Conference registrants will be able to view all breakouts at any time starting at noon on Wednesday, April 21. Contact information for each presenter will be available for follow up questions.

| Equity | Financial/Operational Management | Instructional Leadership/Continuous Improvement | Safe/Secure Schools | Human Resources Leadership | Communications/Community Engagement |

1. Equity In Education:  Using Growth Data To Improve Student Outcomes

Are all methods of school performance measurement created equal? Does measuring achievement alone serve students or schools with differing levels of challenges? Join this webinar led by Dr. John Cronin, senior research fellow at NWEA®, as he shares the results and implications of groundbreaking NWEA research on how poverty impacts school-level achievement and growth. We will share the research study exploring the impact poverty has on school performance and discuss why measuring achievement and growth is key to accurate, equitable results. Dr. Cronin will also address why this research is especially significant in the wake of interrupted learning and remote instruction.

Presenter: NWEA

2. How Do We Recover From Unfinished Learning?

Within 2020 and 2021 the COVID climate created many obstacles. Now that we have observed losses in learning, where do we go from here? What are steps you can take to recover in your districts and schools? Join NWEA as they share what has been learned about COVID-19 unfinished learning and how to navigate planning to recover from the impact. The session will unpack the data gathered thus far and how you can apply data from your districts to build plans for recovery in your classrooms.

Presenter: NWEA

3. Addressing Learning Loss:  A Data-Driven Approach To Getting All Students On Track

This session will focus on how Wisconsin leaders are using data to better understand how their students are doing and to share their approaches to successfully addressing learning loss. They will showcase how they are combining student data (SIS), progress monitoring assessment data, and eLearning data to activate and target resources, ensure equity, and shape summer programming.

Presenters: Jeff Carew with a Forecast5 Advisor and WI school leaders
Learn how digital reading can be a powerful lever for growth in any learning environment. Discover how helping readers achieve proficiency improves overall learning outcomes. You will also learn new strategies including, game-changing methods to guide growth for every student—across all grades and at all levels. Discover research-affirmed alternatives to classroom skill work, such as building both proficiency and subject-area knowledge by incorporating reading across the curriculum.

**Presenter:** Dr. Jan Bryan, Vice President and National Education Officer, Renaissance

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Investing in solar has been slow to catch on in Wisconsin schools. Prohibitive initial costs and limited sunny days have led to long paybacks. However, solar prices have decreased exponentially in the last 10-15 years. With financial incentives from FOCUS ON ENERGY® to help offset preliminary costs, more schools are investigating the move to renewable energy. Making a facility as energy efficient as possible should be the first step before considering investing in renewable energy. Energy-efficient improvements can reduce utility costs and allow a facility to install a smaller solar array to support its building load. This presentation focuses on energy efficiency improvements, like LED lighting and digital controls, to consider when preparing a facility for the integration of renewable energy systems.

**Presenter:** Laura Lane, Marketing Specialist, Focus on Energy

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Planning for a capital or operational referendum can be a daunting task. There are community conversations, surveys, and board of education conversations to name a few of the steps along the way. One of the most important steps a district can complete, is to think in advance about the property tax levy and tax rate management to get ready for the “Ask”. Clintonville School District experienced multiple failed referendums dating back to 2000. This past November they “asked” their community to support a $37 million capital campaign that would not increase the property tax rate. This component of the referendum was a key to receiving community support and was put into place well ahead of the community conversations. The forward thinking and planning allowed for success, while providing much needed resources for the district.

**Presenters:** David Dyb, Superintendent, Clintonville; Lindsay Norder, Director of Business Services, Clintonville

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Universal Design for Learning (UDL) offers an important framework for guiding both educational practice and school facilities design. By affording students multiple means of interaction and engagement, UDL aspires to eliminate barriers and make learning more accessible for all. The School District of Sheboygan Falls, a long-time leader in UDL implementation, partnered with Eppstein Uhen Architects (EUA) to design a new middle school informed by UDL. Participants will learn about Sheboygan Falls’ journey with the UDL framework, including how the district worked with EUA’s architects to design a facility that supports the district’s goal of removing barriers and engaging all students.

