



Pre-Conference Professional Learning Offerings November 7, 2023

FULL-DAY SESSIONS (9am - 4pm)

These in-depth professional learning options are designed for a full six-hour experience with a one-hour break for lunch (provided). If you register for one of the sessions below, this will be your full pre-conference experience.

Flourish: The K-5 Curriculum of the Compassionate Schools Project (Sponsored by Pure Edge, Inc.)

Pure Edge, Inc., and the University of Virginia are excited to share Flourish, a curriculum of the Compassionate Schools Project. Flourish activates learners' visions of growing into their best selves while practicing care, curiosity, and compassion for themselves and their communities. Its innovative structure integrates active learning, mindful moments, movement, and health and wellness skills.

SEL in Project-Based Learning

This six-hour workshop explores Project-Based Learning as a transformative approach that incorporates social and emotional learning (SEL). Throughout the workshop, participants will reflect on how transformative SEL serves as a lever for equity by lifting identity, agency, belonging, curiosity, and collaborative decision-making for students within a project.

HALF-DAY SESSIONS

These three-hour professional learning sessions will be offered from 9am – 12pm or 1pm – 4pm, with a break in between for lunch (provided).

Morning Sessions (9am – 12pm)

Building a Bridge Forward: Teaching the Skills Needed to Transition From Elementary to Middle School (Sponsored by Center for Responsive Schools)

Academic behaviors, mindsets, and building learning strategies are competencies schools strive to instill in students to meet academic goals. This session will focus on a practical and effective transition plan that gives middle schools opportunities to create safe conditions, focus on high-quality instruction, and maximize time for learning.

Building Trauma-Sensitive Classrooms and Schools: Seven Strategies for Teachers and Administrators

Seventy percent of Americans, including 50% of children, experience trauma. Understand how trauma impacts brain development and behavior, discover evidence-based practices for reaching children with trauma, and learn how to build an inclusive, compassionate learning environment to help heal the suffering and ostracism that perpetuates the trauma cycle through violence against the self and others.

Making it Yours: Building Capacity to Sow and Grow the Foundations of SEL

Deepen your understanding of the basics of what SEL is (and isn't) and the central role it plays in everyday interactions. CASEL facilitators will guide you through interactive and reflective experiences, offering

opportunities to apply learning in real time to enhance skillfulness in leading similar sessions in your community. This workshop pairs well with p.m. session Prepare for Launch.

Equitable Decision-Making to Support Well-Being of Diverse Educators

Students, school systems, and teachers thrive when the well-being of educators, particularly BIPOC teachers, is prioritized. Learn what it means to engage people most directly impacted by decisions through equitable decision-making. Participants will apply skills learned through activities like meta-empathy and problem definition, walking away with key tools to tackle educator well-being challenges.

Identity and Equity in the Classroom

This workshop engages participants in understanding their identity—how this is expressed or not expressed in the classroom. We will explore who we are, the experiences that have shaped us, and what this means in the classroom. The session will examine the role of adults in establishing school culture and provide tools to move beyond representation to meaningful expressions of self in the classroom.

Learning From Youth Voice: Continuous Improvement and the Student Experience

In this experiential workshop we will learn how schools across the country use quantitative and qualitative student feedback data to drive improvement. We will explore the data from YouthTruth's 22-23 student survey, and utilize tested tools and protocols, including student involvement frameworks, for using this kind of data to make positive change within schools and across districts.

Liberatory Design for Equity and Belonging

How can we start co-designing the equitable future we want to live in now? This session will introduce you to liberatory design as a way to co-create—in partnership with students, staff, community members, or any other diverse stakeholders—dynamic solutions to the equity challenges you face.

Perseverance: Social and Emotional Intelligence in Education Leaders

At the National Education Association (NEA), we believe educators are leaders and benefit from a unique set of competencies to take influential positions in their professional lives. NEA's Leadership Competency Framework offers a definition of leadership rooted in social and emotional intelligence. In this session, learn about SEI and see how this framework can energize a new vision of leadership.

Transformation Happens Through Creating Beloved Community

This session will explore the conditions needed to create a Beloved Community that can be a catalyst for *scenius* (intelligence of a group of people). We will explore the conditions needed to be in place for a *Beloved Community* to manifest. This session will also explore how to cultivate shared resonance, radical love, and a commitment to co-liberation in a variety of educational settings.

Transformative SEL Adult Learning Series: Centering Adults to Transform Student Experience

Join us as we unpack the Transformative SEL (tSEL) Adult Learning Series and a recent pilot conducted in Sacramento County, which was developed to deepen educators' personal and professional practice through increased awareness and real-time implementation practices. The series is grounded in the theoretical underpinnings of adult learning and educator well-being and social and emotional competence.

Triple Threat: Authentic Leadership | Family & Community Engagement | Amplifying Student Voice

Participants will learn steps to further their SEL journey by modeling social emotional health and wellness as a school or district leader. Topics include how to set yourself apart and lead as your authentic self and how to model authentic and connected leadership by amplifying student voice and meeting families and communities where they are. There will be key practical takeaways for everyone!

