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## IASA Summer Conference 2025 (FINAL)

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 8:00am - 11:30am

### **Excellence in Leadership Mentoring Program (New Principals & Asst. Principals)**

Sponsored by the OSBOE & and the Blue Cross of Idaho

IASA

Foundation

Room 110 D

This is a special opportunity for new principals and assistant principals to start the year off right. It is also the kick off to IASA's mentoring group that will be facilitated throughout the year by Jodie Mills, Joni Stevenson, Heather Williams and supported by Andy Grover and the IASSP & IAESP board of directors, as well as funding from the State Board of Education. It is free to participants.

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 8:00am - 11:30am

### **Excellence in Leadership Mentoring Program (New Special Education Administrators)**

Sponsored by the OSBOE, and the Blue Cross of Idaho

SDE, & IASA

Foundation

Room 110 C

Partnership event with the State Department of Education and their Special Education Director's Network. IASA's mentoring group will be facilitated throughout the year by Kindel Mason, and supported by Heather Williams and the IASEA board of directors, as well as funding from the State Board of Education. It is free to participants.

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 8:00am - 11:30am

### **From Courtroom to Classroom: Julie Weatherly's SpEd Law Reality Check**

Sponsored by the SDE &

IASA/IASEA

Room 110 A/B

Join special education law expert Julie Weatherly for an intensive update on current case law, state complaint trends, and hot topics impacting SpEd programs nationwide. This pre-conference session delivers practical insights seasoned directors and administrators can immediately apply, cutting through legal jargon to address today's most pressing compliance challenges and court decisions.

Perfect for experienced SpEd leaders navigating complex IEP disputes, compliance concerns, and evolving regulations. This is a partnership event between IASA/IASEA and the State Department of Education.

***No cost for full conference registrants. Single-day attendance requires registration fee. Please register either way at the conference registration link.***

Julie's Handouts for AM session

Julie Weatherly

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 11:30am - 12:50pm

## **IKEEP: Cultivating Indigenous Educational Excellence Through Culturally Responsive Leadership**

Sponsored by the University  
of Idaho: IKEEP

Room 130

Join us for an inspiring lunch and presentation engaging the transformative work of the Indigenous Knowledge for Effective Education Program (IKEEP) at the University of Idaho. Since 2016, IKEEP has been at the forefront of preparing and certifying culturally responsive Native American teachers and leaders who understand and address the unique educational needs of American Indian students in K-12 schools.

Discover resources and tools to understand how to integrate the educational priorities for Native Nations in K-12 schools today. The session will include an introduction to Idaho's Indian Education Strategic Plan, understanding of tribal sovereignty, and resources to help leaders advocate for American Indian learners in all settings.

### **Voices of Leaders**

Hear from 12 IKEEP scholars who will share powerful evidence of the leadership approaches and educational innovations necessary for Indigenous communities to thrive. These emerging administrators and change-makers demonstrate how Indigenous knowledge systems can transform educational environments.

### **Partnership-Driven Impact**

Learn how IKEEP collaborates with University of Idaho's MOU Tribes—including the Coeur d'Alene, Nez Perce, Shoshone-Bannock, and eight other tribal nations—as a model to develop and support educators and leaders in schools with high Native American populations.

Discuss how Indigenous leadership philosophies create sustainable change that honors Native traditions and fosters academic excellence

***Complimentary for those attending pre-conference events.***

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 1:00pm - 4:00pm

## **Leading Forward: Idaho Education Policy & Practice Summit**

Sponsored by the IASA &  
Idaho Rural Schools Assoc.

Room 130

Join IASA members and Idaho policymakers for three **lightning panels** with expert panelists, followed by collaborative roundtable discussions to develop practical solutions for key educational challenges facing Idaho. This interactive format bridges policy and practice to create actionable strategies for strengthening Idaho's education system.

***Complimentary for full conference registrants. Single-day attendance requires registration.***

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 1:00pm - 4:00pm

## **The Administrator's Playbook: Your Guide to SpEd Discipline & Manifestation**

### **Determinations**

Sponsored by the SDE &  
IASA/IASEA

Room 110 A/B

Navigate one of education's most complex intersections with confidence while dramatically reducing your risk of state complaints and legal issues. Julie Weatherly breaks down the critical processes every administrator, principal, and process leader needs to master when special education meets student discipline. This session demystifies manifestation determinations, clarifies your leadership role in SpEd discipline decisions, and provides proven strategies to avoid the costly mistakes that trigger state complaints.

Whether you're a building principal facing your first manifestation review, a district administrator overseeing compliance, or a process leader supporting teams through complex cases, this playbook session delivers the practical tools and legal knowledge you need to lead and protect your students, staff, and district from compliance pitfalls.

This is a partnership event between IASA/IASEA and the State Department of Education.

***Complimentary for full conference registrants. Single-day attendance requires registration.***

Julie's Handouts for the PM Session

Julie Weatherly

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 5:30pm - 8:30pm

## **Start Strong: IASA's Opening Drive (TOPGOLF)**

Sponsored by SSC Services  
BYU & ICCU

CORE Construction &  
Apptegy

TOPGOLF Meridian: 1050 S  
Silverstone Way, Meridian

**FREE TopGolf Event for IASA Members!**

**Ready to swing into Summer Con25?** Join us for an unforgettable evening of fun, networking, and fundraising at TopGolf - completely FREE for all IASA members!

**No golf experience? No problem!** TopGolf is perfect for everyone

**Team up** with fellow educators for friendly competition

**Food & drinks included** - just bring your enthusiasm

**Win prizes** while supporting Idaho students

**Make a lasting impact** - Every swing helps fund crucial early reading intervention programs or positive behavior support systems at select IASA member schools. Your participation directly translates into stipends that provide resources, training, or tools to help struggling students succeed and create positive school climates. We will announce the recipient schools during our Celebration Luncheon on August 7th!

Connect with colleagues, meet our amazing sponsors, and kick off the conference with purpose. This is networking at its finest - with clubs in hand and student success in mind!

**Space is limited - register now as an individual or a whole team!**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 7:30am - 8:15am

**Doors Open: Check-in**

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 8:30am - 8:40am

**WELCOME**

IASA Executive Board

President

Greg Alexander

Emmett School District

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 8:40am - 10:30am

**OPENING KEYNOTE SESSION: BRAD MONTAGUE - A Pep Talk for Joy Rebels and Stubborn Optimists**

Grand Ballroom

Sponsored by The Blue Cross  
of Idaho Foundation

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 10:30am - 10:45am

**Wellness Break & Partner Time**

Danishes in the Ballroom

Sponsored by CORE  
CONSTRUCTION

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 10:45am - 11:45am

## MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS (60 MIN.)

### Actionable steps in preventing educator burnout

Location: 110 A/B

Benjamin Parker  
*Discovery Elementary  
School*

This session will cover 10 actionable methods that administrators can implement to lighten the load of teachers. We will have some open discussion on how to implement some of these steps in schools or districts.

### Bridging the Gap: Career Pathways in Idaho's Forest Products Industry

Location: 120C

Clete Edmunson  
*Associated Logging  
Contractors of Idaho*  
Clete's love for Idaho runs as deep as his family roots. With a long family history that began in Idaho's early mining and logging industries, Clete's ties to the land have always remained solid. Growing up the son of a logger molded Clete into who he is today. Clete was proud to follow in his dad's footsteps cutting logs all over Idaho and Alaska before shifting to a career in education. With a firm belief and commitment to educating Idaho's next generation, Clete dedicated himself to teaching and coaching. Clete encouraged his students to participate in the political process. While they in turn pushed him to run for office. Clete successfully won a

seat in Idaho's House of Representatives, beginning a successful political career. With three terms under his belt, Clete accepted a position as Special Assistant to Governor Otter where he advised on major issues including education and transportation. The desire to finish a master's degree prompted Clete's temporary departure from politics and led him back to the classroom and then eventually into school administration. In 2024 Clete closed the chapter on a successful 30-year career in education. With his eyes on the prize, Clete landed his dream job and is back to his roots, working with loggers and haulers as the Executive Director of the Associated Logging Contractors. This is a position that combines all Clete's logging, political and educational experiences to provide leadership for a group who helped build our great state of Idaho.

