



FEBRUARY 19 - 20, 2025 (WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY) | EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL, SPA & CONFERENCE CENTER | LOVELAND, CO
PRECONFERENCES: FEBRUARY 18

Collaborative Dialogues – Thursday, February 20, 2025, 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

The Collaborative Dialogue Sessions are designed as a conversational exchange in which you will work together to achieve mutual understanding, solve a problem, or build on each other's ideas. Participants are encouraged to engage in open, constructive discussion, valuing each other's input and perspectives. Intended outcomes include thinking creatively and considering possibilities. Each session will be offered twice within the 75-minute time frame, allowing attendees to pick two sessions from the morning agenda.

Collaborative Dialogue Sessions: Pick Two

Session 1:	8:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Passing time between sessions:	9:00 AM - 9:15 AM
Session 2:	9:15 AM - 9:45 AM

ADDRESSING CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: A COLLABORATIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Room: River Birch B

Facilitator: Susana Córdova, CDE Commissioner of Education

Join the Commissioner of Education for an engaging discussion on tackling chronic absenteeism in schools. This session will provide an overview of the latest data, insights into statewide strategies, and an opportunity for you to share challenges and successful practices. Together, we'll dive into collaborative approaches to ensure every student stays engaged and supported in their educational journey.

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH CHSAA: EXPLORING THE FUTURE OF HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Room: Carter Lake B

Facilitators: Ryan West, Englewood School District; Rashaan Davis, CHSAA

Join us for an engaging collaborative dialogue session that provides a behind-the-scenes look at the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA). Gain insights into how CHSAA is structured, the unique role of member schools in driving the organization, and the collaborative approach to shaping policies and programs. Engage in discussion on current hot topics in high school sports and activities, offering perspectives on how these issues impact students, schools, and communities. This is an excellent opportunity to deepen your understanding of CHSAA and participate in meaningful discussions about the future of high school activities.



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CLOSING THE ACCESSIBILITY GAP: A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH FOR K-12 DISTRICTS

Room: Big Thompson A & B

Facilitators: Jennifer Prusak, Aurora Public Schools; Duane Tucker, State Internet Portal Authority (SIPA)

Join us for a collaborative dialogue session dedicated to addressing the critical gaps and challenges K-12 districts face in achieving accessibility compliance. This engaging discussion will focus on identifying existing knowledge gaps, reviewing and vetting software and applications for compliance, and exploring the potential of centralized resources to streamline efforts. You will also tackle key resource barriers, such as conducting third-party website assessments, managing document remediation, training staff to create compliant content, and developing long-term accessibility plans. Together, we'll share insights, learn from peers, and build actionable strategies to ensure all districts meet the upcoming compliance deadline in July.

IN-DISTRICT DAY TREATMENT PROGRAMS

Room: Aspen Daisy

Facilitator: Tamara Durbin, NE BOCES

This collaborative dialogue session will focus on exploring how self-contained specially designed classrooms and/or day treatment programs can effectively advance educational growth while addressing the needs of students with significant social, emotional, and behavioral needs. Through this collaborative dialogue, we'll engage in an open exchange of ideas to build mutual understanding, identify challenges, and consider creative possibilities for implementing or enhancing self-contained specially designed classrooms and/or day treatment approaches. Everyone's insights and perspectives are invaluable as we work together to explore solutions and opportunities.

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR EDUCATOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING: SHARING SUCCESS STORIES AND STRATEGIES

Room: Lake Loveland A

Facilitator: Frank Reeves, Rural Schools Alliance

Affordable housing is a growing challenge for educators across the state, impacting rural, suburban, and urban districts alike. The Rural Schools Alliance has been working to understand how districts can address these needs by leveraging their unique assets and tailoring solutions to their specific circumstances. In this collaborative dialogue session, we'll discuss innovative approaches and success stories from districts that have developed housing solutions for their staff. This session will provide an opportunity to share and learn from each other using real-life experiences.



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PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERS: A COLLABORATIVE DIALOGUE

Room: Elderberry

Facilitators: Danny Winsor & Kristin Drury, Douglas County School District; Amanda Pierorazio, Jeffco

Preparing the next generation of educational leaders requires a focus on inspiration, innovation, and meaningful change. In this collaborative dialogue session, you will learn the essential qualities, skills, and experiences needed to cultivate leadership in education. Through shared learning and idea exchange, we'll examine strategies for fostering leadership potential, including mentorship, professional development, equitable growth opportunities, and creating systems that empower diverse voices. Together, we'll reflect on practices, challenges, and successes in building cultures that nurture emerging leaders and equip them to meet the evolving needs of students and communities. Join us to co-create actionable strategies for shaping the future of education.

REDEFINING DIGITAL LITERACY IN THE AGE OF AI AND RAPID TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE: A COLLABORATIVE DIALOGUE

Room: Carter Lake A

Facilitators: Dan Morris, CDLS; Ken Haptonstall, CR BOCES; Gin Randolph, CDLS

In an era of AI innovation and rapid technological change, the concept of digital literacy is evolving at an unprecedented pace. This collaborative dialogue session invites you to discover what it means to be digitally literate today and how we can equip learners with the skills, knowledge, and critical thinking needed to thrive in a connected world. Together, we'll examine the impact of AI, social media, and digital tools on foundational skills and emerging competencies like ethical AI use, data literacy, and critical evaluation of digital content. Using AI to synthesize shared insights, we'll co-create a forward-thinking definition of digital literacy that empowers learners to navigate the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing landscape.

STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING DECLINING ENROLLMENT: A COLLABORATIVE DIALOGUE

Room: Snowberry

Facilitator: Brian Kingsley, Poudre School District

Declining enrollment poses both challenges and opportunities for schools and districts. In this dynamic and interactive session, you will engage in a rich collaborative dialogue to share insights, uncover innovative strategies, and co-create practical solutions for sustaining vibrant and thriving schools. Join us for an inspiring exchange of ideas and actionable approaches to tackle this critical issue together.



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WHAT DOES GOOD ONBOARDING LOOK LIKE? BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATOR SUCCESS

Room: Goldenglow

Facilitators: Cameron Smart, Academy School District 20; Bill Siebers, Thompson School District; Kate Slick, St. Vrain Valley Schools

Effective onboarding goes beyond checklists—it lays the foundation for a welcoming and supportive environment that drives long-term success and retention. This collaborative dialogue session focuses on key elements of onboarding geared toward educators and support staff, emphasizing the importance of fostering relationships that help new employees feel valued, connected, and supported. You will also explore strategies for promoting growth and leadership opportunities, empowering staff to thrive in their roles while envisioning clear pathways for their professional journeys.