2026 CASE
Winter Leadership Conference
Guided by Vision. United in Leadership.

PRE-CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 18, 2026 (WEDNESDAY) | CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 19 - 20, 2026 (THURSDAY-FRIDAY)
EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL, SPA & CONFERENCE CENTER, LOVELAND, COLORADO

2026 CALET WLC Pre-conference: *Tech to Protect, Connect & Reflect*
AGENDA

8:00 am – 8:30 am
(Main Ballroom)

Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 am – 8:45 am
(Main Ballroom)

Welcome and Opening Remarks – Roger Gose, '25-'26 CALET President

8:45 am – 9:45 am
(Main Ballroom)

Opening Keynote: *The Pathway to Production: Balancing Innovation and Infrastructure* – Mark Racine, former CIO – Boston Public Schools, Rooted K-12
- IT Directors are under more pressure than ever to manage a massive ecosystem of devices and software. The challenge? Supporting rapid adoption without sacrificing security or sanity. This session provides a blueprint for a formal "Pathway to Production." We will dive into actionable strategies to help you protect district data, connect disparate systems, and reflect on ROI—shifting your department from a bottleneck to a catalyst for district-wide success.

9:45 am – 10:00 am

Break & Vendor Discovery

10:00 am – 11:00 am
(Canyon Maple B)

(Main Ballroom)

(Aspen Daisy)

Breakouts - ROUND 1 (Each breakout features three tracks):
Managing Technology & Support Resources
What's Targeting Colorado Schools—and Why It Matters
Understanding the Educational Environment
Design Thinking Workshop: Ideating and Articulating Learning Environments with AI (closing keynote speaker's session)
Leadership & Vision
CASE Connective: Updates, Information, and Roll Out

11:00 am – 11:10 am

Break & Vendor Discovery

11:10 am – 12:10 pm
(Canyon Maple B)

(Main Ballroom)

(Aspen Daisy)

Breakouts - ROUND 2 (Each breakout features three tracks):
Managing Technology & Support Resources
Student Authentication: Finding the Right Balance (opening keynote speaker session)
Understanding the Educational Environment
Moving Beyond Policy to Implementation with AI
Leadership & Vision
Screens in Balance: Learning, AI, and Classroom Focus

12:10 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch & Vendor Discovery

CALET
Colorado Association of Leaders in Educational Technology

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm (Canyon Maple B)	Breakouts - ROUND 3 (Each breakout round features three tracks): **Managing Technology & Support Resources** *Building Cybersecurity Capacity Through a Colorado K-12 Collaboration*
(Main Ballroom)	**Understanding the Educational Environment** *Behind the Screens: Students Making IT Happen*
(Aspen Daisy)	**Leadership & Vision** *Aligning Student Technology Use with Strong, Prepared, Empowered, and Connected Graduates*
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Break & Vendor Discovery
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm (Main Ballroom)	COSN Welcome and Updates – Keith Krueger, MPA, CAE, CEO - CoSN
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Main Ballroom)	Closing Keynote: *The Future of Education - Innovation and Impact* – Dr. Micah Shippee – Director of Education Technology Consulting and Solutions, Samsung • The future of education and work will be shaped by how well we protect, connect, and reflect in a world of accelerating innovation. Drawing from 2059: The Future of Education, we'll explore three critical frameworks that equip leaders, educators, and innovators to thrive.
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm (Main Ballroom)	Closing Remarks and Prize Drawings
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm (Canyon Maple B&C)	Networking Reception

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

Title	Description	Presenters
What's Targeting Colorado Schools—and Why It Matters	Understanding today's cyber threats is essential for protecting instruction, operations, and trust. This session shares education-specific insights and the strategic actions IT and EdTech leaders should take to stay ahead of emerging risks.	Charlie Marmon, Colorado Cybersecurity State Coordinator, CISA; Jon Walker, Dir of Information Security, St. Vrain Valley Schools
Design Thinking Workshop: Ideating and Articulating Learning Environments with AI	In this hands-on workshop, participants will explore the design thinking process for creating innovative learning environments, with a strong focus on user-centered design. You'll move from empathy to ideation using practical strategies for gathering insights, generating ideas, and rapidly prototyping concepts. The session also highlights AI as a co-creation tool, showing how it can enhance creativity and streamline the design process.	Dr. Micah Shippee, Dir of Education Technology Consulting and Solutions, Samsung
CASE Connective: Updates, Information, and Roll Out	Join us for an essential update on CASE Connective, Colorado's first statewide initiative to unify data privacy and accessibility compliance through one common agreement and a centralized vendor management platform. We'll share what's new, what's coming, and how districts can participate in the statewide rollout. Attendees will learn how CASE Connective streamlines NDPAs, accessibility reviews (ADA & HB21-1110), and vendor vetting, while also gaining visibility into tools and support, including legal guidance, dashboards, and concierge services, and walk through the onboarding process for districts as we move toward full implementation.	Jennifer Prusak, CALET Board Member, Innovative Student Technology Systems Mgr, Aurora Public Schools; Mike Porter, Data Privacy and Accessibility Strategist, EdTech Leaders Alliance, Learn21