#### Blake Manley *Manley Jobs*

"Blake Manley is a 4th generation logger on the west coast. His passion for the forest products industry is only rivaled by his passion to help the youth of today access good jobs and enter the workforce in career pathways that are high wage high demand jobs. This combination of passions lead him from a 15 year career in forest products to the classroom. In 2018 Blake began his formal teaching career at Sweet Home High School in Western Oregon. He built a program focused on the forest products industry from 50 students interested to 500 students requesting to be part of the program in a short 5 year span. Along that path Blake became a popular social media influencer through his videos called "Manley Jobs." His career path left Oregon in 2023 to continue these efforts in Idaho where he worked from 2023 to 2024 for the College of Natural Resources. Blake now works exclusively on projects combining education and forest products education through his business. Blake has represented both education and the

forest products industry as a keynote speaker for the Oregon Logging Conference, Intermountain Logging Conference, Pacific Logging Congress, Forestry Day at the Legislature in Idaho, Sierra Cascade Logging Conference and been a guest on several popular media outlets. He is the 2021 Oregon Natural Resources Teacher of the Year, former President of the Oregon Natural Resource Educators Association, FFA National Forestry CDE Committee member, and founding member of the National Forest Operations Training Coalition."

Jody Hendrickx  
*Hendrickx Logging*  
Jody Hendrickx grew up in the logging industry, working for Two Rivers Logging Inc as a shop kid learning shop skills, cleaning parts, cutting and welding, changing oils and transmissions etc . After graduation he drove logging trucks for LaJack Trucking and Buell Trucking, and then gained experience in a dozer building roads and piling brush, along with experience loading logs. Buying his own log loader, he started Hendrickx Logging in 2001, gradually adding line machines, processors and other equipment, which has provided him all the tools to operate a successful logging company in North Idaho. Jody is also the type to stay involved in his community of St. Maries. From volunteering as a hunter education instructor to serving as a trustee on the local school board. His leadership on the board led him to be Chairman for several years and then a leadership role with the state ISBA, serving as Region 1 Vice-Chair and then Chairman. He also served on Governor Little's Task Force, "Our Kids

Idaho's Future." He also serves on the Benewah County Planning & Zoning and has been a long standing member Jody's true passion is workforce development, serving on the Workforce Development Council and is Chair of the ALC Workforce Development Committee. For Jody there is no greater reward than preparing our kids to be successful and helping to guide them to part of the next generation for our forest products industry.

Marie Price  
*Idaho Forest Group*  
Marie Price is the Director of Learning and Development at Idaho Forest Group, a position she has held since 2018. Idaho Forest Group is a private lumber producer with over 1200 employees, with corporate headquarters and 5 lumber mills in mostly rural locations in Idaho, and one mill in Mississippi. Prior to Idaho Forest Group, Marie served as Director of Workforce Training at North Idaho College, where she convened lumber manufacturing companies in the region to collaborate on developing registered apprenticeships. Marie earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Seattle University, master's degree in Recreation Management from University of Montana's School of Forestry, and a graduate degree in Organizational Learning and Leadership from University of Idaho. Marie serves on the Idaho Workforce Development Council, chairing the Council's Work-Based Learning Committee, and serves on the Idaho Career Ready Students Council under the state



Department of Education. Marie also serves on the Idaho FFA Foundation, the Idaho Tech Help Advisory board, and is a Rotarian. In her free time, Marie enjoys being outdoors, especially skiing, hiking, hunting, and gardening.

" Idaho's forest products industry offers high-wage, high-demand careers across the region. The University of Idaho provides 2- and 4-year degree options in forestry, while North Idaho College offers a hands-on Logging Equipment Operator Apprenticeship. Programs align with industry needs and strong regional job opportunities."

### Digital Defense System: Shielding Your Campus From Online Drama

Location: 410C

Kim Karr

*Digital4Good x*

*#ICANHELP*

Meet Kim Karr, the heart and soul behind Digital4Good x #ICANHELP. After being a teacher for 13 years, Kim co-founded this movement to inspire students to use the internet and social media in a positive way. #ICANHELP is not just a program — it's a revolution that's been recognized by big names like Aaron Judge from the New York Yankees and major tech companies like Google, Snapchat, and TikTok. Kim and her team focus on celebrating students who are making a difference online, helping young people become leaders in the digital world, and making sure the internet is a safe place for everyone. She has

shared the #ICANHELP message with over 470,000 students and trained thousands of teachers and school administrators on how to guide their students in using social media wisely. Thanks to Kim, over a thousand harmful social media sites have been shut down. Kim Karr isn't just talking about making a change — she's making it happen every day.

This interactive session empowers school administrators to take action against social media threats (including cyberbullying, fight videos, and campus threats) in order to bolster campus safety and foster a learning environment that nurtures students' personal and academic growth.

### Idaho High School Activities Association: Hot Topics

Location: 130

Chad Williams  
*Idaho High School  
Activities Association*  
Chad Williams graduated from West Jefferson High School, a small school similar to many across Idaho, and from Idaho State University. He began his career in education in 1997 and has served in various roles, including teacher, coach, activities director, vice principal, principal, and superintendent. His experience spans schools from the 2A to 5A classification levels. Chad has had the opportunity to experience Idaho High School Activities Association activities from many

perspectives: as a student-athlete, coach, administrator, parent, uncle, and looks forward to experiencing it as a grandparent. Before becoming the IHSAA Executive Director in July 2024, he was the superintendent at Shelley School District. Chad is a proud father of four girls.

Chad Williams, Executive Director of the Idaho High School Activities Association, will present to Idaho school administrators on classification, petitioning, playoff formats, transfer rules, and girls' wrestling expansion. These topics are crucial for athletic program development and are currently under committee discussion.

### School-Based Medicaid: Everything You Need to Know

Location: 420A

Shannon Dunstan  
*Idaho State*  
*Department Of*  
*Education*

Navigating the complexities of School-Based Medicaid (SBS) can be overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be. This session is designed to demystify the process and empower local education agencies (LEAs) with practical knowledge and tools to effectively access Medicaid reimbursement for services delivered in schools.

### Starting Early for Strong Schools: Building Early Education Pipelines for K–12 Success

Location: 110 C/D

Jane Zink  
*Idaho AEYC*  
Jane Zink is the Deputy Director of Idaho AEYC. She coordinates the delivery of the Idaho School Readiness Project, funded through the PDG B-5 grant. For over 20 years, Jane has been working in child care systems to strengthen families and

enhance outcomes for children by transforming policy, relationships, and technology. She regularly consults with partners across sectors to help them intentionally implement strengths-based frameworks in their everyday interactions with families. Jane is a nationally certified HOPE facilitator and HOPE Champion

Jackie Yarbrough  
*Blue Cross of Idaho  
Foundation*

Jackie Yarbrough is a senior program officer for the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health. She leads the organization's statewide work in education to remove barriers to education and address root causes that impact health by engaging with schools, organizations, and communities. Jackie, who is passionate about health, collaboration, and community building, has been in her current role since 2021. Since then, she's played an integral role in the expansion of community schools in Idaho, helped numerous school districts launch early education programs, and supported youth behavioral health work and initiatives in our state. Jackie is a member of the Idaho Behavioral Health Council's Prevention Workgroup and serves on the board of directors of the Idaho Association of Free and Charitable Clinics. Before joining the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health, Jackie spent 12 years at The Idaho Foodbank, leading community

partnerships, nutrition programs, and health initiatives. She began her social work career in child protection services, then spent 10 years in the Pocatello School District working with at-risk children and families before moving to Boise. Jackie has earned two degrees from Idaho State University — a Master of Public Administration degree focused on nonprofit program management and development and a Bachelor of Arts in social work. Jackie was born and raised in rural Idaho. She enjoys spending time with her partner, Chris, and bonus kiddo, Austin, as well as listening to live music and being outdoors.