**Presenters:** Chris Michaud, Senior Design Architect, Eppstein Uhen Architects, and Mary Lofy Blahnik, Director of Instruction, School District of Sheboygan Falls

To what extent are teachers engaged in joint inquiry focused on their classroom practices? Does collaborative work advance teachers’ individual and collective capacity? We know that enhancing teachers’ expertise and efficacy requires sustained, embedded, and collaborative professional learning. Research in K-12 schools has also consistently shown that learning improves for diverse students, across grades and subject areas, when teachers’ instruction and assessments meet criteria for Authentic Intellectual Work (AIW). In this session, we focus on both the substance and process of teachers’ collaborative work. We will explain the AIW Framework and its rationale for guiding teaching and learning, clarify the approaches to professional learning, and hear directly from our Wisconsin partners who are leading efforts to support teachers’ learning and implementation of AIW. For all the recent challenges facing public schools in Wisconsin and across the country, the present moment offers an important opportunity to honor teachers and teaching, and to reimagine curriculum and instruction for improved student engagement and equity.

**Presenters:** Dr. M. Bruce King (Director, AIW Institute & Emeritus Faculty, ELPA, UW-Madison), Dr. Laura Lang (Associate Director, AIW Institute & Faculty Associate, School of Education, UW-Madison), and School & District Partners

9. Virtual Learning - Past, Present, and Future

Virtual learning saturated school districts across Wisconsin this last year. Whether it was the primary mode of learning or used for just some students, every district had to grapple with how to deliver instruction when students were not present. Watch this presentation to see three different sets of solutions and perspectives on virtual learning.

- CESA 10 will discuss how they leveraged existing solutions and delivered new solutions to school districts large and small.
- The School District of Janesville will discuss how they adapted their existing virtual school to a larger audience.
- The School District of La Crosse, Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem, and Bangor will discuss how they collaborated to quickly develop a virtual school for the start of the school year.

**Presenters:** Panel members from CESA #10, LaCrosse, Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem, Bangor and Janesville

10. Leveraging DPI Foundational Supports for Success Post-COVID

COVID 19 poses unprecedented challenges to Wisconsin school districts and in its wake, district administrators have a unique opportunity to re-imagine the systems in place pre COVID to ensure they attend to the needs of each and every learner. This session describes the state Educator Effectiveness, Instructional Materials/Professional Learning, Equitable Multi Level Systems of Supports, and WISExplore services and resources offered by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and ways they can be leveraged to enhance district level continuous improvement efforts as we navigate education after COVID.

**Presenters:** DPI Directors
Join us to hear how one district prevented the summer slide through research-based summer learning. Kenosha Unified School District will share lessons learned from their experience, and how your district can:

- Keep students engaged with high-quality literature
- Build a greater sense of community within your classrooms
- Increase summer learning attendance

Presenters: Join CESA Purchasing and Scholastic for a webinar featuring Scholastic’s Vice President of Academic Planning & Solution Development and the Coordinator of Literacy for Kenosha Unified School District.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONSHIPS - DREW HOWICK & PANEL

HUMAN RESOURCE LEADERSHIP – WASPA

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Please note that all sessions are live.

8:00 a.m.  GENERAL SESSION

Welcome – Paul Schley, WASDA President
Conference Theme – Jon Bales, WASDA Executive Director
Overview of Conference – Lori Mueller, WASDA Professional Development Chair
Presentation of WASDA Child Advocacy Awards – Bob Mayfield

8:45 a.m.  Break

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.  GENERAL SESSION

How to Cultivate Resilience so that We Can Build Equitable Schools

This engaging presentation will explore high leverage strategies that anyone can use to build their resilience as well as the resilience of others. Participants will practice using these strategies as well as understand why they are so effective, particularly in the time of crisis and change.

Elena Aguilar, Founder & President, Bright Morning

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.  Break

Message from WASDA Business Partner Schneider Electric
• The Legal Framework for Addressing Equity Issues in Public Schools
  District Administrators often confront issues regarding equity in public schools, although the details of those issues vary widely based on each district’s community. Complex issues such as Black Lives Matter, racial justice, racial disparity, gender equity, gender identity, and more arise in a variety of contexts. Additionally, these issues often create tension between the school board’s right to control the district’s curriculum and teachers’ desire for academic freedom in their instruction. This program will review the legal issues involved in equity in the context of employment issues, students issues, and district governance issues, with the goal of providing a workable framework by which District Administrators can navigate these multi-faceted complexities.
  
