



## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual CASE Winter Leadership Conference *Leading in the Global Age – R U Ready*

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### Breakouts – Session I

##### **1. Growth, Status, and the Meaning of Life: Metro Area Districts Find Their Center with the Colorado Growth Model**

Carol Eaton, Executive Director of Instructional Data Services; John White, Principal, Moore Middle School, Jefferson County District R-1; Bob Good, Director of Assessment and Research, Denver District 1; Jonathan Dings, Chief of Planning and Assessment, Boulder Valley RE 2; Elliot Asp, Assistant Superintendent for Performance Improvement, Cherry Creek District 5

Four metro Denver school districts will present their approaches to implementation of the Colorado Growth Model. Jefferson County Schools will provide an overview of the district training and resources provided to schools, and a middle school principal will describe how he has put those resources into practice with his teachers and students.

Other districts will share materials distributed to teachers and administrators, and uses of results for district goal setting, school improvement, and accountability. This session will include interactive discussion. Any stakeholders interested in application of the Colorado Growth Model in districts and schools should attend.

##### **2. Using the Colorado Growth Model, and Alpine Achievement to Make a Difference in Student Learning**

Ken Haptonstall, Superintendent; Marty Bassett, Assistant Superintendent; Ryan Frink, Principal; Scott Carpenter, Math Coach, Grand Valley High School, Garfield District 16

The team will show how Alpine Achievement has taken the Colorado Growth Model to the next level by providing information for teachers and parents that can be used for setting learning targets and getting students on track for success. Participants will take

away some ideas on how to use the growth model information as well as Alpine Achievement to make a difference in student learning.

### **3. Increasing Rigor for English Language Learners**

Jane Hill, Lead Principal Consultant; Anne Lundquist, Principal Consultant, McREL

Educators are regularly asked to increase academic rigor for all students, which can be particularly challenging when designing and delivering instruction for English language learners.

This session will assist participants in increasing their ability to address higher-order thinking skills at all levels of second language acquisition. The Tiered Thinking Across Stages of Second Language Acquisition Matrix will be used to guide participants' application of the concept for planning and delivering effective instruction and assessment for ELLs. In addition, four phases of the change process will be explored to support successful implementation of the matrix in the classroom setting.

### **4. Empowering the 21st Century Superintendent to Achieve a Culture of Transformation through Technology**

Joan Kowal, Project Director, Superintendent in Residence, Nova Southeastern University, Fischler School of Education

Panel Members: Dan Maas, Chief Information Officer; Scott Murphy, Superintendent, Littleton District 6; Michael Clough, Superintendent, Sheridan District 2

Futurists define the “third wave” as the next stage of revolutionary change in technology and society. Superintendents recognize that technology is increasingly important in education; however, many district leaders continue to be challenged in their knowledge and understanding of the role technology should play in education.

Panel members will discuss the role of technology, the issues and complexities of student access, and how the third wave of educational technology is transforming teaching and learning.

### **5. Keys to the Future: Laptops for Learning**

Dan Lere, Superintendent; Ryan Elarton, Director of Business Services; Tim Yates, Director of Technology Services, Pueblo District 70

This year, Pueblo County School District 70 decided to take a bold step and put technology in the hands of both the staff and students of the district. All teaching staff were given laptop computers. Every elementary and middle school classroom was equipped with a Promethean Board and every high school student was given a laptop computer. Learning from others, the district knew that keys to success hinged on two important areas: staff development and maintenance of the equipment.

In this breakout session learn how the district made this happen, why it was important to do, how it is working, and what the district hopes to accomplish in taking this big step.

## **6. Introduction to ACT QualityCore and ACT Product**

John Lowe, Principal Consultant QualityCore; Ben Hix, Associate Consultant, ACT, Inc.

ACT QualityCore is an instructional improvement program in 12 different high school courses with an end of course assessment. It is designed to improve college readiness by ensuring the rigor of the course. Details about QualityCore and other ACT products will be shared during the session.

## **7. Implementing RtI in High Schools: Overcoming Obstacles – Finding Solutions**

Jill Martin, Principal; Toria McGill, Assistant Principal, Pine Creek High School, Academy District 20; Julie Williams, Assistant Principal, Doherty High School, Colorado Springs District 11

Learn how two large high schools approached the challenge of implementing Response to Intervention. Presenters will share background information on the differing needs of their student populations, concerns of staff, and lack of resources and how they were able to overcome these issues to implement RtI processes and procedures that are making a difference for all students. You will leave with practical strategies for approaching high school reform in general, and RtI in particular. High school administrators, literacy coaches, and district administrators should attend this presentation.