*Shalene French  
Caldwell School District*  
Schools are the heart of any community. The Caldwell School District has been the heart of the Caldwell community since 1893. Caldwell School District is proud to serve the children of Caldwell. As a District our mission is nurturing growth, eliminating obstacles, strengthening community. We are grateful for our community partnerships as we expand programs such as Community Schools, 21st Century After School Learning Center, Everyday Leadership, Boys and Girls Club, Caldwell Preschool Collaborative, and STEM Learning for our elementary students. Our District enjoys partnerships with The College of Idaho, Treasure Valley Community College, College of Western Idaho, Northwest Nazarene University, and Boise State University. We are fortunate to be a part of a community that values our youth, their education, and believes in preserving traditions that create cherished memories of friendships and learning.

*Jamie Pilkerton  
Basin School District*  
Jamie Pilkerton has been an educator for 25 years, 16 of which as principal at Basin Elementary in Idaho City.

What does it look like when school districts lead on early childhood education? This session introduces the concept of an early education pipeline and demonstrates how it directly supports student success in K–12. Participants will explore strategies—ranging from no-cost, high-impact actions to transformational investments.

### The Leadership Pipeline: Our Role in Preparing the Next Generation of School Administrators

Location: 120 A

MATTHEW M.  
MCDANIEL, PhD  
*THE COLLEGE OF  
IDAHO*

Matthew McDaniel, PhD is an assistant professor and program director of The College of Idaho's M.Ed. in Educational Leadership program. Dr. McDaniel has well over a decade of educational leadership experience, holding administrative positions in both the charter and traditional public education sectors spanning all grades PK-12. Prior to becoming a school leader, Dr. McDaniel spent 15 years in the classroom teaching secondary music and Spanish, including dual-credit course offerings of undergraduate coursework for high school students. In 2017, Dr. McDaniel was recognized by the Idaho Business Review as a recipient of the "Accomplished Under 40" award. He is a graduate of the College of Idaho (BA, Secondary Vocal Music Education) and the University of Idaho (M.Ed., Ph.D.,

Educational Leadership). Areas of research interest include shared governance, authentic leadership, and entrepreneurial thinking in education. He maintains a regular presence as a presenter of professional development at the local, state, national, and international levels. Outside of the professional arena, McDaniel is highly involved in the local community serving on two different nonprofit boards of directors, co-directing a local semi-professional choir, and coaching youth sports. He lives in Caldwell with his wife and three children.

This session explores how current administrators can identify, cultivate, and develop future educational leaders through mentorship, succession planning, and professional learning. Participants will gain actionable strategies to build a strong leadership pipeline and support emerging school leaders within their districts.

### The Missing Piece? Parent Guidance, Mental Health, and the Achievement Puzzle

Location: 120 B

Paul Richins  
*Cook Center for Human Connection*  
Paul has worked in K12 education for over 25 years impacting learning outcomes, student achievement, resilience and wellness. He is a passionate advocate of human growth and achievement, organizational psychology, leadership impact, and mental health. He now

advocates for  
increased student  
mental health via  
impact on parents and  
organizations across  
the educational and  
community landscape.

## Abstract:

Student achievement and mental health are intertwined. This session highlights **ParentGuidance.org** as a key resource for empowering parents to support their children's mental well-being, which directly impacts academic success. Learn practical strategies and explore **ParentGuidance.org** to complete the achievement puzzle through stronger home-school connections.

What could it look like if all students were engaged readers

Location: 200

Mark Kessler  
*Renaissance*

Come learn how to leverage technology and elevate the learning environment to foster increased reading engagement.

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 12:00pm - 1:15pm

## DIVISION BUSINESS LUNCHESES

IAESP Business Luncheon - Sponsored by AJH Law

Location: 400 C

Ben Parker  
*Idaho Association of  
Elementary Principals*

IASEA Business Luncheon Sponsored by Presence Learning

Location: 410 A/B

Stephanie Linder  
*Idaho Association of  
Special Education  
Administrators*

IASSP Business Luncheon Sponsored by Lebra AI



Location: 400 A/B

Luke Kelsey  
*Idaho Association of  
Secondary School  
Principals*

**ISSA Business Luncheon - Sponsored by Piper Sandler & Hawley Troxell Law**

Location: 420 A/B

Eileen Holden  
*Idaho School  
Superintendents  
Association*

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 1:30pm - 2:45pm

**AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS (75 MINUTES)**

**A Teacher Believed in Me: The Science and Heart of Building Student Resilience Through Supportive Relationships**

Location: 110 C/D

Austin Haslam  
*Franklin Covey*

This workshop explores seven leadership skillsets that enable educators to foster students' positive well-being and readiness to learn. Based on research showing supportive adult relationships help children overcome trauma, the program addresses rising student anxiety, depression, and declining academic engagement through connection-focused teaching practices.

**Bridging the Gap: Supporting Struggling Readers in Grades 4–9 Through Disciplinary Literacy**

Location: 110 A/B

Steve Underwood  
*Veritas Educational  
Consulting*  
Dr. Steve Underwood  
is the founder of  
Veritas Educational  
Consulting, an  
independent consulting  
firm providing tailored  
services for leaders  
and educators across  
the education sector.  
With over 20 years of  
experience, Steve is a  
leadership consultant

passionate about supporting the people and organizations that serve students. He specializes in coaching educational leaders and guiding the effective implementation of evidence-based literacy practices rooted in the Science of Reading. Steve began his career as an elementary teacher and literacy coach before joining a statewide school improvement program in Idaho, where he helped bring the Science of Reading to high-need communities. Over the past 15 years, he has held senior leadership and consulting roles with major education organizations. Most recently, he served as Senior Director at NWEA, leading a large-scale professional learning team. His team designed and delivered consulting services to the nation's largest school districts and state agencies, with a focus on the Science of Reading, assessment literacy, formative assessment, and the use of MAP Growth. Previously, Steve led Education Northwest's language and literacy services, managing consulting projects, such as co-facilitating the Idaho Governor's

Task Force for Literacy, with schools and districts across the Pacific Northwest and Mountain West. During his tenure at the Idaho State Department of Education, he directed the Statewide System of Support, overseeing the Idaho Building Capacity program, RTI, educational leadership support programs, and more. Steve holds a Doctor of Education in curriculum and instruction from Boise State University and a Master of Arts in Education from Biola University. He continues to support educators and leaders in areas such as literacy, leadership, curriculum, instruction, and data use.

Marybeth Flachbart  
*Mountain West Associates*  
Dr. Marybeth Flachbart is the Managing Partner at Mountain West Associates, a consulting firm that offers leadership consulting and professional learning services to schools, districts, and state education agencies. Her portfolio of work focuses on school and system improvement and literacy. Marybeth is a Certified Academic Language Therapist (CALT) and a dyslexia specialist with deep expertise in the Science of Reading. She served as the former President and CEO of the Neuhaus Education Center in Houston, Texas, a nonprofit think tank for literacy solutions. Prior to that, she was a widely respected leader at the Idaho State Department of Education under two politically diverse administrations, serving as the Deputy Superintendent of School Improvement and Student Achievement, leading the state's ESSA, IDEA, and Statewide System of Support programs. Marybeth has deep experience supporting education leaders at the national, state, and local levels.

