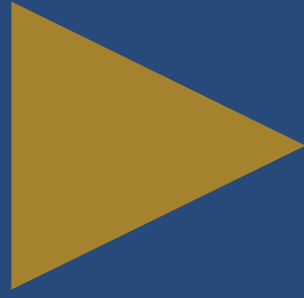




BREAKOUT SESSIONS



With over 200 session proposals submitted, CASE has narrowed it down to the best of the best. We were pleased to have a diverse range of proposals from which to select our final breakout line up; it's our goal to ensure that each of our CASE departments will have a variety of sessions to choose from at the Convention.

PRESENTERS	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	DAY/TIME	VENUE/ROOM
Anthony Greco, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8; Brett Derickson, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8; Kaithlyn DeNardo, Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8; Dr. Christopher Jensen, Diagnosing Education LLC	<b>A Skillful Save – How Embedded Operations Led to Increased Student Skills, Improved Mental Health, and Excellent Teacher Retention</b>	Extensive content standards now intersect with expectations to teach essential skills to students. Both are important, yet time in the classroom is extremely limited. In this session, learn how staff can follow a detailed plan to leverage classroom operations so that when students engage with academic content, they simultaneously explore and internalize: 1) HOW they are learning, and 2) WHAT skills they need to succeed with that learning process. Outcome data from an 18-week trial at Fountain Fort Carson demonstrates that when schools explicitly teach and practice these skills, students realize a powerful increase in skill proficiency, personal efficacy, teacher-student relationships, and self-esteem.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR (Beaver Run) Copper Top II / Beaver Den
Adrienne Cruz, CDE; Johann Liljengren, CDE; Victory Molina, CDE; Wes Tuttle, Greeley 6, Vanessa Giddings, Durango School District 9-R; Rena Frasco, Fort Morgan County School District Re-3; Lana Huizar, Summit School District	<b>Chronic Absenteeism Best Practices for Supporting Student Engagement</b>	Discover how districts are impacting student attendance with Transformative District Practices for Student Engagement. This presentation delves into the rise in chronic absenteeism across Colorado and the strategies districts are using to combat chronic absenteeism giving students the keys to their educational journey. Led by CDE experts and Colorado district and BOCES practitioners who've seen success in the 2023-24 school year, this presentation equips you with actionable resources to ignite attendance excellence in your district for the upcoming school year. Take advantage of this opportunity to increase student engagement and drive positive change!	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Imperial Ballroom
Karen Quanbeck, Colorado Education Initiative; Amber Elias, Colorado Education Initiative	<b>Creating Conditions for Success in Rural Colorado: Practice and Policy</b>	Colorado is a model for igniting partnerships between education, industry, and government to build pathways for rural Colorado learners. How do leaders create conditions necessary for meaningful learning experiences? A recent report by Colorado Education Initiative, Colorado Succeeds, Empower Schools, and Lyra Colorado offers insight into how it's done, including successful practices, policies, and partnerships. Hear from leaders who are transforming learning experiences in rural districts and regions. Gain insight into the roles of policy and partnership in creating conditions for success. Learn how local efforts, state programs, and resources have combined to create a catalytic opportunity in rural education and economic development.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 9 & 10
Noah Hurianek, College Board; Sarah Orłowski, College Board	<b>Digital SAT Suite &amp; Score Reports</b>	The Colorado Department of Education and College Board will share information from the SAT Suite administration. Join us as we explore the latest updates to the SAT Suite and discover how educator reports in the K-12 Score Reporting Portal empower teachers and administrators to make informed decisions. We'll also spotlight opportunities for expanding access and optimizing student success by leveraging educator reports and instructional improvements.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 12
Jinger Haberer, Academy District 20; Dr. Susan Field, Academy District 20; Carol Bramschreiber, Academy District 20; Tacy Killingsworth, Academy District 20	<b>District 20's Journey with Library Book Challenges &amp; Policy Implementation</b>	This session will focus on sharing D20's journey with multiple library book challenges and policy implementation for the past two school years. Learn how we embraced our community interests and diverse perspectives to create policies and practices that engage staff, parents, and students (when appropriate). We will share how through this journey we have been able to promote family and parent choice as well as promote libraries as a positive influence on developing lifelong readers.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Blue Spruce
Peter Mosby, Douglas County School District; Erin McDonald, Douglas County School District	<b>ExtraordinAlry (AI - A Tool for Administrators)</b>	Dive into the "AI-nnovative" world of education administration! Unveil how AI can turn your paperwork pile into a digital breeze and transform data analysis from "Where's Waldo?" to "Where's the Insight?" Let's navigate the "AI-sles" of personalized learning and discover how to be the Sherlock Holmes of student success. Join us for a session that promises to make AI more fun than a pop quiz on a Friday afternoon!	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Copper Top III
Gabe Futrell, Monte Vista School District; Scott Wiedeman, Monte Vista School District; Stacey Guymon, Monte Vista School District; Kellyn Ross, Monte Vista School District	<b>From Turnaround to Performance</b>	Do you need to implement and support instructional and cultural improvements in your school or district? In this session, you'll hear how one school and district went from a turnaround rating to a performance rating and hear about specific strategies and tools they used to get there. Participants will walk away with ideas of how you can support improvements in your school and district.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 11



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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