Title	Description	Presenters
Student Authentication: Finding the Right Balance	Recent shifts in cyberattacks have found a new target: student accounts but securing them presents a new challenge. How do you balance industry authentication standards with usability for our youngest learners? We'll focus on tips and tools to help you implement a student authentication policy that reduces risk without compromising access. Attendees will learn about common password practices in K-12 environments, ways to reduce the risk of attack, and what the future of authentication looks like for students.	Mark Racine, former CIO, Boston Public Schools, Rooted K-12
Moving Beyond Policy to Implementation with AI	Join fellow educational technology leaders from across the region for an interactive, participant-driven session focused on AI implementation in K–12. Share proven strategies, tackle real implementation challenges, and collaborate in small groups to develop practical, ready-to-use ideas, whether you're just beginning or expanding existing AI initiatives. Leave with new connections, clear next steps, and a stronger roadmap for responsible, sustainable AI use. Come ready for honest conversation, shared learning, and real progress.	Betsy, Wesberry, IT Applications Support & Data Mgr, Poudre SD; Anne Dewey, Mgr of Ed Tech & Digital Media, Thompson SD; Dan Coppa, CALET Board member, Dir of Technology, Canon City Schools; David Jarboe, CALET Board Member, Dir of Instructional Technology, D2 Harrison SD
Screens in Balance: Learning, AI, and Classroom Focus	As pressure grows to reduce "screens in schools," district leaders need a more nuanced conversation. Grounded in CoSN's Screens in Balance guidance, this session reframes screen time by distinguishing instructional technology, AI tools, and accessibility supports from entertainment and social media. Participants will explore practical frameworks for balancing focus and engagement, along with strategies for governance, classroom expectations, and community communication, leaving with clear language and examples to support purpose-driven, student-centered technology use.	Stacy Hawthorne, Ed.D. Board Chair, CoSN Exec Dir, EdTech Leaders Alliance Chief Academic Officer, Learn21
Building Cybersecurity Capacity Through a Colorado K-12 Collaboration	How can we support ALL of our Colorado districts in meeting the increasing cybersecurity challenges against the backdrop of decreasing funding? One promising avenue is the development of a K-12-focused information-sharing model that leverages the collective expertise of our CASE member districts through a CALET Cybersecurity Sub-committee. The intentional commitment of this collaboration is to create effective and responsive relationships amongst our CALET cybersecurity experts to spread the wealth on current cybersecurity best practices for K-12, cost-effective tool use, and respond effectively to cybersecurity incidents.	CALET Cybersecurity Sub-Committee – led by Curtis Lee, CALET Board Member, Director, Information Governance, Adams 12 Five Star Schools
Behind the Screens: Students Making IT Happen	Hear directly from students across different districts involved in IT internships, apprenticeships, and workforce readiness programs. This panel discussion will showcase the skills they've developed, the projects they support, and their perspectives on entering the IT field.	Jennifer Prusak, CALET Board Member, Innovative Student Technology Systems Mgr, Aurora Public Schools; Michelle Bourgeois, CALET Board member, CTO, St. Vrain SD; Rebekah Beckett, Client Services Coord, Thompson SD
Aligning Student Technology Use with Strong, Prepared, Empowered, and Connected Graduates	This session outlines our district's process of transitioning from an Acceptable Use Policy to a Responsible Use Agreement. By aligning our student technology expectations to our Graduate Profile and Strategic Plan, we reframed technology use as a tool for learning, growth, and digital citizenship rather than compliance. The session offers practical insights to support similar work in other districts.	Kevin Anderle, Instructional Technology, Garfield Re2 Tianna Loeffler, Instructional Technology, Garfield Re2