ADVOCACY SESSIONS AT THE NATIONAL PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE



Wednesday, July 11

8:00 A.M., MCCORMICK PLACE WEST 183B THE POWER OF STUDENT VOICE MATTERS—DO YOU LISTEN?

It's all about listening to what students have to say and empowering them to advocate for change in their schools, their local communities, and beyond. Expert school and student leaders will share their strategies for engaging students and ways to use NASSP's Building Ranks and Raising Student Voice & Participation (RSVP)—a program of National Student Council. As an attendee, you will have an opportunity to share how you are working with students to lead learning and build culture in your own school.

Speakers:

Hosted by

- Dwight Carter, Principal, New Albany (OH) High School
- Bill Ziegler, Principal, Pottsgrove (PA) High School
- Kevin Shelton, Principal, Johnsburg (IL) High School
- Jim Myers, 12th Grade Student, Johnsburg (IL) High School, former member of the NASSP Student Leadership Advisory Committee

12:30 P.M., MCCORMICK PLACE WEST 185A

EDUCATION AND THE PATH TO ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE

Fifty years ago, in response to civil unrest that raged across the county, the Kerner Commission that was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson issued a seminal report on racial division and disparities in the United States. In the report, the commission concluded that, "Our nation is moving toward two societies, one black, one white—separate and unequal." Today, many of the same issues plague the country, and concerns over civil rights, racial division, and racial disparities are more pressing than ever. This session, co-hosted by the NASSP Policy & Advocacy Center and the Learning Policy Institute, will bring together researchers, policymakers, and educators to discuss education as the foundation for change and what policy levers and practices are needed to eradicate racial inequities that have persisted in historically marginalized communities and that can improve educational opportunities for all students.

Speakers:

Hosted by



■ Kevin Grawer, Principal, Maplewood Richmond Heights High School, St. Louis, MO

- Dr. Ebony Green, Executive Director of Equity and Access, Newburgh (NY) Enlarged City School District
- Roberto Rodriguez, President and CEO, Teach Plus
- Alexandra Hernandez, Principal, Multicultural High School, Brooklyn, NY



1:45 P.M., MCCORMICK PLACE WEST 187ABC

SCHOOL SAFETY AND TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES: CONSIDERING THE PSYCHOLOGICAL NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

Due to an increase in physical safety measures, such as locked doors, video surveillance, and the presence of law enforcement, many students and staff report feeling less safe at school. Indeed, many recent school safety initiatives have heavily focused on these efforts, often at the expense of the psychological safety needs of students and staff. This session will describe how school leaders can address both the physical and psychological safety needs within schools. This includes strategies for addressing school climate and culture, trauma-informed practices, and the mental health needs of at-risk students. Participants will also learn how to advocate for and implement effective school safety policies and practices. This includes the use of trauma-informed schools; prevention and response strategies around school crisis events; creating effective school policies for addressing student behavior; and strategies for increasing access to school mental health services.

Speaker:

■ Katie Eklund, Assistant Professor, School Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

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1:45 P.M., MCCORMICK PLACE WEST 181ABC EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO BE ACTIVE CITIZENS

The students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School impressed the world with their eloquence and forceful advocacy in the wake of the tragic shooting on February 14, 2018. Yet, these students did not suddenly "hatch" as articulate advocates when the news cameras arrived on-site. High-quality learning experiences throughout their public school education prompted them to critically consider issues of concern and then amplify their voices in service of a greater good. Hear how the principal and teachers from Stoneman Douglas cultivate student voice and empower students to become active citizens.

Speaker:

■ Ty Thompson, Principal, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, FL

Thursday, July 12

1:45 P.M., MCCORMICK PLACE WEST 181ABC EDUCATIONAL ANOREXIA: ITS CAUSES AND CURES

Campbell's Law teaches us that, when too much pressure is placed on a single measurement, that measurement inevitably becomes corrupted to the point of uselessness. Schools develop "educational anorexia" when a system prioritizes one aspect of schooling, like test scores or graduation rates, above all else. Evidence on this phenomenon isn't hard to find: stripped-down curriculum, lots of testing and test prep, student anxiety, and diminished curiosity and desire to learn. However, when a system values (and measures) varying aspects of schooling, such as the amount of art and music, the time devoted to recess, student attendance, teacher turnover, and academic achievement, the school and its students, teachers, and staff are likely to be more balanced.

Speaker:

■ John Merrow, Former Correspondent for the PBS NewsHour

1:45 P.M., MCCORMICK PLACE WEST 185D

SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP: OPPORTUNITIES UNDER ESSA

As states implement ESSA and seek to close achievement gaps and improve low-performing schools, the role of principals is critical. This session engages participants in an exploration of research and practices to identify how some states are taking advantage of opportunities available within ESSA to support school leadership.

Speakers:

- Jessica Cardichon, Director of Federal Policy and Director, Washington D.C. Office, Learning Policy Institute
- Danny Espinoza, Research and Policy Assistant, Learning Policy Institute
- Stephen Kostyo, Policy Advisor, Learning Policy Institute

Friday, July 13

8:45 A.M., MCCORMICK PLACE WEST 179AB

THE STATE OF AMERICAN EDUCATION

The fourth annual State of American Education will consist of a crossfire-style debate between two thought leaders in education policy who will discuss emerging issues in education reform at the national level. John Merrow, a well-known former education correspondent for "PBS News Hour," will moderate the discussion and address hot topics such as changing student demographics, educational equity, teacher quality, private school vouchers, testing and accountability, and college and career readiness. This debate will expose attendees to an engaging and thought-provoking discussion while also providing them with an opportunity to ask difficult questions on these controversial issues.

Speakers:

- **John Merrow**, Former Education Correspondent, "PBS News Hour" [moderator]
- Lillian Lowery, Vice President for preK-12 Policy and Practice, The Education Trust
- Michael Petrilli, President, The Thomas B. Fordham Institute

Hosted by