  Presenter: Attorney Michael Julka – Boardman Clark LLP

• Purposeful Happiness - This Stuff Works
  COVID-19 has presented many obstacles, difficulties, and strife for all of us - BUT - when positive psychology, through Purposeful Happiness is leveraged, even COVID-19 does not stand a chance of slowing us down. Join two of your colleagues for a session that will provide you with specific tools that helped them navigate this pandemic and can be used that afternoon to make your life, professionally and personally better!
  
  Presenters: Shelly Severson, Supt., Black River Falls, and Aaron Sadoff, Supt., North Fond du Lac

• The IDEA, Section 504, COVID and the Return to Normalcy
  Schools have worked hard to balance the rights of students with IEPs and 504 Plans with the health and safety requirements of the Pandemic. Catch up on the latest from OSEP, OCR, and DPI regarding FAPE, summer programming, compensatory and additional services, and the relevant procedures as plans are made for summer and fall. Gary and Alana will also highlight important new case law, and statutory developments, regarding suspension, expulsion, seclusion and restraint, private school tuition, and parent rights. And, as always, questions are welcome.
  
  Presenters: Attorneys Alana Leffler and Gary Ruesch, Buelow Vetter

• COVID-19 School District Considerations for Summer and Fall (i.e. why are we still talking about this?)
  Louise Wilson DPI State School Nurse/Health Services Consultant will provide an update and overview of current COVID-19 recommendations and guidance. Louise will walk participants through infection control and mitigation measures that districts will still need to implement this summer and fall. Together we will peer through the crystal ball and make predictions for the impact of COVID-19 on the 2021-22 school year. Session will include time for Q&A.
  
  Presenter: Louise Wilson, State School Nurse/Health Services Consultant, DPI

• School Finance Updates: From ESSER I/II/III to the 2021-23 State Budget
  This session will provide both federal and state funding updates, including the allowable uses of the ESSER federal pandemic relief funds. The updates will include the current status of the 2021-2023 budget deliberations and other pertinent school finance issues.
  
  Presenter: Bob Soldner, WI Dept. of Public Instruction

• Or View Pre-Recorded Conference-Themed Sessions
11:45 – 12:30 p.m.  Lunch Break
Message from WASDA Business Partner Forecast5 Analytics, Inc.

12:30 - 1:00 p.m.  President’s State of the Association Speech – Paul Schley, Supt., Cornell
2021-22 WASDA President-Elect Remarks – Nick Ouellette, Supt., Hudson
WASDA Board Recognition
Presentation of Past President’s Pin to President Paul Schley
Presentation of President’s Gavel to Larry Ouimette, WASDA President-elect

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  GENERAL SESSION KEYNOTE

Cultural Conflict in the Classroom
Lisa Delpit, regarded as a visionary scholar and reformer, is the author of Other People’s Children: Cultural Conflict in the Classroom. Delpit implores educators to learn the cultures of their students and honor students’ expertise. She promotes culturally relevant approaches to teaching and, through her work, including her writing and presentations, causes educators to think differently. Addressing assumptions and reframing perspectives in order to view each child as a student of promise is necessary as we reimagine district- and school-level leadership. Delpit's work on school-community relations and cross-cultural communication was cited as a contributor to her receiving a MacArthur “Genius” Award in 1990.
Lisa Delpit, Educationalist, Author, Eminent Scholar & Former Executive Director of the Center for Urban Educational Excellence, Florida International University

2:30– 2:45 p.m.  Break
Message from WASDA Business Partner Renaissance, Jonathan Powell
• Anticipating and Responding to Crisis In Times of Great Change
Effective crisis communication and management are always important for district leaders. Now, getting communication right has become even more critical as we emerge from the pandemic, continue our equity work, and engage in an increasingly divisive political, school, and community landscape. Learn principles of communication and crisis management that will promote clarity while preventing or minimizing the damage a crisis can inflict on the organization, its stakeholders, and its reputation.
**Presenter: Joe Donovan, President, Donovan Group**