## **8. Top 10 Web 2.0 Tools for Classrooms**

Dan Morris, Director of Educational Technology and Innovation, Colorado Department of Education

It's a Web 2.0 world, ready or not! What are the issues and challenges that district leaders face? How can these concerns be addressed and still provide students and teachers access to these 21st century tools? This hands-on session will explore the resources that are available and provide examples of how they can support teaching and learning. Presenters will also examine the social, legal, and ethical issues that district leaders must be prepared to address and support.

## **9. Strategies and Interventions That Support Student Growth**

J. Tim Mills, Superintendent; Steve Schultz, Assistant Superintendent; Jody Mimmack, Principal, Fruita Monument High School, Mesa County Valley District 51

This presentation will describe systemic strategies being implemented in Mesa County Valley School District 51 aimed at supporting one year's growth in one year's time for every student.

## **10. Creating 21st Century Citizens: One Standard, One Learner at a Time**

Copper Stoll, Chief Academic Officer, Adams District 50; Gene Giddings, Consultant

Public education for the 21st century can no longer exist as it has for the past 100 years. By creating learner-centered, standards-based classrooms where learners become active partners with their teacher, students become empowered. Participants will be actively engaged in discussing the conditions that must be present in classrooms and schools in order for learners to be ready for the ever-changing conditions of the 21st century.

### **11. A Look at K-12 Online Learning in Colorado**

Moderator: Kent Tamsen, Director of Technology and Informational Services, Widefield District 3.

Panel Members: Jack McCabe, Executive Director, Centennial BOCES; Mike Poore, Deputy Superintendent, Colorado Springs District 11; Pam Ice, Online Learning Support, Colorado Department of Education; Arlene Salyards, Director of Technology, Northeast Colorado BOCES

Within the next decade about 50 percent of high school courses will be delivered online says Clayton Christensen in his book, *Disrupting Class: How Disruptive Innovation will Change the Way the World Learns*. Online learning is rapidly expanding across the United States. Colorado Online Learning posted its highest enrollments ever during the 2007-2008 school years with over 2,000 enrollments serving nearly 100 Colorado school districts.

Panel members will discuss the current status of online learning in Colorado including issues, challenges, and opportunities.

### **12. VOICES: Building Bridges between Our Schools and the Community — Removing Non-Academic Barriers to Student Achievement**

Dan Vallez, Director of Voices Community Resource Center, Adams District 50

VOICES Community Resource Center is changing how it does business in Adams County School District 50. In this session the participants will see how the VOICES program is engaging the community in new ways. VOICES is an intentional effort by Adams County School District 50 and its board members to bridge the gap between the school district and the diverse community it serves. VOICES focuses primarily on these four areas:

- Resource and Referrals — Providing access to resources
- Community Engagement and Involvements — Bringing the community into our schools
- Staff Support and Development — Looking ways to keep teachers in our district
- Language Academy — Bringing Spanish and English instruction to our school community

### **13. Word from the Top: How is PERA Doing?**

Meredith Williams, Executive Director, Colorado PERA

Given the nation's troubled and volatile economic climate, Colorado PERA has experienced market declines like all investors. In this session you will learn the current status of PERA investments and how PERA's long-term thinking impacts its investment strategy. Get the latest update on any anticipated legislation and a forecast of what investors might expect in the coming year.

#### **14. A Call to Action: Bullying Prevention Findings and Best Practices**

Luke Yoder, Project Director, The Partnership for Families and Children; Michelle LeBlanc, Consultant

New research in Colorado's public schools shows that bullying is prevalent — and linked to lower CSAP scores. School executives are critical in supporting bullying prevention efforts. Join us for insights about the relationships among school culture, bullying, and student achievement. Presenters will demonstrate the connection between bullying and achievement before identifying best practice strategies that can be utilized to decrease bullying and increase student achievement. Ultimately, next steps for school executives will be highlighted.

#### **Breakouts – Session II**

#### **15. Ensuring Students Learn Colorado's Standards**

David Benson, Organizational Consultant, Focused Leadership Solutions

Since standards were adopted in Colorado 15 years ago, there has been no clear consensus on the educational practices essential to ensuring students learn Colorado's standards. Data from school and district reviews and surveys of teachers show significant gaps in understanding how standards-based education should be designed and delivered. You will receive a copy of *The Standards-Based Teaching/Learning Cycle: A guide for K-12 educators on how to put standards-based education into practice at the district, school and classroom level.*

#### **16. An Open Conversation on the Equity Toolkit for Schools**

Bill de la Cruz, Principal Consultant, De La Cruz Consulting Inc.; Barbara Medina, Director, Colorado Department of Education, Office of Culture, Language and Equity

CDE is preparing to compile an Equity toolkit for use by school districts. The toolkit will contain strategies and resources to deal with issues of discrimination and prejudice in the schools and in the community. In this session participants will be surveyed about what would be helpful for them in the toolkit. There will also be discussion about the meaning of equity and why it is important for all schools to be aware and have a plan in place to address issues in the school. Learn about effective ways to articulate this conversation in the community.