Examples include her work with the National Governors Association, Early Childhood Task Force, Reading First National Technical Assistance Center, the Idaho Governor's Task Force for Literacy, the Montana Literacy Plan, support of the North Slope Borough School District's literacy plan (AK), the Northwest Literacy Cooperative (ID), Houston Independent School District (TX), and the Teachers Make the Difference initiative (TX). Her capacity building work focuses on increasing organizational capacity to meet the needs of all learners. Marybeth holds a Doctor of Education in curriculum and instruction from Boise State University and a Master of Arts in Special Education from Fairfield University.

Discover how school and district leaders can empower teachers to support struggling readers in grades 4–9 through evidence-based disciplinary literacy strategies. This session offers practical tools and leadership insights to support your plan to boost reading comprehension across subjects like science, social studies, and math.

## Connecting the Dots for Federal, State, and LEA Legislation to Ensure Special Education Compliance

Location: 410C

Joy Jansen

*Lake Pend Oreille*

*School District*

For over 25 years, I have worked in the field of serving individuals with special needs that spans the continuum from elementary to postsecondary

education. Currently, I am the Director of Special Services and Federal Programs for the Lake Pend Oreille School District (LPOSD). Before LPOSD I served as the Director of Special Education/Learning Center for two therapeutic residential schools in northern Idaho. In each of these positions, I have participated in local and state committees. I obtained my Ph.D. in Education with a focus in neuropsychological deficiencies from the University of Idaho and hold an M.Ed. in Special Education from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. I have an extensive background in working with children, adolescents, and adults in the areas of specific learning disabilities, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorder, transition, various mental health conditions, and trauma-informed practices. Over the years, I have presented at both local, state, and national conferences on such topics as executive functioning, brain-based learning, social and emotional learning, trauma-informed practices, and attachment. I am a

recurring presenter for organizations such as the Idaho Association of School Administrators and the Council for Administrators of Special Education. In addition, I have presented to the AZ ACE Consortium Trauma-Sensitive School group and the AZ 2022 Trauma Sensitive Schools Symposium. Lastly, to support the youth of my community and fill my passion for experiential and place-based education, I serve as the Education Advisor for Selkirk Outdoor Leadership and Education (SOLE).

Ramona Lee  
*West Ada School District*  
Ramona Lee serves as Chair of the Professional Development Committee for CASE and sits on the Executive Committee, where she leads global initiatives to enhance the skills and knowledge of special education administrators through best practices, legislative updates, and effective strategies. As Director of Special Education for Idaho's largest school district, West Ada, she oversees comprehensive programs and services for students with disabilities while ensuring compliance with federal and state mandates. Her dual roles enable her to bridge local and national perspectives on special education, making her a significant influence in advancing professional growth opportunities for administrators, teachers, and specialists both within CASE and her district.

## Continuing AI discourse: Insights from research and the field

Location: 410A/B

Elizabeth (Liz) Wargo  
*University of Idaho*  
Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Wargo is an

educational leader and researcher at the University of Idaho. Her latest project focuses her attention at the intersection of technology, pedagogy, and leadership related to education change. Drawing on a co-design approach, Liz mobilizes stakeholders to identify persistent problems of practice in their school districts and communities. Together they learn about the root causes of these problems, enact action plans to implement, and study solutions. Together this work builds critical place-conscious leadership capacity across rural Idaho and beyond. When Liz is not working you can find her playing in the mountains of North Idaho.

Jeff Simmons  
*Idaho Digital Learning Alliance*  
Jeff Simmons is the Superintendent of Idaho Digital Learning Alliance and a doctoral candidate at the University of Idaho. His leadership at IDLA, supports the IDLA mission to improve the quality of learning through innovative solutions, collaborative relationships, and the access and application of educational technology.

Will Goodman  
*Boise School District*  
Will Goodman is the Chief Technology Officer for the Boise School District, a board member of the Idaho Education Technology Association, and a chairperson on the U.S. Department of Education's National Forum on Education Statistics. He received the CoSN Impact 30 and IETA President's awards. He formerly held the positions of Chief Technology Officer for the Idaho State Department of Education, Director of District Programs for the Idaho Digital Learning Alliance, teacher, principal, athletic director, coach, teacher mentor, director of technology, director of operations, and interim superintendent. He has served on several state and national committees, including vice chair of the Education Opportunity Resource Committee, a representative on the Idaho Council for Technology and Learning's Public Education Information Committee, facilitator of the Idaho Legislative Broadband Access Study Interim Committee, invited by and testified to the Federal Communications

Commission on E-rate modernization, member of the Idaho COVID Governor's K-12 Emergency Council, and various other state workgroups and committees. He has co-authored publications.

Ryan Gravette  
*Idaho Digital Learning Alliance*  
Over the past two decades, Ryan Gravette has focused on using Edtech to tear down the barriers to great teaching and learning. He currently serves as the Director of Information and Technology for Idaho Digital Learning and has received the President's Award from the Idaho Education Technology Association, and the Platinum Award from 1EdTech. He sits on advisory boards for the Idaho Department of Labor, PowerSchool, and 1EdTech. He holds an MBA from Boise State, a BS in Psychology from Westmont, and a litany of technology certifications. On the side, he enjoys hiking, dancing in the rain, leading kid's church and learning together with his family.

Shawn Tiegs  
*Moscow School District*  
Shawn Tiegs is the Superintendent at the Moscow School District. Prior to this position Shawn served as the Superintendent and Technology Director at the Nezperce School District, located in Nezperce, a small town in North Central Idaho. Tiegs has been involved professionally in education for nearly 20 years and has previously taught science, math, computer science and technology to grades 7 to 12. In 2013-2014 Shawn was named as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow based on his work as a secondary science and math educator. He served as a fellow for 1 year working in the US House of Representatives for congressman Mike Honda (CA-17) who served a portion of the Silicon Valley. Shawn is a father to his 7 children, Grace, Faith, Owen, Gage, Leila, Seth, and Hazel, and a husband to his wife, Dana. Shawn earned his bachelors degree in Mathematics from Lewis-Clark State and holds two advanced education degrees from the University of



Idaho.

Yin Hong Cheah  
*University of Idaho*  
Yin Hong Cheah is an Assistant Professor of Instructional Technology, brings extensive expertise as both a researcher and a teacher educator, in addition to her middle school teaching experience. Her research centers on investigating and developing K-12 teachers' technology practices to promote equitable learning, with a current focus on the pedagogical use of AI and AI literacy. She designed and teaches AI-related courses at both graduate and undergraduate levels, as well as conducting PD and co-designing technology-enhanced lessons with in-service teachers. Currently, she is investigating the unique challenges and opportunities in Idaho's rural school contexts to support teachers in developing competencies for designing and implementing AI-enhanced STEM curricula.

*In this panel-style participatory workshop, insights from the field and research about*

*GenAI will be unpacked to forward discourse about the ever-evolving intersection of*

## From Firefighting to Focus: Empowering Principals Through Purposeful Time Management

Location: 120 A

avid Franklin

*The Principal's Desk*

Dr. David Franklin is an award winning school administrator, education professor, curriculum designer, and presenter. He earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, East Bay, a Master's Degree in Education Technology from National University, and holds a B.A. in Music from the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Franklin is an Education Consultant and an Adjunct Professor of Education for Colorado State University. He is also a Marzano Research fellow trained in High Reliability Schools, Instructional Rounds, Collaborative Teams, and PLCs. Dr. Franklin has presented at national and international education conferences and is a sought after presenter in the areas of academic intervention, school leadership, creating a shared vision, creating common assessments, and data analysis.

This keynote introduces Stephen Covey's Time Management Matrix as a practical tool for school leaders to prioritize effectively, reduce stress, and lead with clarity. Participants will learn strategies to manage urgent vs. important tasks, reclaim time, and focus on what matters most to drive meaningful school improvement.