PRESENTERS	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	DAY/TIME	VENUE/ROOM
Joe McBreen, St. Vrain Valley School District; Danny Hernandez, St. Vrain Valley School District	<b>Heroic Students: The World's First Student-led Drone Performance Team</b>	Experience heroic education through the world's first student-led drone performance team. This groundbreaking session showcases awe-inspiring synchronized drone shows by FAA-certified student pilots. Hear from the trailblazing students themselves on show execution, safety, and cross-curricular connections like physics and project management. Witness how empowering students propels innovative boundary-pushing and be inspired by the heroic achievements of these persistent risk-takers mastering cutting-edge aviation technology. Don't miss this rare opportunity to see the future of education take flight.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Base Nine Lounge
Christopher Linton, Jeffco Public Schools; Daniel Clements, Jeffco Public Schools; Jill Ibeck, Jeffco Public Schools	<b>Outrunning the Bear Together: Surviving the K-12 Digital Wilderness</b>	Brown bear, brown bear, what do you see? I see a cybercriminal looking at me (and my data!). It is a digital wilderness out there. In recent years, we have seen a steady increase in cybersecurity threats and attacks targeting K-12 schools. CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency) calls our nation's schools and districts "target rich, cyber poor." Please come join us as we share stories and examples about real information security threats that Jeffco has faced in recent years. Understand more about the cybersecurity risks facing all our schools and how we can reduce those risks. Explore lessons learned about legal, policy, communications, risk management, and information security best practices to help "outrun the bear" together.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Aspen
Dr. Robert Fulton, Colorado Center for Rural Education; Marsha Cody, Brush School District RE-2; Sherri Anderson, Western Colorado University; Kate Hudnut, TEACH Colorado	<b>Recruit, Retain, and Develop Teachers for Colorado Rural Schools</b>	In this session, we'll discuss the successes and challenges that the Brush School District has faced when recruiting, retaining, and developing teachers. Learn some creative strategies that you can put into place in your own district and walk away with some fresh ideas that will shake up your thinking.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Conifer
Dr. Wendy Birhanzel, Harrison School District 2; Dr. Erin Kane, Douglas County School District	<b>RISE UP: Women in Leadership</b>	As women superintendents, we understand the complexities of leading diverse educational environments in a male-dominated leadership position. Through this interactive session, we'll delve into our experiences, strategies, and lessons learned in navigating the challenges and opportunities inherent in our roles despite only making up 30% of the superintendents statewide.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Elevation
Ron Chandler, Apple	<b>DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SESSION: Shape Tomorrow's Skills, Today</b>	As new technologies catalyze changes in the workplace, learning environments are impacted as well. Students must build and develop new skills to succeed in the classroom and beyond. And it's more important than ever to empower educators to teach those skills. Join us to discuss how to invest in your educators so they have the technology and tools needed to engage, instruct, and assess students so they thrive today and into the future.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Colorado Ballroom
Dr. Bree Jones, La Veta School District RE-2; Robert Framel, Kit Carson School District; Elizabeth Bauer, West Grand School District; Kyle Stumpf, Holyoke School District	<b>Student-Centered Accountability Program: Improving by Networking</b>	S-CAP began in 2015 and uses a series of System Site Reviews to assess school quality through peer observations conducted by in-service educators. The program has evolved over time and grown to include more than 20 rural school districts. S-CAP schools value every student and the whole student, believe that accountability means continuous improvement, subscribe to the philosophy that what gets measured and reported gets done, and know that accountability impact increases with local stakeholder investment. Come learn how S-CAP districts learn with and from one another to positively impact staff morale and teacher retention, family and student engagement, and student experience and achievement outcomes.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 6-8
Lisa Weil, Great Education Colorado; Tracie Rainey, Colorado School Finance Project	<b>What'll this November mean for next September? Public Ed on the Ballot</b>	The Colorado ballot seems to get longer every year and it looks like 2024 will be no exception. This year's crop includes a number of possible measures that could have a significant impact on numerous aspects of public education: local property tax revenue, state funding, vouchers, and student well-being, to name a few. In this interactive session, you'll learn about the measures themselves, get a preview of how local advocacy may play out, and hear about ways that districts can provide voters with objective, factual data to help them make informed decisions.	Wednesday, July 24th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Tarn Room
Patty Quiñones, Colorado Education Initiative; Karen Quanbeck, Colorado Education Initiative	<b>AI in Education: A Preview of Colorado's Roadmap for Policy &amp; Practice</b>	As one of the leading states poised to embrace AI education initiatives, Colorado is developing an AI in Education Roadmap that provides guidelines and recommendations. CEI is facilitating a statewide group of educational leaders, policy-makers, industry stakeholders, and students to ensure equitable representation and access to AI technologies. Join a panel of members from the AI in Education Roadmap Steering Committee and Working Groups to engage in insights into the strategic approach and actionable steps recommended to foster AI skills and literacy across Colorado's educational landscape. Preview the soon-to-be-published "Roadmap for AI in Education," informed by students, educators, industry, and community members from across the state.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Elevation
Dr. Karla Loria, Adams 14 School District; Lynda Idle, Adams 14 School District; Dr. Katy Roede, Adams 14 School District	<b>Attaining Record Growth in ACCESS: The A14 Story</b>	Adams 14 had struggled to demonstrate student growth for decades until a student-centered team of educators focused on systems to support students, teachers, and administrators alike, resulting in ACCESS scores surpassing Colorado state average scores in all categories in only one year. Come learn about the sequence of action steps that supported A14 students to demonstrate rapid growth. We will also review practical actions for improvement that can be replicated in any school in Colorado. Learn about the A14 must-knows about ACCESS and its impact on their School Performance Framework.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 12



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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

