

**NASDTEC 97th Annual Conference  
June 13-16, 2026  
J.W. Marriott- Indianapolis, IN**


06/05/2026 jwa

**Saturday, June 13**



Time	Location	Event
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Top of Escalator, near rooms 201-203</i>	<b>Registration</b>
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM		<b>Exhibit Setup</b>
<b>Topics Based Networking/Conversations</b> Engage in the topical conversation of your choice		
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	<b>201</b>	<b>AI – How is Your Agency Using AI to become more Effective and Efficient</b> Linnea Bradshaw - Facilitator
	<b>203</b>	<b>The Legislature Passed a Literacy Plan, we Implement it. What have we found?</b> Rebecca Pitkin - Facilitator
	<b>205</b>	<b>Assessment Issues and Flexibility</b> Eric Jones - Facilitator
		<b>Transition Time</b>
2:45 PM – 3:45 PM	<b>201</b>	<b>Para to Teacher Programs – Share what you are doing</b> Brendan O’Connor - Facilitator
	<b>203</b>	<b>Reporting on Shortages and Vacancies</b> Robert Hagerman - Facilitator
	<b>205</b>	<b>Q&amp;A Related to the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact</b> Malia Hite - Facilitator

**Sunday, June 14**



Time	Location	Event
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7:00 AM – 4:00 PM	White River Ballroom Foyer	Registration
7:30 AM – 8:45 AM	White River A	First Timer/New Director Breakfast
7:30 AM – 8:45 AM	White River B	PESBA Breakfast
7:45 AM – 8:45 AM	White River C-D	General Breakfast
9:00 AM – 9:40 AM	White River E-F	<p><b>Opening Remarks and Welcome</b>  Jimmy Adams, NASDTEC Executive Director  Shavon Harris (AL), NASDTEC President  Krista Ried (MI), VP/Planning Committee Chair  Welcome from Indiana DOE  Amy Mitchell, Indiana Educators Rising</p>
9:45AM – 10:45 AM	White River E-F	<p><b>General Session 1</b>  <b>Breaking the Cost Barrier: How States Are Redefining Affordable, Accessible Pathways into Teaching</b>  <i>Carla Warren, National Center for Grow Your Own</i>  <i>Jason Keys, Maryland State Department of Education</i>  <i>Brooke Amos, Tennessee Department of Education</i>  <i>Laurie Matzke, National Center for Grow Your Own</i></p>
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM	104	<p>Digital Lounge Open and Available for Use  Sponsored by</p> 
10:45 AM – 10:55 AM		Transition Time
	Concurrent Block A	
10:55 AM – 11:55 AM	White River E-F	<p><b>A-1</b>  <b>New Pathways to Licensure: Waiving Required Assessments</b>  <i>Brian Devine, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education</i></p>
	101	<p><b>A-2</b>  <b>Aligning Policy and Practice to Invest in the Workforce Your Students Deserve</b>  <i>Yelena Bailey, Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board</i>  <i>Emily Busta, Minnesota Department of Education</i>  <i>Jill Harvieux Pitner, National Center for Teacher Residencies</i></p>