Afternoon Sessions (1pm – 4pm)
<p>Better Humaning Together: Building School Community Wellness with Everyone</p> <p>This session will present a unique model for fostering schoolwide wellness. In the winter of 2023, students and staff at Mapleton Middle/High School joined together as participant-learners to explore how to co-create a community with a common language and conceptual understanding of the physiology of emotions, healthy ways to process emotions, and the creation of safe and well spaces.</p>
<p>Bolstering School Connectedness With a Trusted Adult Blueprint</p> <p>Trusted adults are integral to Sandy Hook Promise’s programs. They empower youth to be upstanders, evoke and model empathic behaviors, and cultivate cultures of belonging. In this workshop, participants will learn strategies to build safe and healing communities of care and produce a blueprint for bolstering Trusted Adult messaging and support in their schools.</p>
<p>Cultivating SEL in Teachers: Harnessing the Power of Morning Meeting</p> <p>How can we increase SEL in adults with limited time and resources? Experience a brief Morning Meeting designed for adult learners and engage in discussion/reflection while learning how to embed this framework into every staff meeting. Participants will leave equipped with new ideas and digital tools for embedding professional learning opportunities that build community and SEL among staff.</p>
<p>Culturally Affirming SEL, a Racially Conscious Lens</p> <p>Participants will learn about a new and evolving vision of SEL that centers mindsets and practices that promote equity, justice, and the well-being of all our students—and ourselves! They will reflect on their own SEL approaches and consider how practicing SEL through a culturally sustaining lens builds relationships and a sense of community and improves teaching and learning.</p>
<p>Embedding Social, Emotional, and Cultural Competencies Into a District Preservice Licensure Program</p> <p>Learn about a district’s design, implementation, and evaluation plan for its licensure pathway. Curriculum development embedded SEL and equity as a throughline guided by the CASEL transformative SEL model and the Center for Reaching & Teaching the Whole Child (CRTWC) Social, Emotional, and Cultural Framework. The program addresses challenges in both teacher preparation and system readiness.</p>
<p>Fasten Your Seatbelt for the Exhilarating Roller Coaster Ride of Adult SEL</p> <p>Buckle up for the ride toward increasing adult SEL. From identifying emotions to exploring practical applications, we will coach you through the twists and turns with various adult and student engagement strategies that are grounded in science and research, fostering resilience in practice. Opportunities for independent reflection, interaction with others, and action planning await you.</p>
<p>Let’s Dirty our Hands: Contextualizing the Assessment of Life Skills and Values in East Africa (ALiVe)</p> <p>This section introduces the process of developing contextualized measurement of four competences across the three countries (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania): Self-awareness, Problem solving, Collaboration, and Respect using scenario and performance-based tasks and using the metrics to assess 45,430 adolescents (13-17 years).</p>
<p>Prepare for Launch: Systemic Schoolwide SEL</p> <p>For those who are ready to lead the SEL charge in their schools, this session paints the big picture of what SEL looks like when it is woven into all aspects of the school day for students and adults. Participants will come away</p>

with a toolbox to guide foundational learning and a thoughtful, inclusive strategic planning process. This session pairs well with CASEL's Introduction to SEL.

Radical L.O.V.E. Institute: Hip-Hop Inspired, Healing-Centered SEL With Youth and Adults

We use the knowledge of hip-hop to empower education professionals to engage in healing-centered social and emotional practice with Black and other minoritized youth. Participants will examine the dynamics between oppression and liberation, explore the five tenets of hip-hop as an opportunity for connection, and critically examine policies that create barriers to Black and minoritized youth success.

The Path to Progress and the Lessons Learned: An Approach to Systemic SEL in Atlanta Public Schools

The formula for successful SEL implementation is greater than a morning meeting. In Atlanta Public Schools (APS), systemic SEL is the path towards equitable, safe, and supportive learning communities. Participants will hear the voices of change agents, explore the thoughts of advocates, and experience the value of affirming the student and adults of the APS community.

The Work Behind the Work: Examining and Addressing our Bias-Based Beliefs

Over the past 25 years, we have learned about the concept of implicit bias, which refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner. While we cannot eliminate our implicit biases, we can learn how to mitigate the effects they have on our practices, policies, procedures, and behaviors. This is "the work behind the work"!

Transformative SEL Adult Learning Series: Leveraging Curiosity to Support Educator Growth

One of the ways to ensure we are positioned to create equitable learning spaces is to develop a sense of curiosity about self, others, and the outside world. In this session, compassionate curiosity with reflection will supplant judgmental questioning and enhance self-development and social analysis that supports authentic partnerships with students, caregivers, and colleagues.

Using Fly Five to Facilitate SEL and Literacy (Sponsored by Center for Responsive Schools)

Educators know firsthand the magnified teaching and learning challenges that emerged with the pandemic and the setbacks for students—particularly in literacy. However, research shows that such challenges can also create opportunities for students to meet high expectations, increase intrinsic motivation, and envision themselves as curious, joyful learners. In this session, educators will learn about Fly Five's literacy integration and how it was specifically designed to foster positive communities while engaging and exciting students about reading, writing, speaking, listening, and vocabulary.