PRESENTERS	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	DAY/TIME	VENUE/ROOM
Rose Jones, Capturing Kids' Hearts; Carrie Yantzer, Capturing Kids' Hearts	<b>Creating a School Culture That Excites, Empowers, and Equips</b>	This session will discuss the key ingredients to create an exceptional school culture. In addition, we will unpack how to showcase your culture to recruit great new professionals in education for your schools and districts. This session will include a panel of exceptional educators for Q&A.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Imperial Ballroom
Jared Cooney Horvath, LME Global	<b>DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SESSION: Foundations of Human Learning: Unlocking the Brain to Transform Teaching, Learning, and Leadership</b>	How does the brain work to make sense of reality, and what impact does this have on teaching, learning, and leadership? During this engaging and interactive session, we will explore the often-counterintuitive foundations of thinking, the power of stories to drive perception, the role errors play in comprehension, and consider how these three concepts tie together to build a culture both within and beyond school. Furthermore, we will use this foundation to differentiate between 'learning' and 'performance' modes and consider how this can be an obstacle to growth and change. Buckle in - here's where things get real!	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Colorado Ballroom
Dana Sorensen, PEBC	<b>It Doesn't Have To Be So Complicated</b>	Educators do not mess around when it comes to accountability. While this is admirable, it also begs the question, "Why do we complicate things?" Spend time looking at examples of how to invigorate, compel, and add curiosity to the daily work of all educators. What does it take to make a difference but not sacrifice our joy? Learn from colleagues and refocus on what matters.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 6-8
Ian Lopez, Cherry Creek School District; Greg Miller, Cheyenne Mountain School District; Steve Nederveld, Cherry Creek School District; Dr. Lisa Roberts, Cherry Creek School District	<b>Lessons in Lockdown! The Gap Between Response and Reunification</b>	School lockdowns are more than just sounding the alarm and checking doors. This session will examine the importance of involving stakeholders and leaders in lockdown drills to build emergency preparedness capabilities and relationships. We will discuss how new training and communication tools can help care for students and staff during lockdowns, creating less trauma, and helping them feel more informed and empowered. The session will also demonstrate how combining the use of HOLD and LOCKDOWN directives with new communication technologies can improve school preparedness, public safety response, tactical operations, and physical and psychological safety during lockdown events.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Base Nine Lounge
Eric Slinger, HUB International; Brad Schmahl, JHL Constructors; Scott Smith, Cherry Creek School District; Dan O'Connell, RBC Capital	<b>Lifecycle of a Development - from Funding to a Final Building</b>	Hear from a panel of experts talk through the life cycle of campus and facility developments. We will discuss best practices tied to the initial opportunity, design, funding and finance, risk management, and construction phases.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Tarn Room
Denille LePlatt, Wold Architects & Engineers; Dr. Bree Jones, La Veta School District RE-2	<b>Proceed Until Apprehended: Innovating to Address Wicked Problems</b>	In an educational landscape characterized by wicked problems, there is a space for leaders where hope and action intersect. Bree and Denille, two longtime, proven leaders, will explain how they've defied the odds to restore innovation, accountability, and a sense of purpose in their organizations and beyond. Attendees will come away with a renewed sense of confidence and strategies for increasing mental toughness, building capacity for taking calculated risks, and capitalizing on opportunities with a wild mind and disciplined eye - and all with a "can do" attitude. Learn how we continually exercise courage to create a world in which we overcome difficult tasks to do good things for people.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Aspen
Bruce Jones, Cherry Creek School District; Dr. Reid Heller, Cherry Creek School District	<b>Revolutionizing Pedagogies for Student Support</b>	Join us for an innovative professional development experience designed to revolutionize pedagogical approaches for supporting students. In this dynamic experience, participants will explore cutting-edge strategies aimed at promoting equity, trauma-informed care, restorative practices, and cognitive coaching within educational settings. Through insightful discussions and practical exercises, educators will gain invaluable insights into transforming their system processes to better meet the diverse needs of students.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 11
Dr. Kirk Henwood, South Routt School District RE-3; David Grabowski, South Routt School District RE-3	<b>Something's Working - A Systems Approach to Improvement</b>	South Routt School District is focusing on the "Four Legs of Effective Schools." This means SOROCO is systematically working on having an articulated guaranteed and viable curriculum, developing high-quality professional learning for all staff, and targeting district-wide and building-level climate and culture. These efforts have resulted in South Routt being named a Colorado District of Distinction twice in the last five years, a 2024 National Middle School to Watch, and having a teacher named as a National Life Changer of the Year. This systemic balanced approach impacts all the people in our schools PK-12. Join us and learn about our journey to become "The Best Small School District in Colorado."	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Copper Top II / Beaver Den
Cheri Wrench, CASE; Marsha Cody, Haxtun School District Re-2; Nikki Johnson, Campo School District RE-6; Deana Pachelli, Trinidad School District 1	<b>Student Panel: Innovative Solutions for Staffing Models</b>	Are you experiencing educator shortages? Join us for this presentation to gain awareness about innovative staffing models from a student panel. By exploring innovative solutions with students, attendees will gain valuable insights into addressing the challenges of teacher shortages. Drawing from their own experiences and observations, attendees will delve into creative strategies to enhance staffing models to foster a more conducive learning environment for students.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 9&10
Tracie Rainey, Colorado School Finance Project; Kathy Plomer, Colorado State Board of Education; Susan Meek, Colorado School Finance Project	<b>Success Stories &amp; Strategic Insights</b>	Colorado schools have navigated a whirlwind of change in the past four years. The Colorado School Finance Project, in supporting districts across the state, has compiled data informed by stories about what worked best to overcome disruptions and lead through some of the most tumultuous times in public education. This interactive session dives into the key core approaches that have emerged as essential for schools to not just survive, but thrive. We'll explore these enduring strategies through the lens of real-world success stories and share best practices for integrating them into your own school community.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Conifer