	102	<p><b>A-3</b>  <b>From Introduction to Internship: Embedding the NASDTEC Model Code of Ethics Across the Teacher Preparation Journey</b>  <i>Roy Blakeney, University of South Carolina</i>  <i>Chris Burkett, University of South Carolina</i>  <i>Jenna Poole, University of South Carolina</i></p>
	103	<p><b>A-4</b>  <b>Designing the Next-Generation of Educator Readiness Assessments: An Overview and Conversation</b>  <i>Lisa Colon-Durham</i>  <i>Jason Dietrich, ETS</i>  <i>Mark Kirkemier, ETS</i>  <i>Malik McKinley, ETS</i></p>
11:55 AM – 1:00 PM	White River A-D	Jayne Meyer Leadership Award Luncheon
1:00 PM – 1:15 PM		Transition Time
1:15 PM – 2:15 PM	Concurrent Block B	
	White River E-F	<p><b>B-1</b>  <b>Policy Pathways to Strengthen Disability-Inclusive Teacher Preparation: Recommendations from NEA’s Aspiring Educator Panel</b>  <i>Brittany J. Patrick, Ph.D., National Education Association (NEA)</i>  <i>Hannah St. Clair, Washington Education Association</i>  <i>Ashley Waltrip, Washington Education Association</i></p>
	101	<p><b>B-2</b>  <b>Preparing a "Herd" of Teachers for West Virginia's Future: Removing Barriers and Building Pathways: Strengthening the Teacher Pipeline in Rural West Virginia</b>  <i>Kandice Rowe, Marshall University</i>  <i>Jonathan A. Schmidt-Davis, Southern Regional Education Board</i></p>
	102	<p><b>B-3</b>  <b>Modular Assessment Through Testlets: Enhancing Flexibility in Educator Licensure</b>  <i>Anne Marie Fenton, Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GAPSC)</i>  <i>Heather S Klesch, Pearson</i></p>
	103	<p><b>B-4</b>  <b>Conditions That Support Teacher Retention: Emerging Insights from the Field</b>  <i>Keilani Goggins, National Center for Teacher Residencies</i>  <i>Naureen Madhani, National Center for Teacher Residencies</i></p>


2:15 PM – 2:30 PM		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Refreshment Break &amp; Transition Time</b> Sponsored by</p> 
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	White River E-F	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>General Session 2</b> <b>Federal Updates – New Federal Policy Agenda</b> <i>Jacqueline King, AACTE</i></p>
	101	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEEC Task Force Meeting</b> <b>Novice Educator Essential Competencies (NEEC) Task Force</b> <i>This is a follow-up meeting in which logistics and other relevant information will be discussed between the NEEC Task Force members. This meeting is for Task Force members.</i></p>
3:30 PM – 3:45 PM		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transition Time</b></p>
3:45 PM – 4:45 PM	<b>Concurrent Block C</b>	
	White River E-F	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>C-1</b> <b>Policy in Action: Developing and Launching a New Teaching License for Early Grades</b> <i>Cathy Yun, Learning Policy Institute</i></p>
	101	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>C-2</b> <b>Same Problem, Different Playbook: An Interactive Session on Novel Strategies for Tackling Educator Vacancies</b> <i>Lauren Dachille, Nimble</i> <i>Eric Jones, Oklahoma Office of Educational Quality and Accountability</i></p>
	102	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>C-3</b> <b>Your Everyday Ethics Guide: Introducing an AI-Powered Ethics Companion for Today’s Educators</b> <i>Victor Nguyen, Abstrxn Analytic</i> <i>Glenn Lipson, California School of Forensic Psychology at Alliant University</i> <i>Troy Hutchings, NASDTEC</i></p>
	103	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>C-4</b> <b>Legislative Issues over the 2026 Session</b> <i>Lynn Hammonds, NASDTEC</i></p>
5:00 PM-7:00 PM	White River A-D	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reception</b> Sponsored by</p> 


# Monday, June 15

Time	Location	Event
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM	<i>White River Ballroom Foyer</i>	Registration
9:00 AM – 9:45 AM	<i>White River A-D</i>	<b>Regional Breakfast Meetings</b> <i>Northeast: A</i> <i>Western: B</i> <i>Central: C</i> <i>Southern: D</i>
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	104	Digital Lounge Open and Available for Use Sponsored by 
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	<i>White River E-F</i>	<b>General Session 3</b> <b>Enhancing Mississippi’s Teacher Licensure Pathways Through Performance-Based Measures</b> <i>Courtney Van Cleve, Mississippi Department of Education</i> <i>Mary Laski, Center on Reinventing Public Education, Arizona State University</i> <i>Jim Larson, TNTP</i>
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM		<b>Refreshment Break &amp; Transition Time</b> Sponsored by 
	<b>Concurrent Block D</b>	
11:15 AM – 12:15 PM	<i>White River E-F</i>	<b>D-1</b> <b>Positive Partnerships and Programs: The Role of Unions as a Key Collaborator for Success</b> <i>Blake West, National Education Association</i>
	101	<b>D-2</b> <b>From Aspiring Teacher to Advanced Teacher Leader: Combining Strategic Staffing and Registered Apprenticeships to Build the Full Educator</b>

