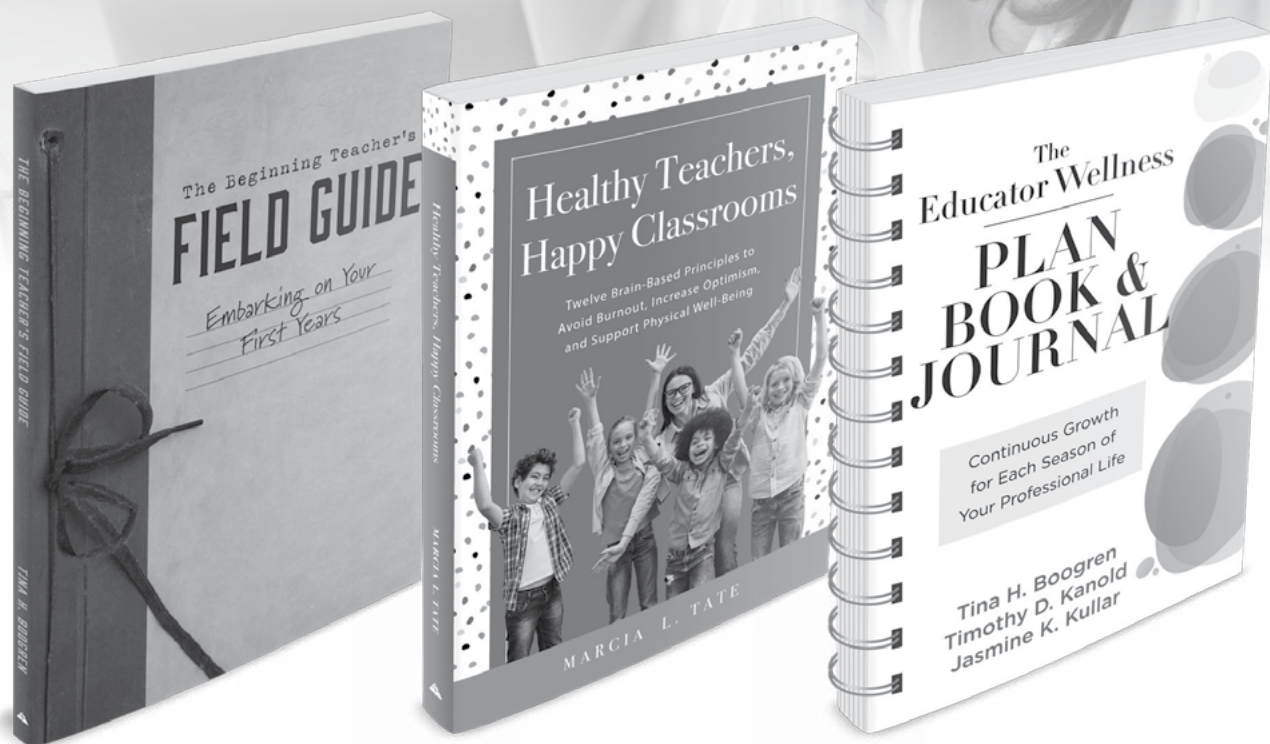
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A nighttime photograph of a cityscape featuring a large, curved, illuminated building on the left, palm trees in the foreground, and a body of water reflecting the lights. The sky is dark, and the overall scene is vibrant with city lights.

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