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

PRESENTERS	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	DAY/TIME	VENUE/ROOM
Shelly Landgraf, Pure HR Solutions	<b>The Employee Life Cycle: Strategies to Finding &amp; Keeping the Best</b>	The employee life cycle identifies the different stages an employee advances through in an organization. This session will support district and building leaders in understanding the critical role they play in optimizing the staff they support. Great dialogue and resources will be provided to assist leaders in their role of attracting and retaining the best, while also supporting leaders with those difficult conversations and decisions that must be made to ensure high quality standards are the norm for their department or building. Of course, all these take place within the confines of adhering to board policies, master agreements, and legal requirements - we'll help you get there and be successful!	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Copper Top III
Christy Thompson, Milliken	<b>The Power of Brand to Recruit, Retain, and Influence</b>	In a landscape where recruiting and retaining top talent are paramount, learn how to harness your school's brand to attract and keep the best educators. Explore strategies that not only elevate the value for students but also foster a culture of excellence and engagement. Dive into innovative approaches to connect with your community, leveraging your school's brand as a powerful tool for building relationships and garnering support. Don't miss this opportunity to gain actionable insights that will propel your school toward success in recruitment, retention, student impact, and community engagement.	Wednesday, July 24th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Blue Spruce
Dr. Amy Spicer, Colorado Education Initiative; Bill Summers, Cañon City School District; Dylan Connell, Durango School District; Ellen Clark, Summit School District	<b>Catalyzing Student Futures through Graduate Profile Implementation</b>	Many districts across the state have co-created graduate profiles with their communities that articulate the skills and competencies their graduates need to be successful in their chosen path. But once you have a graduate profile in place, how do you bring it to life? In this session, we will explore the transformative impact of implementing graduate profiles across K-12 systems and discover strategies to leverage graduate profiles during student transitions, ensuring continuity and alignment across elementary, middle, and high school levels. Learn from three districts allowing students to practice and demonstrate graduate profile competencies through career-connected learning, performance assessment, social emotional supports, and more.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 12
Tracie Rainey, Colorado School Finance Project	<b>Changes are Here - Now What for School Finance?</b>	For years there has been discussion about changing the school funding formula for Colorado. With the upcoming completed adequacy studies, ideas forwarded by a school finance task force, and legislative proposals, how can districts plan? In addition to formula changes, property tax changes, and implications, we will discuss how to plan for the upcoming year.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	The Village - Tarn Room
Philip Qualman, Eagle County School District; Todd Snidow, RBC Capital Markets	<b>Employee Housing: How We Did It</b>	In five years, Eagle County School District went from 30 units of affordable housing to over 100. In the next two years they will add another 150 units. Hear how this district accomplished this rapid expansion, what worked, and what didn't. In this session, you will learn how to create a Housing Master Plan, consider potential funding options, and discover successful housing management strategies.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	The Village - Blue Spruce
Dr. Doug Fisher, Author and Researcher; Erin McConnell, SDSU; Dr. Rob Thelen, Douglas County School District	<b>How Leadership Teams Work</b>	Gone are the days of a solo leader doing everything themselves. Effective leaders create strong, cohesive teams who have the skills necessary to engage in meaningful work. This session equips leaders with the tools they need to foster trust, accountability, and engagement in their teams. Teams need clarity in their purpose, process, communication, and impact, but also need to establish and maintain their credibility and use effective processes and procedures to accomplish their work.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Colorado Ballroom
KK Neimann, World Savvy; Marley Wertheimer, World Savvy	<b>Modern School Leadership for Complex Times</b>	During this session, we will explore the three areas of effective school leadership in the modern era - Managing the Present, Forgetting the Past, and Creating the Future. Through active learning experiences that promote inquiry, participants will think critically and creatively about the future of teaching and learning that we want to emerge and the kind of leadership that can help us get there. While appropriate for all attendees, this session is the start of a year-long professional learning series for school leaders in Colorado.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 6-8
Jeff Pierson, Jeffco Public Schools; Madalena DeAndrea, Jeffco Public Schools; Frank DeAngelis, DeAngelis Foundation	<b>Navigating School Safety through the lens of Resiliency with an Emphasis on Culture</b>	This session will provide valuable insight from multiple lenses around the impact both a strong culture and resiliency play in school safety. Hear and learn from Frank DeAngelis (Principal of Columbine High School [retired]), Jeff Pierson (Executive Director of School Safety for Jeffco Public Schools and former high school principal at Standley Lake High School), and Madalena DeAndrea (an active shooting survivor and Senior Manager Strategic Projects, Recovery, & Resiliency) about how tragedy impacted growth, resiliency builds character, and the impact school safety protocols/environments have on students during and post-secondary life. Learn how leaders can use their environments to build trust and integrity, inspire the school community to embrace safety, and build a thriving safety culture that models the finite balance of physical and psychological safety for all students and staff.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 9-10
Erin Loften, CDE; Jayson Thomas, CDE; Dr. Lauren Hesse, CDE	<b>New Streamlined UIP &amp; Opportunities to Maximize Planning Outcomes</b>	This session will highlight high-level features of the new streamlined UIP template and implications for school and district processes, including timelines and meaningful stakeholder participation. We will share tactical resources for the planning process and have time for peer exchange for promising practices and shared learning.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	The Village - Conifer
Ian Wells, Douglas County School District; Erica Mason, Douglas County School District	<b>PLCs: Beyond Theory Towards Effective Implementation - Get Results</b>	The goal of this session is to highlight outstanding Professional Learning Communities at work and explain how to make them the norm in your district. This session will explore the structures, data protocols, and effective teaming strategies that have lead schools toward academic success and consistent growth. We will introduce several practitioners engaging in the successful practices of PLCs at Work to help others gain clarity on best strategies of implementation in a workshop format. There will be sample videos of effective PLCs in action.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Base Nine Lounge



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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