		<p align="center"><b>Continuum</b>  <i>Kendall King, Public Impact</i>  <i>Ashley Osborne, National Center for Grow Your Own</i></p>
	102	<p align="center"><b>D-3</b>  <b>Blueprint for Success: Forging Powerful Partnerships to Future-Proof Educator Talent in Utah</b>  <i>Malia Hite, Utah State Board of Education</i>  <i>Megan Carlisle, Utah State Board of Education</i></p>
	103	<p align="center"><b>D-4</b>  <b>How Illinois Is Navigating Educator Sexual Misconduct with Legislative Solutions</b>  <i>Tania Haigh, KIDS TOO</i></p>
12:15 PM – 1:30 PM	White River A-D	<p align="center"><b>Advancement and Commitment to Educator Ethics Recognition Luncheon</b>  <b>Sponsored by</b></p> 
1:30 PM – 1:45 PM		Transition Time
	Concurrent Block E	
1:45 PM – 2:45 PM	White River E-F	<p align="center"><b>E-1</b>  <b>Navigating Complexity: The Problem-Solving Journey of Building the MiCAREER Rural Hub Collaborative</b>  <i>Dr. Sean Kottke, Michigan Department of Education</i>  <i>Kathryn Dirkin, MiCAREER, Central Michigan University</i>  <i>Beth Kubitskey, MiCAREER, CAEP</i>  <i>Anne Tapp Jaksa, Saginaw Valley State University, AACTE</i>  <i>Justin Gluesing, Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District</i></p>
	101	<p align="center"><b>E-2</b>  <b>The Front Door to Teaching: A Scalable, Research-Backed Approach to Modernizing and Expanding Licensure Entry</b>  <i>Lisa Faith, TEACH New Mexico</i>  <i>Denise Beutel, New Mexico Public Education Department</i></p>
	102	<p align="center"><b>E-3</b>  <b>The Teachers Who Were Not: Certification Deceptions</b>  <i>Jamie Wilbur, Arizona Department of Education</i>  <i>David Spelich, Arizona State Board of Education</i></p>

	103	<p align="center"><b>E-4</b>  <b>Licensure for the 21st Century: Technology, Partnerships, and a Refined Process to Support Educator Pathways</b>  <i>Jackie Nygaard, Nevada Department of Education</i></p>
2:45 PM – 3:00 PM		<p align="center"><b>Refreshment Break &amp; Transition Time</b>  <b>Sponsored by</b></p> 
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	White River E-F	<p align="center"><b>General Session 4</b>  <b>Teacher Pathways Research-Practice Partnership in Arizona and Utah</b>  <i>Reino Makkonen, WestEd</i>  <i>Alicia Okpareke, WestEd</i>  <i>Malia Hite, Utah State Board of Education</i>  <i>Jamie Wilber, Arizona Department of Education</i></p>

Tuesday, June 16		
Time	Location	Event
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	White River A-D	<b>NASDTEC Annual Business Meeting &amp; Updates Continental Breakfast</b>
8:30 AM – 8:45 AM		<b>Transition Time</b>
8:45 AM – 9:45 AM	White River E-F	<p align="center"><b>General Session 5</b>  <b>Rewriting the Retention Playbook: Shifts to Build a Sustainable Educator Workforce</b>  <i>Kelly Coash Johnson, AASPA</i></p>
9:45 AM – 10:00 AM		<b>Transition Time</b>
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM	104	<p align="center"><b>Digital Lounge Open and Available for Use</b>  <b>Sponsored by</b></p> 
	<b>Concurrent Block F</b>	