• Keynote Q & A
Sectional participants will have an opportunity to engage with Dr. Delpit regarding her keynote presentation during this question and answer period.
**Presenter: Lisa Delpit, Educationalist, Author, Eminent Scholar & Former Executive Director of the Center for Urban Educational Excellence, Florida International University**

• Pupil Discipline: The Rest of the Story
Almost any scholarly discussion of pupil discipline under Wisconsin law will be concerned with state statutes related to pupil suspension and expulsion. As a result, a discussion about the law of pupil discipline usually focuses on these two, primary subjects.

Not this time. Pupil disciplinary action is taken in the context of widely varying circumstances and countless scenarios. Superintendents need to be equipped with an equally comprehensive body of disciplinary options to consider and implement. It's also important for superintendents to be able to separate wheat from chaff in this area; school districts use any number of practices, rules of thumb, and "fixes" to deal with pupil discipline situations. Not all of these "informal" solutions are created equal.

We'll talk about so-called "withdrawal agreements," overlapping pupil residency issues, challenges presented by the pupil code of conduct, conditional enrollment, pre-expulsion "hearings" and contracts, and a host of other matters that relate to pupil discipline. Get ready to roll up your sleeves for this working discussion of pupil discipline in the real world, led by Kirk Strang of Strang, Patteson, Renning, Lewis, & Lacy!
**Presenter: Attorney Kirk Strang, Strang, Patteson, Renning, Lewis & Lacy**

• What Will The Return To School In The Fall Look Like?
**Presenter: Wisconsin Department of Health Services**

• Budgeting in the Shadow of a Pandemic: How to Create and Maintain a Winning Strategy
Retired superintendents Todd Gray and Troy Gunderson will offer insight regarding the process of developing and managing a school budget. The session will include tips for reaching consensus, implementing a strategy, and planning with intentionality in order to move forward in a post-pandemic world. How will your school district execute a winning strategy to maximize the impact of your financial resources on student learning and community recovery?
**Presenters: Todd Gray, Interim Supt., Palmyra-Eagle, and Troy Gunderson, Retired Supt., West Salem**
FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Please note that all sessions are live.

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.  Welcome – Paul Schley, WASDA President
2020 & 2021 YEARS OF SERVICE AND RETIREE RECOGNITIONS

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.  GENERAL SESSION
Designing School Accountability to Drive Equity
Now more than ever, educators seek to recognize and identify root causes of inequities in their school communities. Uncovering these gaps is the first step in addressing them. By creating a system for identifying and acting on structures and systems that foster inequitable environments, educators are able to enact sustainable change at the district, site, and classroom level. Join educator David C. Banks as he explores how to move forward using system-level accountability and professional development to drive equal education opportunities.
David Banks, President and CEO of the Eagle Academy Foundation

9:30 - 9:40 a.m.  Break
Message from WASDA Business Partner J.H. Findorff & Son

9:40 – 10:15 a.m.  GENERAL SESSION
Federal Education Update
Learn all the ins and outs of the most recent COVID relief bills as well as what Congress and the Biden Administration are tackling next in K-12 policy.
Sasha Pudelski, Advocacy Director, AASA
10:15 – 11:15 a.m. GENERAL SESSION

**So, How’s the State Budget Coming Along?**
In this session, legislators serving on the powerful Joint Finance Committee and/or the Senate and Assembly Education Committees will join SAA Executive Director John Forester for a candid conversation about the important issues impacting the 2021-23 State Budget process. Don’t miss this insider’s view of the State Budget process.

*John Forester, Executive Director, SAA & Panel of Joint Finance or Education Committee Members*

11:15 – 11:25 a.m. Break

*Message from WASDA Business Partner NWEA*

11:25 – 12:00 p.m. Presentation of 2020-2021 WASDA Major Recognition Awards

12:00 – 12:15 p.m. GENERAL SESSION – State Superintendent-elect Remarks

12:15 p.m. Conference Adjourns