PRESENTERS	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	DAY/TIME	VENUE/ROOM
Dr. Diane Lauer, St. Vrain Valley Schools; Michelle Bourgeois, St. Vrain Valley Schools; Jason Kelsall, St. Vrain Valley Schools	<b>Preparing for an AI Enabled Organization</b>	Join us as we delve into the future of work. We'll share our approach to integrating AI throughout our system while focusing on three main areas: Policies, Products and Practices. First, we'll discuss our approach to ensuring our policies and guidelines align with responsible and ethical use. Next, we'll outline our process for identifying promising platforms and products that incorporate AI. Finally, we'll share our dynamic training plan to foster AI Literacy through effective instructional and business practices. Walk away with actionable insights and tools to drive your district forward in the AI era. This session is perfect for leaders and innovators seeking to leverage AI to create a strong competitive advantage for their stakeholders.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	The Village - Elevation
Dr. Angela Valdez, Harrison School District 2; Nicole Paxton, Harrison School District 2; Aaron Vandewarker, Harrison School District 2	<b>Rewriting the Narrative with Restorative Practices</b>	Join us for an engaging exploration into the transformative power of restorative practices within the K-8 educational landscape. In this session, we will share our school's profound journey from a climate of high suspensions to one of reconciliation and growth. Previously plagued by soaring suspension rates, our school community embarked on a restorative justice initiative that has since resulted in a remarkable 75% reduction in suspensions. Through a lens of empathy and accountability, we will delve into the strategies, challenges, and triumphs encountered along the way. Central to our success has been the establishment of a dynamic student-led restorative justice team, empowering our learners to take ownership of conflict resolution.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Copper Top III
Coulter Bump, Caplan & Earnest; Bobby Click, Safe Sport Matters; Karin Ranta-Curran, Flynn Investigation Group	<b>Safeguarding Athletic Programs from External Pressures with Title IX</b>	Join us for this session in which we'll identify the external forces threatening school athletic programs, understand their impact on participants and equity requirements, and learn strategies to promote safety, establish structured relationships with parent boosters, and respond to misconduct in compliance with evolving Title IX regulations. Bring your questions as we cover the essential information you need to be aware of.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	The Village - Aspen
Dan Morris, Colorado BOCES and Colorado Digital Learning Solutions; Dr. Kirk Henwood, South Routt School District RE-3; Amy Ward, North Park Schools; Elizabeth Bauer, West Grand Schools	<b>School Leaders Harness the Power of AI</b>	A panel of rural superintendents will delve into AI's role in education, highlighting its impact on efficiency, staff support, and student learning enhancement. The session, rooted in a series of BOCES-led AI explorations with superintendents, will cover AI implementation strategies, literacy improvement, ethical considerations, and success stories. Participants will gain insights into practical AI applications, tackling challenges, and cultivating an AI-innovative culture in schools. Come prepared to join the dialogue, collaborate and explore AI as a tool to support school leaders.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Imperial Ballroom
Kristan Gundel, CDE; Melissa English, Apprenticeship Colorado; Megan Lovinguth, CDE	<b>Teacher Degree Apprenticeship: Diversifying the Educator Workforce</b>	This session will provide an overview for school, district and BOCES leaders to learn how a Teacher Degree Apprenticeship Program creates the opportunity to diversify the teacher workforce by creating a pathway for aspiring teachers to obtain a bachelor's degree and teaching license while working in the school/district/BOCES. This "earn while you learn" model allows districts to invest deeply in community members who are committed to serving the students and families within their school community. During the session, participants will engage with colleagues to consider a Teacher Degree Apprenticeship program design that would be responsive to the needs of the school, district, and BOCES.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 11
Jenny Rothboeck, East Grand School District; Scott Murphy, PEBC	<b>Your Best Year: Strengthen the Foundation to Achieve the Next Level</b>	Will Guidara, keynote speaker at the 2024 CASE Winter Conference, names unreasonable hospitality as a transcendent experience for our school communities. For that to happen, however, it must be built upon a solid, stable and successful foundation. Where are you in your quest to create transcendent experiences? How solid is your foundation? And, what might you prioritize this year to strengthen the foundation and build upon it? In this engaging, interactive session, you will take time with your peers to identify the strengths of your foundation, set a focus for your school, and walk away with an outline of how to launch the year.	Wednesday, July 24th 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	BR Copper Top II / Beaver Den
Christina Tiernan, District 49; Carolyn Merritt, District 49	<b>Boots on the Ground: A District Mission Empowering Math Achievement</b>	Transforming mathematics instruction and advancing student achievement are pillars of a multi-year framework for building a firm foundation of mathematics in D49. Participants will engage in a task as a springboard for understanding the importance of deep content knowledge for teaching and the instructional shifts that empower student sense-making of mathematics. Testimonies will be shared related to the impact on teacher self-efficacy for teaching math and the impact on classroom instruction. Leaders will see how focus and intentionality for coaching and evaluating math instruction as well as making shifts in building level priorities will support math achievement. District data will show the impact on student achievement from our mission.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Base Nine Lounge
Finessa Ferrell, Colorado Education Initiative; Marcus Bratton, Colorado Education Initiative; Dr. Amy Spicer, Colorado Education Initiative	<b>Bring Them Back, Catch Them Up: Real Solutions for Chronic Absenteeism</b>	Chronic absenteeism is a pervasive issue affecting students across the state and nation. In this session, we will delve into anxiety as a root cause behind student disengagement by engaging with authentic student accounts. Together, we will unpack the two primary contributors to student anxiety: feeling too far behind and lack of connection to school. We will then explore methods to support students in catching up academically and feeling like they have a school-based community to which they belong. Attendees will leave with actionable strategies they can start implementing immediately to begin building robust systems that facilitate student re-engagement, ensuring every child receives the support they need to thrive.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Imperial Ballroom



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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