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	White River E-F	<p><b>F-1</b></p> <p><b>State Standards and Unit Review: Oregon’s Model for Evidence-Driven Continuous Improvement to Support a Holistic Approach to Educator Preparation That Centers the Oregon Context</b></p> <p><i>Bill Rhoades, Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices</i>  <i>Rebecca Baelen, The Center for Reaching and Teaching the Whole Child</i></p>
	101	<p><b>F-2</b></p> <p><b>Certification and Retention of Alternative Route Teachers Coming from Inside and Outside the Educator Workforce</b></p> <p><i>Brian Cartiff, SC TEACHER/USC College of Education</i>  <i>Svetlana Dmitrieva, SC TEACHER/USC College of Education</i>  <i>P. Ann Byrd, SC TEACHER/USC College of Education</i></p>
	102	<p><b>F-3</b></p> <p><b>Expanding Opportunity, Sustaining Quality: Lessons from One State’s Teacher Licensure Reform</b></p> <p><i>Caitlin Beatson, WestED</i></p>
	103	<p><b>F-4</b></p> <p><b>Building quality assurance through scaffolding: Lessons from the AAQEP-MDE Partnership</b></p> <p><i>Sungti Hsu, AAQEP</i>  <i>Dr. Sean Kottle, Michigan Department of Education</i></p>
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM		<p>Refreshment Break &amp; Transition Time Sponsored by</p> 
11:15 AM– 12:15 PM	<b>Concurrent Block G</b>	
	White River E-F	<p><b>G-1</b></p> <p><b>Teacher Performance Assessments: A Moderated Discussion on Trends across Jurisdictions and Organizations</b></p> <p><i>Patrick Halladay, University of Vermont</i>  <i>Wyatt Gordan, Pearson Assessments</i>  <i>Jason Hefler, Illinois State Board of Education</i>  <i>Chris Ward, Upper Valley Educators Institute</i>  <i>Melissa Herman, University of Vermont</i>  <i>Sophia Fitzpatrick, Maryland Department of Education</i></p>
	101	<p><b>G-2</b></p> <p><b>Chalkboards to Chatbots: How Georgia is Preparing Educators for AI</b></p> <p><i>Penney McRoy, GA Professional Standards Commission</i>  <i>Melissa McDowell, GA Professional Standards Commission</i>  <i>Becky Nipper, Middle Georgia Regional Educational Service Agency</i>  <i>Logan Arrington, University of West Georgia</i></p>
102	<p><b>G-3</b></p> <p><b>Pathways to Teaching: Establishing Partnerships that Recruit and Retain the Educator Workforce</b></p> <p><i>Adrianna Donahue, Grand Valley State University</i></p>	

		<p><i>Mary Kay Murphy, West Michigan Teacher Collaborative</i>  <i>Amy Schelling, Grand Valley State University</i></p>
	103	<p><b>G-4</b>  <b>Making every experience count: How states are using data to strengthen clinical practice</b>  <i>Hannah Putman, National Council on Teacher Quality</i>  <i>Ron Noble, National Council on Teacher Quality</i>  <i>Jessica McLoughlin, Texas Education Agency</i>  <i>Carissa Pokorny-Golden, Pennsylvania Department of Education</i></p>
<b>12:15 PM – 1:15 PM</b>	<i>White River A-D</i>	<b>President’s Luncheon</b>
<b>1:15 PM – 1:30 PM</b>		<b>Transition Time</b>
<b>1:30 PM – 2:30 PM</b>	<i>White River E-F</i>	<p><b>General Session 6</b>  <b>Building California's Education Workforce: The Power of Practice-Based Preparation</b>  <i>Mary Vixie Sandy, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing</i></p>
<b>2:30 PM – 2:45 PM</b>	<i>White River E-F</i>	<p><b>Conference Closing and Final Announcements</b>  <b>Shavon Harris (AL), NASDTEC President</b>  <b>&amp; Krista Ried (MI) VP/Planning Committee Chair</b></p>