### Lead Like Lasso: Science-based Leadership Skills from America's Favorite Coach

Location: 120 B

Joelle Hood

*Thriving YOUiversity*

Dr. Joelle Hood is the co-founder and Chief Empowerment Officer at Thriving YOUiversity. As a former teacher and principal of the year and with an Ed.D in organizational change and leadership from USC, Dr. Hood uses her knowledge and expertise, along with her experience as a mindfulness instructor and life coach, to provide researched-based keynotes, coaching, and experiential learning workshops to individuals and organizations throughout the nation. Her areas of expertise include social, emotional & academic learning, leadership, applied educational neuroscience, mindfulness, the science of belonging & human connection, mindset, restorative practices, employee engagement, trust and team-building, trauma-responsive practices, and resilience.

This professional development session, inspired by *Ted Lasso*, explores science-based leadership strategies rooted in empathy, optimism, and authenticity. Participants will engage in interactive activities and discussions, gaining tools to inspire teams, foster belonging, and lead effectively leveraging neuroscience insights on people-first leadership and

creating forward-focused, high-performing environments.

## Leveraging PBIS to Create Healthier Schools: Building Systems of Support in Rural Idaho

Location: 120C

Katie Azevedo

*Azevedo Consulting  
and Results Learning  
Center*

Dr. Katie Azevedo, an Idaho native, has worked in education for over 20 years holding a variety of positions including a classroom teacher, instructional coach, professional development facilitator, research assistant, adjunct professor, and state-level director. Her focus is to promote positive learning environments through academic and behavioral strategies that increase the learning and achievement for all students. In 2020, Katie created Azevedo Consulting, specializing in mental health and positive behavior strategies for national, state, and local education agencies and mental health providers. In 2021, Katie launched the Results Learning Center (RLC). RLC is an online institute with on-demand learning tools for educators and mental health clinicians. These tools are organized in courses. Each course includes lessons with short and engaging instructional videos,

paired with participant guides to direct the reflection and planning process. The content provided in the Results Learning Center is evidence-based and grounded in implementation science with the goal of not just learning but taking action. Much of her time is also focused on writing federal grants and supporting this work with the goal of increased capacity and sustainability at the local, regional, and state level.

Jackie Yarbrough  
*Blue Cross of Idaho  
Foundation for Health*  
Jackie Yarbrough is a senior program officer for the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health. She leads the organization's statewide work in education to remove barriers to education and address root causes that impact health by engaging with schools, organizations, and communities. Jackie, who is passionate about health, collaboration, and community building, has been in her current role since 2021. Since then, she's played an integral role in the expansion of community schools in Idaho, helped numerous school districts launch early education programs, and supported youth behavioral health work and initiatives in our state. Jackie is a member of the Idaho Behavioral Health Council's Prevention Workgroup and serves on the board of directors of the Idaho Association of Free and Charitable Clinics. Before joining the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health, Jackie spent 12 years at The Idaho Foodbank, leading community

partnerships, nutrition programs, and health initiatives. She began her social work career in child protection services, then spent 10 years in the Pocatello School District working with at-risk children and families before moving to Boise.

Jackie has earned two degrees from Idaho State University — a Master of Public Administration degree focused on nonprofit program management and development and a Bachelor of Arts in social work. Jackie was born and raised in rural Idaho. She enjoys spending time with her partner, Chris, and bonus kiddo, Austin, as well as listening to live music and being outdoors.

*Leveraging PBIS to Create Healthier Schools* is a multi-year initiative funded by the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health. Join us to learn how rural Idaho districts are using PBIS, Community Schools, and evidence-based strategies to improve student well-being and build healthier, more supportive school environments.

## Mastering Difficult Conversations with Below-Standard Performing Employees

Location: 440

BARBARA GINSBERG

*Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo*  
Barbara Ginsberg has been representing school and community college districts, and public agencies in all aspects of employment & labor matters and education law for over thirty years. She is an expert in educational leadership, communication practices, and

employee performance management, and regularly provides professional development training to administrators and aspiring leaders throughout the nation. She serves as chief negotiator for agencies in collective bargaining with certificated/certified, classified, and police/safety units, and is experienced in both traditional and interest-based bargaining methods. Other areas of her practice include: workplace investigations (including allegations of harassment and discrimination), statutory and negotiated leave issues, disability accommodation issues, reductions in force, student and employee privacy matters, search and seizure and other constitutional issues, policy/procedure review and development, hiring practices, employment contracts, administrative hearings, and federal and state civil litigation. Her firm also provides legal advice and representation on special education matters, facilities and construction matters, student discipline, and other areas of interest to school districts. Prior

to representing school districts, Ms. Ginsberg spent seven years as a legal advocate for public and private employee unions and served as a Deputy City Attorney. Prior to her legal career she was an elementary/middle/high school teacher and also served in the U.S. Navy. Her husband's and Navy veteran son's careers have brought her to Idaho, where she is a licensed attorney, and she looks forward to assisting school district leaders in creating rewarding work and educational environments for employees and students.

Effective communication is vital to influencing employee improvement. Learn tips and techniques for planning and carrying out a successful meeting with an employee, including a step-by-step protocol for conducting a three-stage conversation designed to achieve mutual clarity in communication, and invest the employee in positive changes.

### Strengthening School Communities Through Meaningful Leadership Connections

Location: 130

Nate Lichte

*Lebra*

Nate Lichte brings more than a decade of dynamic experience in education. With a career spanning K-12, post-secondary, adult education, juvenile justice, and corrections education, Nate is deeply committed to driving student success and empowering educational leaders to transform outcomes. At Lebra, Nate leads



efforts to foster growth and forge strategic partnerships with school districts. He works closely with educational leaders to strengthen leadership capacity, enhance organizational development, and advance equitable outcomes for all students.

Brady Dickinson  
*Twin Falls School District #411*  
Brady Dickinson, Superintendent, Twin Falls School District #411 Brady Dickinson began his educational career in 1995 as a 9th-grade World Geography teacher in the Twin Falls School District. His passion for student achievement and leadership quickly propelled him into administrative roles. In 2007, after earning his Master's degree from the University of Idaho, he became the Associate Principal and Athletic Director at Robert Stuart Middle School. A year later, Brady was selected to open Canyon Ridge High School as its founding principal. His visionary leadership helped shape the school's identity and culture from the ground up, earning him the prestigious Milken Educator Award for the state of Idaho in 2011. In 2013, Brady transitioned to the district office to serve as Director of Operations. In this role, he led the successful passage of a \$75 million bond, resulting in the construction of three new schools to support the growing Twin Falls community. During this time, he

also completed his Educational Specialist degree from the University of Idaho and earned his Doctorate in Education from Northwest Nazarene University in 2016. Brady was appointed Superintendent of Twin Falls School District in 2017. Under his leadership, the district continues to focus on academic excellence, student well-being, and strategic growth—ensuring every student has access to high-quality learning opportunities.

Superintendent Dr. Brady Dickinson shares how intentional leadership and tools like *Lebra* are transforming staff engagement. Learn how authentic communication, recognition, and smart technology can boost morale, improve retention, and build a culture where every educator feels seen, heard, and valued—all while streamlining leadership practices.

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 1:30pm - 2:45pm

**IHSAA ANNUAL MEETING**

140

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 2:45pm - 3:15pm

**Wellness Break & Partner Time**  
Ice Cream Bars in the Ballroom

Sponsored by STILE  
EDUCATION

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 3:15pm - 4:00pm

**SECOND WIND SHORTY SESSIONS (45 MINUTES)**

Death by Meeting

Location: 440

Jeff Simmons  
*Idaho Digital Learning Alliance*

Jeff Simmons is the Superintendent of Idaho Digital Learning Alliance (IDLA), Idaho's online supplemental program. IDLA supports all public schools in the state with a mission to provide equal opportunities to all students. Jeff holds an MA in Education Leadership from the University of Idaho, and a BA in Social Studies and English Education from Northwest Nazarene University. Jeff has worked in public education since 2001 and is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Idaho.