### **17. Growth, Status, and the Meaning of Life: Metro Area Districts Find Their Center with the Colorado Growth Model**

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### **18. Networking: The New Literacy**

Karl Fisch, Director of Technology, Arapahoe High School, Littleton District 6; Will Richardson, Consultant, Connective Learning, LLC

Students must be nomadic, flexible, mobile learners who depend on their ability to connect with people and resources. Educators need to master this style as well, knowing how to create, grow, and navigate these collaborative spaces in safe, effective, and ethical ways. Educators must create Personal Learning Networks not only to learn, but also to model these shifts for students. Join this session with Friday's keynote speaker Will Richardson to discuss what steps administrators can take to ensure that they — and their schools — are meeting the needs of students.

### **19. Performance-Based Policy and Progress Monitors: Critical Linkages for Student Achievement**

Catherine Haller, Prevention Services Coordinator; Chris McGee, Progress Monitor/Counselor, East Middle School; Sara Krick, Progress Monitor, Palisade High School, Mesa County Valley District 51

Progress monitors link Response to Intervention to Performance-Based Policy catching students who are at risk for dropping out and who aren't otherwise supported through an IEP, ELDP, APL, or ILP. Mesa County has seen success with increased achievement and graduation, as well as decrease in dropouts with these struggling learners. Look at data to support the essential role progress monitors play in this system.

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### **23. Standards-based Instruction in the 21st Century**

Dan Morris, Director of Educational Technology and Innovation, Colorado Department of Education

Supporting and improving standards-based instruction is a priority for school districts across the state. Learn about a variety of professional development opportunities including standards-based lessons, available through a state partnership with Verizon. Come and see a demonstration of these training opportunities and their unique delivery

method through a new video-conferencing service. Leave with information on how to implement effective standards-based instruction in the 21st century.

#### **24. Performance Pay Based on the Colorado Student Growth Model**

Mark Payler, Superintendent; Carrie Duits, Assistant Superintendent; Carol Ruckel, TIF Coordinator, Weld School District RE-8

Weld County School District RE-8 has implemented a performance pay plan based on the Colorado Growth Model. Participants will learn how the district collaborated with staff and the local teacher association to make this model a reality that resulted in a recent \$225,000 payout to staff. “Lessons learned” about the current building-level payout model will be discussed, along with the history of the project and how it will be expanded in the future to the individual teacher performance level.

#### **25. Increasing Achievement through a Collaborative Community**

Sheila Pottorff, Principal; Nita Starr, Assistant Principal; Lesli Cochran, 8th Grade Literacy; Lynn Gilbert, 7th Grade Science; Kendra Vair, 7th Grade Social Studies; Brian Brown, 6th Grade Social Studies; Bob Graham, Industrial Technology, Conrad Ball Middle School, Thompson District R2-J

Conrad Ball Middle School (CBMS) is a Colorado Trailblazer School to Watch that has created a reflective learning environment to meet the needs of a changing demographic. The school has provided structured planning time for staff to analyze and reflect on student data, plan their instruction and find ways to assess student learning to close the achievement gap. See how CBMS personalized the learning environment for each student by teaching the students to analyze their own data and set goals to drive their personal learning.

#### **26. District-wide Standards-based Systemic Change through Multiple Perspectives**

Marge Rinaldi and Vicky Marshall, Board of Education Members; Roberta Selleck, Superintendent; Copper Stoll, Chief Academic Officer; Katheryn Keyes, Coach; Shannon Willy, Principal, Metz Elementary School; Keith Erickson, Teacher, Westminster High School, Westminster District 50

Through the perspectives of a teacher, coach, principal, district administrator, school board members, and superintendent, the team will discuss its two-year planning for first implementation of its learner-centered, standards-based educational system by fall 2009, which is only one component of the district’s reinvention. The team will present the urgency, the response, partners, and a plan that can help transform public education in response to the demographic changes and stagnant test scores in the district.

#### **27. The Future Direction of K-12 Online Learning: Getting Onboard or Losing Enrollment**

Moderator: Kent Tamsen, Director of Technology and Informational Services, Widefield District 3

Panel Members: John Watson, Founder, Evergreen Consulting Associates; Chris Rapp, Executive Director, Colorado Online Learning; John Canuel, Director of Technology, Jefferson County District R-1; Jim Christensen, Superintendent, Douglas County District RE-1

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