PRESENTERS	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	DAY/TIME	VENUE/ROOM
Dr. Kristie Kauerz, University of Colorado Denver; Priscilla Hopkins, Denver Public Schools; Dr. Lisa Roy, Colorado Department of Early Childhood; Scott Jones, Colorado Department of Education; Dr. Tony Byrd, Summit School District	<b>Closing 3rd Grade Achievement Gaps: Preschool and Beyond</b>	Universal Preschool, Kindergarten Readiness, Full-Day Kindergarten, and the READ Act are all policy reforms intended to address 3rd-grade achievement gaps. This session will provide updates to each of these individual reforms and, more importantly, address how comprehensive alignment of these reforms across the preschool-through 3rd-grade years (P-3) holds promise to meaningfully improve 3rd-grade scores. The session will offer an overview of current research about the importance of early learning and the early grades, highlight key resources available from state agencies and statewide partners, and highlight the P-3 vision and efforts of school districts.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 6-8
Dr. Andrea LaRocca, Arizona State University; Erica Branscum, Mapleton Public Schools; Cheri Wrench, CASE; Trent Kerr, Wiggins Public Schools	<b>Colorado Implementation of Next Education Workforce Team-based Models</b>	Via a grant from Opportunity Now, six districts across the state of Colorado are launching or expanding team-based models - a strategic and innovative approach to staffing - in their schools in the 2024-2025 school year. Come to this session to hear more about what the team-based model staffing approach is, why schools nationally and in Colorado are adopting it, and what two district leaders' visions are for how their districts are making the shift to team-based models in the coming school year.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Aspen
Dr. KK Owen, Studer Education; Sean Dorsey, Manitou Springs School District; Dustin Horras, Sand Creek Zone D49	<b>Improving School Districts by Listening to Those We Serve</b>	Hear the improvement journeys of three leaders in two school districts and how they are building solid systems of improvement by listening to and taking action on what matters most to stakeholders inside and outside the school walls. Learn best practices to listen to employees including rounding and results rollout for increased employee retention and engagement. Discover best practices for listening to parents, caregivers, students, and community members for improved confidence, enrollment, attendance, and achievement. It's not just about listening; it is about USING what is heard to take action to continuously improve the school district for all stakeholders.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 9 & 10
Dr. Katy Anthes, Public Education & Business Coalition; Dana Sorensen, PEBC; Dr. Jamita Horton, PEBC	<b>Leading Education in a Time of Polarization</b>	Join the former Commissioner of Education, Dr. Katy Anthes, to discuss how we lead in a time of challenging polarization. Over the years, we have seen a sharp increase in political polarization and high conflict in many of our communities and certainly the country. Educators had to work within a lot of conflict during the pandemic years and the trend continues with increasing culture wars, community division and other politics that have been brewing. How can we better lead education systems within this context? How do we build skills and model productive engagement through deep listening and other concrete skills for preventing and managing high conflict? Let's discuss.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Elevation
Dr. Adam Drummond, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt/ Center for Model Schools	<b>Making it Last: Ensuring Second Order Change for Continued Success</b>	We have all been part of a school or district where leadership change happens. With that leadership change, the initiatives, successes, and progress often go out the door with the leader. Why is that? The implementation of that vision was not intertwined into the fabric of the school/district culture. Join Dr. Adam Drummond from the Center for Model Schools as we discuss practical ways to move key actions into second-order change - preserving success for students (and your school/district) in the years to come.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Conifer
Susana Córdova, CDE; Joanna Bruno, CDE; Ashley Birsic, Zearn; Corrine Mitchell, Zearn	<b>Mathematics Leadership: How are Decisions Made to Prioritize Math?</b>	Join Commissioner Cordova to learn what others are doing to support mathematics in Colorado. Engage in an informal discussion with the Commissioner and members of CDE, in addition to members of Zearn Math, to better understand how and why decisions are made around mathematics resources. Provide insights into what the department can do better to support districts in resourcing materials that could lead to improved outcomes in mathematics education.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Copper Top III
Jennifer Okes, CDE; Danielle Ongart, CDE; Bill Kottenstette, CDE	<b>New School Finance Rule and Opportunities for Reimagined Instruction</b>	Teaching and instruction have changed a lot in recent years. School finance rules have been updated to reflect these new models and provide more flexibility for secondary students. Additionally, the 1215 Task Force and resulting legislation has changed post-secondary pathways. The Department, along with school and district leaders, will outline recent changes and discuss various alternative instruction models. In this interactive session, we will build awareness on opportunities for students to learn in more engaging ways and ensure their courses and programs are funding eligible.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Blue Spruce
Scott Smith, Cherry Creek Schools	<b>PERA: A Reflection from 2 Years as a PERA Trustee</b>	PERA Trustee Scott Smith will provide an update on the current state of PERA, personal reflections on the Board during his tenure, and a look into the future. An open Q&A session will follow the presentation. Please note: These remarks are Scott's alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of Colorado PERA, its staff, or the other Trustees.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	The Village - Tarn Room
Julie Schmidt, Cherry Creek School District; Jim Dosky, Cherry Creek Innovation Campus	<b>Rethinking Grading Practices with Equity in Mind</b>	Have you encountered challenges helping teachers to imagine ways to standardize grading equitably? Has it been hard to imagine grading practices that are both concrete and flexible in order to offer students meaningful feedback, as well as opportunities to show growth over time? Come examine your values behind grading, rethink what proficiency means, and imagine new ways to standardize grading for proficiency. You will learn how proficiency is manifested in three major types of rubrics, as well as imagine your own rubric for an area of your building with opportunities for growth. Become not only a thought partner with your departments; become a collaborator. There will also be a CTE perspective offered as you learn.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Copper Top II / Beaver Den