Does the concept of death by meeting sound too eerily familiar? What may need to change is your meeting structure. This session will cover a meeting structure that can be used to support different types of meetings and help keep participants engaged (yes, that can happen).

### Dual Language Instructional Practices that Welcome Multilingual Learners

Location: 120C

Andrea Cline

*HMH*

Andrea specializes in bilingual, dual language, and multilingual learner instruction. With a Master's degree in Literacy Development, focusing on Bilingual Education, Andrea brings a deep understanding of language acquisition and culturally responsive teaching to her work. Throughout her career, Andrea has supported curriculum

development and led educator training initiatives grounded in research-based best practices in early literacy and multilingual education. She collaborates directly with teachers to assess instructional needs and design effective, inclusive strategies that empower diverse learners.

Logan LeCompte  
*HMH*

Karl Wessel

Carolina Caton is a 3rd grade dual language teacher at New Horizon Elementary from Nampa School District. Mrs. Caton will share her top dual language strategies and share stories on how to best connect with students and acquire a love for reading and writing.

In this interactive workshop, we will review instructional methods for Dual Language students that enhance learner proficiency by drawing on their linguistic knowledge and cultural backgrounds.

## Empowering Future-Ready Students: Integrating Career Exploration and Academic Standards

Location: 120 A

Katie Bosch-Wilson  
*Idaho STEM Action  
Center*

Katie Bosch-Wilson is a native Idahoan with 11 years of service in public education. Katie earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics Education and two master's degrees in Mathematics Education and Curriculum and Instruction. She has a graduate certificate in STEM Education with an emphasis in Computer Science. Prior to joining STEM Action Center team, Katie taught Math and Computer Science at Capitol High School in Boise. In addition to teaching, Katie has experience working as a district content coordinator and

adjunct professor at Boise State University and had the honor of sitting on numerous Idaho State Department of Education committees. Katie enjoys spending time with her husband, two children and their family dog. When the weather is nice, they try to get up to the foothills and be outside as much as possible.

Learn how Learning Blade—free through the Idaho STEM Action Center—supports career exploration and aligns with Idaho's academic content standards and First Step Standards. This session shows how educators can integrate STEM careers into core instruction to meet state goals and prepare students for college and career success.

### Leading for Impact: Leveraging Technology to Improve Math Outcomes

Location: 410A/B

Cassie Harrelson  
*ExploreLearning*  
Cassie Harrelson is passionate about empowering school leaders to effectively support educators in leveraging technology in math and science classrooms. With over 15 years of experience in education, Cassie has served as a teacher, instructional coach, and district mathematics specialist, bringing a deep understanding of STEM instruction across K–12 settings. Throughout her career, Cassie has been committed to transforming student learning and educator development. She has played a key role in shaping state, national, and international standards, end-of-

course assessments, and best practices in math and science education, ensuring that innovation is grounded in strong pedagogy. For the past four years, Cassie has worked as an Education Consultant with ExploreLearning, partnering with schools and districts worldwide to integrate STEM technology tools that enhance teaching and learning. Her mission is to support school leaders in building capacity, inspiring inquiry-based instruction, and ensuring every student has access to effective, engaging, and meaningful opportunities in the classroom.

Discover how school leaders can support effective technology integration in math instruction to boost student outcomes. Explore practical strategies, high-impact math tools, and leadership moves that align tech use with instructional goals—empowering teachers and transforming learning.

### Low/No-Emission Fleet and Transportation Vehicle Options in Idaho - ESB, Renewable Diesel, CNG/RNG, and Propane

Location: 410C

Jason Green  
*Treasure Valley Clean  
Cities and  
Communities*

Jason returned to Idaho in July 2024 and joined the Treasure Valley Clean Cities as Program Manager. Prior to his return, Jason served as Operations Assistant for Drive Clean Colorado (a Clean Cities and Communities

Coalition), and Clean Cities Co-Director at Northern Colorado Clean Cities, as an advocate for initiatives empowering rural fleets and underserved communities to adopt sustainable practices.

Elaine Clegg  
*Valley Regional Transit*  
Valley Regional Transit (VRT) CEO Elaine Clegg has been working in the transportation sector and as a public servant for more than 25 years. She's served on the Boise City Council, the VRT Board and Executive Board, numerous advisory committees and councils, and as a program leader at Idaho Smart Growth.

We will explore Idaho's low- and no-emission fleet options for school and transportation vehicles, focusing on Electric School Buses, Renewable Diesel, Compressed/Renewable Natural Gas, and Propane. Participants will learn how these fuels can improve air quality for students and communities, reduce maintenance costs, and enhance safety.

### Making the Case: Communicating the Impact of Programs and Partnerships

Location: 110 A/B

Katie Marshall  
*United Way of Treasure Valley*  
Katie Marshall (she/her) is the Community Schools Engagement and Sustainability Manager at United Way of Treasure Valley and serves on the Board of Directors for the Meridian Library Foundation. A former teacher with a degree in Education from Boise State University, she is dedicated to fostering educational growth. As a lifelong Idahoan, Katie is passionate about expanding Community Schools in rural areas. When she's not

working on community initiatives, you'll find Katie enjoying her hobbies of reading, baking, and spending time with her family.

School administrators will learn to communicate the ROI, outcomes, and community impact of school programs, including community school strategy, using Idaho-based data, storytelling, and strategic messaging. These tools help engage school boards, elected officials, and local partners, and are adaptable for any program or partnership across schools and districts.

### Navigating Infrastructure Funding Challenges for Idaho's Public Schools

Location: 120 B

Michael Keith  
*Zions Public Finance*

This workshop explores the evolving challenges in financing infrastructure for Idaho's public schools.

### SESTA in Your Corner: Connecting with Idaho's Special Education Support and Technical Assistance Center

Location: 130

Emily Boles  
*Boise State University-Idaho SESTA*

Jacque Hyatt  
*State Department of Education*

Emily has been an educator for over 20 years in public schools in Texas and Idaho, and in private practice providing academic testing and remediation. She joined Idaho SESTA as its director in 2023. Prior to this she was the special education director for the Sage International Network of Schools in Boise and Middleton for 6 years. She has an MA in Teaching from Trinity University in San Antonio and an M.Ed in Educational Leadership from BSU.



Idaho SESTA is your partner in the daily work of improving outcomes for students with disabilities. Come learn about all of the resources SESTA offers, including the Help Desk, online and in-person training, resource documents, an assessment lending library, and assistive technology resources.

### Teacher evaluations- what you need to have for a successful state audit

Location: 110C/D

Jon Rehder

*Cottonwood School  
District*

Brian Kress

*Blackfoot SD*

We will cover/discuss the requirements of staff evaluations. Observation dates, IPLP's, summative evaluations for certified and pupil service staff and the importance of meeting State Audit requirements

### The Rural Roundup: Idaho Rural Schools Association Insights & Game-Changing Practices

Location: 420

Heather Williams

*IASA - Idaho Rural  
Schools Association*

Dr. Heather Williams is the IRSA Director and Associate Executive Director of IASA, bringing over 30 years of hands-on education experience to the role. From classroom teacher to superintendent, she's worn just about every hat in education! As a superintendent, Dr. Williams led her district to significant achievements including increased student performance, improved graduation rates, and closed achievement gaps for high needs students, particularly those from poverty, emerging bilingual, and Latino populations. Her leadership also resulted in improved district finances, operations, facilities, and teacher retention,

earning regional, state, and national recognition. Prior to joining IASA in 2024, she led the Executive Educational Leadership program and served as department chair at Boise State University. Dr. Williams has presented hundreds of times at conferences on educational leadership topics and continues her commitment to the field through research on rural communities, writing, conducting superintendent searches, consulting with schools nationwide, and serving as a part-time rural superintendent in Idaho.