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PRESENTERS	SESSION TITLE	SESSION DESCRIPTION	DAY/TIME	VENUE/ROOM
Dr. Wendy Birhanzel, Harrison School District 2; Dr. Greg Rabenhorst, Weld Re-3J; Dr. Rob Anderson, BVSD; Glenn McClain, CASE	<b>So You Think You Want to be a Superintendent</b>	This session is designed to offer an opportunity for leaders who are possibly interested in pursuing a superintendency to learn more about the role from current superintendents in urban, rural, suburban, large, and small districts. "So, You Think You Want to be a Superintendent," will offer a general overview and ample opportunity for dialogue and questions. This session will also be shared at the CASE Principal Conference. Interested participants may then want to engage in a deeper dive into the topic at the CASE Winter Leadership Conference through its annual Exploring the Superintendency day-long pre-conference session.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 11
Heidy LaFleur, Why, Inc	<b>DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SESSION: Soaring Balloons &amp; Heavy Shackles Helping the Most Challenged Kids Soar</b>	This powerful true story, based on real life trauma, provides practical strategies to understand how our Actions, Words & Expressions (AWE) have a direct impact on the outcome of interactions with our students. Trauma transforms the student experience and practicing our perspective can assist in a child's journey to reclaim livelihood. We are empowered to be a part of the problem or part of the solution with ALL kids. Our AWE can either add weight to their shackles or fill their balloons to soar.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Colorado Ballroom
Jamie Gansmann, Gaggle	<b>Student Safety &amp; Mental Health in Your District</b>	A safe environment is a prerequisite to learning. Safety isn't just about fortifying your school buildings, it is about ensuring that safety and mental health are both in focus and addressed. A variety of factors impact student mental health including bullying, violence at home, depression, anxiety, and a sense of low self-worth. These also influence students' feelings of safety. By focusing on safety and mental health, districts can improve student well-being and provide an environment that yields improved academic outcomes. In this session, we will look at the importance of student safety and mental health. You will leave with a discussion guide to bring back to your district to support comprehensive student safety planning.	Thursday, July 25th 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 12
Dr. Verenice Gutierrez, El Paso County School District 49	<b>A Trauma Informed Approach to Meeting the Needs of Migrant Students</b>	Join us for an immersive workshop on trauma-informed supports for migrant students. This session will delve into understanding trauma's impact on migrant youth and equipping educators with strategies to create safe and supportive learning environments. Through interactive discussions and case studies, participants will gain practical tools for fostering resilience and promoting academic success among migrant students. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your ability to positively impact the lives of migrant youth.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 11
Hilary Daniels, Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB)	<b>Addressing Critical Legal Issues in Employment Law</b>	Join us for an engaging and informative panel discussion focusing on essential issues in employment law. Our panel of attorneys will cover a range of pressing topics including evaluations, hiring, Protection of Whistleblowers Act (POWR), employee investigations, and the implications of the vetoed House Bill 1260 (worker protections against religious and political speech). This session is tailored for human resources leaders, and anyone involved in employment law and workplace compliance. We encourage you to bring any questions you have on these and other topics.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Base Nine Lounge
Heather Keeton, EF Education First; Dr. Jackie Kapushion, St. Vrain Valley School District; Dr. Luis Murillo, Alamosa School District; Dr. Karen Cheser, Durango School District 9-R; Dan Melendrez, Genoa-Hugo School District	<b>Career Readiness Beyond AI: Immersion Learning for Skill Development</b>	In an increasingly interconnected world, preparing students to solve problems on a global scale is paramount. Join us as we delve into the importance of immersive learning in bridging the gap between classroom learning, AI, and real-world careers, unlocking student potential, and equipping them with the skills needed to thrive in a globalized career landscape. Acquire strategies to implement in your schools in both urban and rural communities to cultivate essential 21st-century skills in students, including cultural awareness, growth mindset, collaboration, self-awareness, communication, agency, critical thinking, problem-solving, and social-emotional intelligence.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 9&10
Curtis Lee, Adams 12 Five Star Schools	<b>DataSafe is DataSmart: New Risks, Responsibilities, and Rewards</b>	This session will present some emerging strategies to help "de-risk" the data and information used within our districts for both compliance and cybersecurity purposes. The convergence of cybersecurity threats, regulatory mandates, and artificial intelligence is forcing a more risk-aware information management posture within our districts and schools. Given this new reality, what are some cross-departmental approaches a district can take to build a more risk-aware information use culture? Utilizing a combination of technology tools and creative messaging, Adams 12 Five Star Schools is beginning to socialize this paradigm shift in how our staff and students think about their usage and sharing of information in a riskier world.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Conifer
Robert Frantum-Allen, Public Consulting Group; Dr. Darren Kennedy, Public Consulting Group	<b>Empowering Educators: Maximize Special Ed Student Achievement</b>	In today's educational landscape, simply increasing instructional time isn't enough to drive student success. Quality instruction that actively engages all learners is paramount. The Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability, and Reform (CEEDAR) and the Council for Exceptional Children have identified 22 high-leverage practices (HLPs) crucial for supporting the learning of all students, particularly those with disabilities. Through tailored professional development, a community of practice approach, and high-leverage practices can offer actionable strategies to accelerate learning. Join us to empower you with the tools needed to maximize student achievement of students with disabilities.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Copper Top II / Beaver Den
Daniel Coppa, Cañon City Schools Fremont RE-1	<b>Gamifying Tabletop Exercises to Foster Deep Thinking and Conversations</b>	Developing and managing a tabletop exercise can be extremely time-consuming and stressful for school district leaders. Why not add gamification to the process to foster engagement and encourage deep thinking and conversations with your leadership team? This session will take participants through a unique way of presenting and running any tabletop exercise in your district! As in any real-world scenario, you can never predict where an event might take you. In this session, participants will participate in a "Choose your own adventure" style tabletop exercise focused on a cybersecurity event that has taken place in their district. At the end of this session, all participants will leave with their own customizable template.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Blue Spruce



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Rachel Amspoker, CASB; Robert Montgomery, Semple, Farrington, Everall & Case, P.C;	<b>Hot Legal Issues Facing Superintendents and Senior Administrators</b>	Superintendents and senior-level administrators face a constantly evolving array of issues with significant legal implications for their district. In this session, our attorney panelists will give you the most current information about legal issues that you need to be aware of, including ongoing UPK implementation, student name changes, executive session requirements, CORA, and Title IX. You'll be able to offer your experience with these and other issues, as well as ask questions of our panelists.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Tarn Room
Shannon Milliken, The P.L.A.Y. Education Corporation	<b>Lean Into Change: Strategies to Create a Culture of Belonging</b>	In this session, join the presenter as she takes you on her journey and shares the intimate details of how color and privilege have impacted a life of trauma, grief, and loss. She will also share experiences that show love, healing, and joy. Her story will change the way you see children enter your classrooms, schools, and programs as well as change the way you show up in conversations and how you engage with other individuals. Her story will make you more compassionate, more empathetic, and more aware of how to be more equitable and inclusive and create environments that promote diversity and belonging.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Imperial Ballroom
Michelle Murphy, Colorado Rural Schools Alliance; Beth Friel, Caplan and Earnest LLC	<b>Navigating Legal Issues for Principals</b>	If you are a principal, assistant principal, or school-level leader, you won't want to miss this information-packed session on the most pressing legal issues facing schools and districts. Our panel of attorneys will discuss topics including special education, student discipline, student name changes, harassment of students or staff, and Title IX. Do you have questions about a thorny topic with potential legal implications? This is the place to ask and get feedback on those so that you're well-equipped with information headed into the new school year.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Copper Top III
Sarah Kruse, Pearson	<b>Supporting Student Learning Through the Use of Interim Assessments</b>	Join us to learn about how interim assessments can be used to support student learning as one part of a balanced system of assessment. We will highlight the Pearson Review of Progress and Learning (PRoPL) interim assessment. It is a quick yet accurate interim assessment that provides educators, students, and families with powerful information about student growth during the school year. The PRoPL interim assessment is aligned to Colorado state standards and is designed with the same quality and measurement standards as an end-of-year assessment, so you know the results are trustworthy.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Summit Gallery, Peaks 6-8
Brett Johnson, Aurora Public Schools	<b>Updates on Proposed Property Tax Legislation in Colorado</b>	As the 2024 General Assembly came to a close, changes to Colorado's property tax laws moved through the legislative process in just a few days. What were the results? How will new property tax impact your district? How will it impact the State Budget? Hear from Aurora Public Schools Director of Finance Brett Johnson, who served on the Property Tax Commission and was a key spokesperson for CASE as the new law was negotiated. You will leave with a better understanding of the new law and a chance to communicate with your colleagues.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Aspen
Dr. Kelli Smith, Douglas County School District	<b>Why Schools Must Evolve: What the Research Says and What We Can Do</b>	Students and staff are showing up to work and school more dysregulated and explosive than ever before, causing burnout for staff and a lack of learning for students. This session will dive into the science of WHY students behave differently based on current environmental influences changing the brain structures of our students. As educational leaders, we need to ask ourselves if we are willing to shift the way we lead our schools to focus on the whole child to ensure high levels of social emotional, and academic success for our students.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	The Village - Elevation
Jesse Tijerina, Thompson School District; Dr. Alex Carter, Colorado Education Initiative	<b>Winning the Title I Fight: Reimagining Strategies for Student Success</b>	Title I schools are often either on their own to figure out how to best serve their students or fall into the trap of doing the same thing as last year - despite uninspiring programs and lack of results. Learn how the Thompson School District Title I team collaborated to reimagine the system and strategies they will use to drive toward improved outcomes for all. Participants will learn about the roadwork, mindsets and motivation needed to serve those furthest from educational justice and skillsets on innovative strategies and learning opportunities to address the barriers facing students. Participants will also learn about a "Fight Plan," which are aligned and cohesive strategies, both at schools and across the district.	Thursday, July 25th 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 12
Glenn Hard, Careers in Construction Colorado; Kolleen Johnson, Manitou Springs D14	<b>A Model for Career Connected Learning</b>	Career Connected Learning is critical to empowering students to explore and access opportunities that establish relevance in their overall education. Careers in Construction Colorado deploys a proven model of collaboration between school districts and industry partners to provide students with opportunities to explore and experience a variety of pathways, and to acquire skills and credentials in the careers they choose to pursue. Come learn about how to make student career exploration possible in your district.	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 6-8
Bret Miles, CASE; Melissa Gibson, CASE	<b>CASE Advocacy 101: Getting Involved in our Efforts at the Legislature and Beyond</b>	Interested in learning more or getting involved in CASE's advocacy efforts, but not sure where to start? This is the session for you! Join CASE Executive Director Bret Miles and Deputy Executive Director Melissa Gibson for this session that covers everything you need to know about CASE's work with the state legislature. We'll discuss how a bill becomes a law, what committees and legislators have the most influence when it comes to K-12 legislation, lobbying strategy and messaging, and how to build relationships with your state elected officials. CASE member involvement is critical to our success at the state Capitol and in other settings and we want to have you involved!	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 12