Andy Grover  
*Idaho Association of School Administrators*  
Dr. Andy Grover serves as Executive Director of the Idaho Association of School Administrators (IASA) since 2020. He brings extensive educational leadership experience, having previously served as superintendent of Melba School District from 2010-2020 and as a regional president for IASA. Dr. Grover began his career teaching and coaching for eight years in the Bonneville School District before transitioning into administration as Melba's high school principal and later superintendent. Under his leadership, Melba achieved notable success with both the elementary and secondary schools earning four stars in Idaho's five-star accountability rating system. "I am passionate about education and opportunities for students — I have worked my entire career to push this agenda," Grover said. "I am confident of my ability to work with our administrative groups to have open conversations, be well informed, and create

direction that continues to benefit Idaho students."

Join us for an energizing session where rural leaders swap stories, share solutions, and get the latest from IRSA.

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 4:15pm - 5:00pm

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SOCIAL**  
Located upstairs 430A/B

Sponsored by HMM - they are buying the 1st drink!

Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:30am - 9:30am

**MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS (60 MIN.)**

A Data Driven District Allows All Students to Feel Capable, Valued and Heard

Location: 110 A/B

Shannon Loree <i>West Ada School District</i> A native Idahoan, Shannon grew up in an education family. Her dedication to helping all students achieve led her to form a highly efficient implementation structure that allows for all leaders, teachers and support staff to focus on students first for student proficiency. Her current district experience in the West Ada School District showcases this work and is scalable for any size district.	Vikki Lange <i>i-Ready/Curriculum Associates</i> Vikki currently works with Idaho schools to ensure that all kids feel capable, valued and heard. This is achieved top down from district leadership using data and strategies to ensure that implementations are robust and effective. Using timely growth measures and baseline placements reports makes this achievable for every sized district.	Vikki Lange <i>i-Ready/Curriculum Associates</i> Vikki currently works with Idaho schools to ensure that all kids feel capable, valued and heard. This is achieved top down from district leadership using data and strategies to ensure that implementations are robust and effective. Using timely growth measures and baseline placements reports makes this achievable for every sized district.
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The West Ada School District is a leading example of how data drives every decision, removes obstacles that are uncovered in monthly data reviews, and moves the entire team in one direction. Data review meetings, pre-requisites reports and baseline placements reports are used to achieve all of this.

AI-Proof Assessments: How Socratic Seminars Can Save the Day Presenter: Julianna Jimenez

Location: 410 C

Julianna Jimenez  
*Stile Education*

Transform AI reliance into deeper learning with Socratic Seminars. Spark authentic, student-led discussions that challenge ideas, boost engagement, and foster critical thinking—moving beyond generic responses to meaningful comprehension.

### Beyond the Buzz: Practical AI Solutions for Idaho Classrooms with SchoolAI

Location: 120 A/B

Stephen Kunzler  
*SchoolAI*

Stephen Conrad  
Kunzler, M.B.A.  
Enterprise Account  
Executive Stephen  
Kunzler, is an  
Enterprise Account  
Executive passionate  
about transforming  
education through AI  
technology. With over  
25 years in EdTech  
and SaaS sales, he  
specializes in helping  
K12 districts implement  
innovative solutions  
that address their  
unique challenges. His  
approach combines  
deep education sector  
knowledge with a  
consultative  
partnership mindset. “I  
believe technology  
should enhance  
teaching and learning,  
not complicate it.  
That’s why I take the  
time to understand  
your district’s specific  
needs before

recommending solutions that deliver measurable outcomes.” -Stephen Throughout his career, he has guided numerous school districts through their digital transformation journeys, helping educators leverage AI to personalize learning, streamline administrative tasks, and create more engaging classroom experiences. Based in Salt Lake City, Utah, he serves districts in WA, OR, ID, CO, and NM, focusing on building lasting relationships based on trust, transparency, and shared educational goals. He is dedicated to ensuring every implementation not only meets but exceeds expectations, providing ongoing support at every stage. Connect to discuss how our AI solutions can help your district unlock the full potential of every educator and student. Reach Stephen at 801.450.9332 or [Stephen@schoolai.com](mailto:Stephen@schoolai.com).

Anna-Marie Robertson  
Anna-Marie Robertson is a dedicated online educator who designs engaging, student-centered courses for online asynchronous learning environments. She holds a Master's in Educational Technology from Boise State University and is proud to be among the first online teachers certified by the State of Idaho. With a passion for leveraging technology to support personalized instruction, she is especially focused on integrating AI tools in thoughtful, ethical, and creative ways. Anna-Marie enjoys helping other teachers reimagine their online classrooms through innovative design and interactive learning strategies.

Discover how Idaho educators are using SchoolAI to streamline lesson planning, personalize student support, and drive better outcomes. This session explores practical, secure, and standards-aligned AI tools that empower teachers and administrators—no technical expertise required. Real stories, ready-to-use tools, and a clear roadmap for implementation.

## Designing a Comprehensive MTSS System using MAP Growth Data

Location: 110C/D

David Harwell

## *HMH*

Dave Harwell is the Director of Data Analytics and Academic Planning for HMH. In Dave's previous leadership roles as a public education administrator, he successfully made positive changes in different school districts. First, he served as an elementary principal. Working collaboratively with his team, the school was turned around to make AYP – Annual Yearly Progress, received an 'A' on the State's Report Card, and was listed on the Beating the Odds List. This same accomplishment was achieved while serving as Assistant Superintendent. Lastly, he began working with a school district where the high school was the second lowest-achieving high school in the state and was under the PLA - Persistently Low Achieving List. In two years, the school was taken off of the PLA list and was recognized for Significant Student Growth and Achievement. Since becoming a member of the HMH team, Dave has had the opportunity to make a significant impact with school districts by providing academic

planning and analytics  
to improve, increase,  
and enhance student  
achievement.

Supporting the success of ALL students is a critical part of the mission of schools and districts. Designing a Comprehensive MTSS System with Data will help you examine achievement data centered on driving student outcomes. See how to collaboratively develop a thorough inventory with prioritized recommendations and possible next steps.

## Dispute Resolution as a Partner

Location: 440

Kimberli Shaner

*Idaho State*

*Department Of*

*Education*

Kimberli Shaner is the  
Dispute Resolution  
Coordinator at the  
Idaho Department of  
Education, where she's  
spent the past four  
years helping districts  
and families navigate  
special education  
challenges with clarity  
and care. A licensed  
and certified speech-  
language pathologist,  
she holds master's  
degrees in the field and  
previously served  
students of all ages  
and abilities in the  
Boise School District.  
Kimberli brings a  
student-centered  
approach to every  
conversation,  
grounded in both  
classroom experience  
and a passion for  
collaboration.

## Doing More with Less: How ClassLink Supports Idaho Leaders in Challenging Times

Location: 120 C

Anu Jokinen

*ClassLink*

As Senior Director of Instructional Technology, Anu supports school districts across the northwestern U.S. in implementing top technology solutions and practices. With over 15 years in education technology and being an ISTE Certified Educator, she has spent seven years at ClassLink, where her success stems from her keen ability to understand and address the unique needs of school districts. She has led and participated in technology forums and presented at numerous education technology conferences across the country.

As Idaho districts navigate tough financial decisions, staff reductions, and growing demands for student support, leaders are being asked to do more with less—without compromising on quality, equity, or security.

### Empowering Education Through Transparency

Location: 130

Chris Campbell  
*Office of the State  
Board of Education*

Debbie Critchfield  
*State Department of  
Education*

Brandon Woolf  
*State of Idaho,  
Controller's Office*

### Seize the Opportunity: The Idaho Youth Well-being Survey

Location: 420 A/B

Megan Smith

Jackie Yarbrough

Norm Stewart



This presentation will discuss the FREE opportunity to make the Idaho Student Well-being Survey work for you and your school community. Learn about real life ways to put this tool into practice and the associated behavioral health funding opportunities for districts that complete the survey.

Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:30am - 10:00am

**Wellness Break & Partner Time**

Thursday, August 7, 2025 10:00am - 11:15am

**MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS Round 2 (75 MINUTES)**

**Breaking Language Barriers while Enhancing Classroom Communication and Safety**

Location: 110 C/D

Devon Means  
*Audio Enhancement*

Classroom audio systems now provide real-time language translation for multilingual learners and support campus safety initiatives, including Alyssa's Law compliance with wearable panic buttons, addressing both instructional and security needs.

**Get to Know Us: Meet Your State Special Education Support Team**

Location: 440

Idaho State  
Department of  
Education  
*Idaho State  
Department Of  
Education*

Our teams work in partnership with you and your staff to support the delivery of high-quality special education services across the state.

**Supporting English Learners, Migrant Students, and Students Experiencing Homelessness:  
Understanding Legal Protections**

Location: 120A/B

Maria Puga	Emily Kesler	Roberto Trinidad
<i>Idaho State</i>	<i>Idaho State</i>	<i>Idaho State</i>
<i>Department of</i>	<i>Department of</i>	<i>Department of</i>
<i>Education</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Education</i>

This presentation provides a comprehensive overview of key federal and state laws designed to support educational outcomes for three vulnerable student populations: English Learners (ELs), migrant students, and students experiencing homelessness. Administrators will leave the session with practical strategies to implement at the school or district level.

# Trajectory-Changing Schools: What Sets Them Apart-and How to Replicate It

Location: 410 A/B

Carmen Orozco  
*TNTP, inc*

Lauren Beck

Most students who fall behind stay behind—but 5% of schools help them catch up. Learn what sets these trajectory-changing schools apart and explore practical, student-centered strategies to build belonging, consistency, and coherence. Walk away with resources designed to strengthen your school's instructional program and student outcomes.

## Understanding the Unseen: Supporting Students Affected by Domestic Violence and Family Instability

Location: 410 C

David Carson  
Gooding School  
District

Shelley Carson  
*Idaho Supreme Court*

Tyler Worthington  
*Minidoka County*

Honorable Stacey  
DePew  
*Jerome County*

Join the Fifth Judicial District Domestic Violence Court for an interactive session highlighting challenges accompanying domestic violence that students and families face—homelessness, financial insecurity, safety, and more. Gain empathy, understanding, and practical resources for all in education to better support those affected by these all-too-common challenges.

## Unleashing AI: Inside IDLA's Bold AI Moves & School AI Hacks You Can Start Tomorrow

Location: 420 A/B

Ryan Gravette  
*Idaho Digital Learning  
Alliance*

For more than two decades, Ryan Gravette has leveraged educational technology to remove barriers to high-quality teaching and learning. He is the Director of Information & Technology for Idaho Digital Learning and a recipient of the Idaho Education Technology Association's

President's Award and 1EdTech's Platinum Award. Ryan serves on advisory boards for the Idaho Department of Labor, PowerSchool, and 1EdTech. He holds an MBA from Boise State University, a BS in Psychology from Westmont College, and numerous technology certifications. Outside of work, he enjoys hiking, MLS Soccer watching, leading kids' church, and learning alongside his family.

Monte Woolstenhume  
*Idaho Digital Learning Alliance*

Discover how IDLA is turning AI hype into classroom reality while empowering schools with five quickstart tactics. This session spotlights live pilots, governance lessons, and actionable next steps to responsibly boost learning, efficiency, and engagement.

### Voices in the Capitol: Legislative Update & Live Panel with Idaho Education Leaders

Location: 130

Andy Grover <i>Idaho Association of School Administrators</i>	Debbie Critchfield <i>State Department of Education</i>	Heather Williams <i>IASA - Idaho Rural Schools Association</i>
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Get the latest legislative insights from Idaho's top education leaders in this dynamic panel featuring the State Superintendent, and government relations personnel for several educational stakeholder groups. Explore key policy changes, ask your questions, and leave with clear takeaways for informed advocacy.

### Compliance To Impact : Using The Golden Thread and Educational Benefit Reviews To Create High Quality, Defensible IEPs

Location: 110 A/B

Tiffiney Smith  
*MTS Consulting/  
Southeast MO  
Regional Professional  
Dev Ctr*  
With over 28 years of experience across PK-12, higher education, and state-level systems, Tiffiney Smith

is a highly sought-after presenter and expert in instructional leadership and special education. As CEO of MTS Consulting, she partners with schools and districts to implement research-driven professional development that improves student outcomes, particularly for students with disabilities. Tiffiney has influenced state education policy and provided critical guidance on special education compliance, instructional best practices, and system-wide improvement. A frequent speaker at national conferences, her highly rated sessions are often requested for repeat presentations due to their practical insights and engaging delivery. Her expertise in school leadership, instructional strategies, and inclusive practices makes her an ideal presenter for this leadership academy, equipping educators with actionable strategies to drive success for all students.

This session explores how the Educational Benefit Review (EBR) process ensures IEPs align with the Golden Thread framework. Participants will learn to create legally defensible, data-driven IEPs that enhance academic outcomes for students with disabilities by integrating compliance, best practices, and meaningful progress monitoring.

Thursday, August 7, 2025 11:30am - 1:15pm

## CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

Upstairs Ballroom 400A-D

Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:15pm - 1:45pm

## Wellness Break & Partner Time

Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:45pm - 3:30pm

## CLOSING KEYNOTE SESSION: SEAN COVEY

Grand Ballroom

Sponsored by FRANKLIN  
COVEY

Friday, August 8, 2025 7:30am - 1:30pm

## The Final Drive: Summer Con25 Championship (Quail Hollow)

Audio Enhancement & BYU Quail Hollow: 4720 N 36th St,  
Sponsored by Independent Study Boise, ID 83703

### FREE GOLF Event for IASA Members!

Cap off an incredible Summer Con25 with 18 holes of championship golf at the prestigious Quail Hollow Golf Club. This traditional golf tournament offers the perfect opportunity to reflect on conference learnings while enjoying Idaho's premier golf experience.

**What:** 18-hole golf scramble tournament with awards lunch **Where:** Quail Hollow Golf Club - Championship Course  
**Format:** 4-person mixed scramble (teams should include at least one man and one woman) **Skill Level:** Perfect for all levels - scramble format ensures everyone contributes!

#### Includes:

- 18 holes of championship golf
- Golf cart and range balls
- Awards luncheon with conference wrap-up
- Prizes for multiple flight winners
- Networking with education leaders in a relaxed setting

#### Simple Tournament Rules:

- Each player must contribute at least one shot per hole

**Cost:** FREE for IASA members! Simply register your 3-person team and we'll pair you with a sponsor to complete your foursome

Don't have a full team? No problem, we will help form teams! Just enter and have fun.

#### Special Features:

- Closest to pin and longest drive contests
- This is your chance to play championship golf at no cost while building valuable connections with education industry partners. The unique sponsor pairing creates natural networking opportunities and demonstrates the strong partnership between IASA and companies supporting Idaho education.

**Why This Matters:** Proceeds from this event will fund scholarships for student council members pursuing post secondary education/training and rural school teachers/leaders pursuing graduate education, plus fund mentorship programs developing future school leaders.

**Get registered- Limited spots available**

REGISTRATION LINK

BOISE CENTRE ON THE GROVE, BOISE, ID

**To register for credit through NNU visit this link [Northwest Nazarene University PD](#)**

**To register for credit through U of I visit this link [University of Idaho IASA Summer 2025 Leadership Conference](#)**

**[MAP of THE GROVE](#)**

Summer 2025