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Alison Ferguson, Greeley Evans School District	<b>Closing The Gap: How Educators Embraced Change for Student Achievement</b>	As a school, we have looked at and tried to make changes for years to our reading data. Every year the data continued to stay stagnant. In the Spring of 2022, we made a small change in some of our reading groups. This small change led to a building-wide change that supported all our students who were not reading on grade level. We purposefully rolled out the information and beliefs to the staff so that they would have buy in and gave them the strategies and skills for them to be successful. Our data skyrocketed and two years later we are in full implementation and all students are growing as readers.	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Copper Top III
Dr. Robert Mitchell, UCCS	<b>Rural Leaders Speak: Rural Perceptions about American Education</b>	Through specialized academic research, we have figured out what rural leaders see as the future of public education in Colorado and the major concerns (and non-concerns) that are impacting their districts. By gathering data from more than 100 leaders from across the state, we were able to analyze data about rural principals and superintendents' perceptions about the biggest issues facing rural schools in Colorado – as well as district leaders' views about the future of U.S. schools. This session is essential for any rural educator or state policymaker involved in providing education to students across Colorado. We look forward to adding your voice to what will be a very lively discussion.	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Base Nine Lounge
Kasey Andrade Smith, Harrison School District 2	<b>The Impact: Secondary Literacy and MTSS</b>	Literacy is not merely the ability to read and write; it is the key that unlocks countless opportunities and transforms lives. From opening doors to education and employment to fostering critical thinking and self-expression, literacy plays a fundamental role in shaping individuals. With an acknowledgment that a successful journey is not guaranteed for all students, presenters will explore the profound impact of literacy on students' lives and how data can be harnessed to support students' literacy journey within the framework of the multi-tiered system of support (MTSS). Through intentional decision-making, educators can leverage data to identify needs, tailor instruction, and empower students to overcome obstacles and thrive.	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peaks 9 &10
Andrea Pulskamp, CDE; Liz Davis, Poudre School District; Lynne DeSousa, CDE; Leah Jones, Poudre School District	<b>The Landscape of Wellbeing &amp; Belonging: One District's Journey</b>	Join us to explore the complex and sometimes fragmented landscape of well-being and belonging, including efforts to improve school climate, social-emotional skills, student behavior, and mental health. Discover a new virtual hub by the Colorado Department of Education, designed to streamline guidance and support on the integration of multiple initiatives. Learn from Poudre School District's journey in aligning efforts under a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), including a shift toward multidisciplinary teaming focused on breaking down support silos. Gain insights, tools, and best practices to enhance well-being and belonging, and empower your educational community with practical strategies for coherence and integration.	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Summit Gallery, Peak 11
Lisa Medler, CDE; Lisa Steffan, CDE	<b>Updates on State Accountability</b>	This session will provide an overview of the state accountability system. We will provide updates on changes to the performance frameworks (e.g., re-introduction of science achievement, On Track Growth). We will also pivot to discuss the future of accountability (e.g., 1241 Task Force, Local Accountability Systems grants) and open up time for discussion and feedback.	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Imperial Ballroom
Michelle Romero, CDE; Danielle Ongart, CDE; Robin Russel, CDE	<b>Updates to Postsecondary &amp; Workforce Readiness Programs at CDE</b>	Learn about several policy and program updates within the Colorado Department of Education's (CDE) Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) Office; specifically, changes to Graduation Guidelines, ICAP, college in high school programs like ASCENT, and the Career Development Incentive Program (CDIP).	Friday, July 26th 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	BR Copper Top II / Beaver Den