



Blueprints for Tomorrow: Designing the Next Era of Learning

February 18–19, 2026 | Central Time

Virtual Agenda

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026		
TIME	SESSION	
8:30–9am	Welcome to the CASEL Virtual Conference: Technical Overview	
9-10:15am	Opening Plenary: CTRL+ALT+SEL: Programming for Resilience in the Digital Age As we equip students with the tools of tomorrow, can resilience and technology advance together? This dynamic panel discussion explores the complex relationship between digital tools and the social and emotional skills that students need to thrive. Together, we'll examine how we can integrate SEL with innovative technologies to create learning pathways that prepare young people for their futures. From SEL apps to virtual peer support networks, we'll dig into real-world tools and practices and their impact on students' ability to cope with stress, stay connected, and grow stronger in the face of adversity.	Moderator
		Dr. Kimberly A. Schonert-Reichl
		Speakers Dr. Ann Masten Dr. Barbara Mullen
10:15–11am	Exhibit Hall Visit	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #1:	Speakers
	Inspiring Emotionally Healthy Boys: From Stereotypes to SEL Success: Stereotypes, biases, and misconceptions about boys' emotional health and well-being remain pervasive in our school and wider cultures. From shifting societal pressures to harmful narratives of masculinity, it is imperative that all schools work to advance transformative SEL that adapts to the shifting needs of boys. In this session, you'll explore three practical, evidence-led SEL strategies that you can take away to improve boys' engagement and well-being, alongside case studies from schools.	Elizabeth McLeod Nick Haisman-Smith

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #1 (continued)	Speakers
	Club Kinship: Strengthening SEL in OST Settings <p>How can out-of-school time (OST) settings strengthen emotional development and a sense of belonging? Explore findings from a study of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Washington’s Mental Health Promotion Pilot program (MHPP), which used program observations, staff interviews, and youth listening sessions to identify effective strategies, challenges, and opportunities. The study highlights how OST organizations can better support staff to meet the social-emotional needs of youth through the MHPP model.</p>	Helen Lee Janelle Salcedo Jenny Vollmer Jovani Azpeitia Lauren Day
	Elevating Student Voice: The Powerful Impact of Youth Participatory Evaluation <p>Listen in as middle and high school students share their experiences with youth participatory evaluation (YPE), a practice in which young people participate in evaluating the programs, organizations, and systems designed to serve them. You’ll also hear from their superintendent, the research and evaluation department, and a YPE consultant as they explore YPE’s role in district decision-making and developing district culture, effective practices, and common challenges.</p>	Eric Moore Erin Rathke Jason Pelowski Khrisslyn Goodman
	Findings From Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) of the “Flourish Curriculum” and “Coping Power” <p>Explore the findings on two evidence-based programs and recommendations for high-fidelity implementation of these and other school-based programs. The first presentation focuses on a randomized controlled trial of the Flourish Curriculum in the context of the Compassionate Schools Project in elementary schools, while the second focuses on the Coping Power Program, which aims to prevent behavioral and mental health problems in youth, grades 4-10.</p>	Catherine Bradshaw Clark McKown Scott Gest

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

11am–12pm

60-Minute Breakout Session #1 (continued)

Speakers

**The Power of Upstream Prevention:
Reducing Suicide Through SEL**

Learn about key findings from several studies on Sources of Strength, a strengths-based, peer-led SEL program that significantly reduced suicide attempts and deaths in secondary schools. Through interactive discussions and examination of emerging research, you'll explore how SEL can be a key element in preventing suicide and creating environments of well-being. You'll leave with research-backed insights and practical tools to strengthen SEL initiatives at home.

Scott LoMurray

**SEL Sustainability: Anchoring Practices
in a District's Systems**

In today's ever-changing landscape, understand how to build upon current frameworks and practices with minimal resources to embed SEL across your organization for future sustainability. You'll learn about how a mid-sized urban district anchored foundational practices within current systems in a time of organizational change at the individual, school, and district levels. You'll identify key stakeholders and practical next steps within your organization to advance SEL implementation.

**Christina
Perault-Boughton
Dawn White**

**PechaKucha Presentations: Fresh Ideas
in SEL**

In this fast-paced format, each presenter shares 20 slides in 7 minutes. You'll get a quick, inspiring glimpse into innovative SEL practices, tools, and insights.

Presentations:

**Turning Pages, Building Futures: The Power of SEL
Through Literacy**

**Micaela Gerardin-Frey
Trish Shaffer**

**Strengthening School Belonging: SEL Strategies for Adopted,
Fostered, and Looked-After Children**

Max Weinberg

Students as Course Designers: The Next Era of Learning

Kimberly Hellerich

**Empowering the Digital Generation: SEL Skills for
Digital Well-Being**

Emily Walz

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #1 (continued)	Speakers
	Research Papers: Emerging Findings in SEL Hear from leading scholars as they share new research on SEL's impact across diverse contexts. Each paper presentation will be followed by brief discussion. Papers:	
	Advancing Economic Mobility Through Entrepreneurship-Based SEL in Out-of-School Time	Jeremy Taylor
	Advancing Children's Social and Emotional Competences Through a Compassion-Based SEL Program	Kimberly A. Schonert-Reichl Robert Roeser Tyrallynn Frazier
	Neurodiverse Learning Attributes Supported by Academic and SEL Implementation	Drew Bowman Gina Cherkowski
	Defining Success: Integrating Portraits of a Graduate into College and Career Pathways SEL, academics, and career-connected learning are often siloed, leading to fragmented student experiences. Join Jing Cox-Orrell of American Student Assistance and CASEL's Dr. Rista Plate to explore how Portraits of a Graduate can offer a powerful framework to unify these efforts by defining the skills students need for success beyond high school. You'll gain strategies to turn these visions into meaningful systems change that supports all students.	Jing Cox-Orrell Rista Plate

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #1 (continued)	Speakers
	Revibe: An AI-driven Wearable That Personalizes Prompts and Captures Engagement Data This session illustrates how technology can serve as a bridge, not a barrier, to human connection and learning. You will explore how micro-feedback loops and adaptive data can nurture executive function, self-control, and persistence core competencies of SEL. We invite you to imagine how next-generation tools can empower students to take ownership of their learning in real time, while maintaining empathy, privacy, and purpose at the heart of innovation.	Rich Brancaccio
	Social Media and Mental Health: Using SEL to Shift the Narrative How would you like to shift the conversation around social media and youth mental health from fear-based to strengths-based? In this session, you'll engage in discussion and activities exploring both positive and negative effects of social media on youth. You'll leave with an understanding of how SEL-aligned strategies can help mitigate social media's negative effects, foster healthy social media use among students, and leverage youth voice to create safer digital communities.	Laura Hurwitz Marija Hegel Gitanjali Nair
12–1:15pm	Lunch Break	
1:15–2:15pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #2	Speakers
	From Evidence to Action: Taiwan's Systematic Journey to National Implementation In just five years, Taiwan turned SEL from an unfamiliar idea into a cornerstone of national education policy. This session takes you on that journey—exploring the research, challenges, and breakthroughs that made it possible. Through an engaging, evidence-backed narrative, you'll discuss key strategies, reflect on your own context, and take away actionable lessons to inform policy, practice, and research.	Hsueh-Chih Chen Marissa Yi-Hsuan Wu Wen-Chi Huang

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
1:15–2:15pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #2 (continued)	Speakers
	What's the Story With Curriculum Storyboards? <p>Curriculum storyboards are a blueprint that dynamically depicts curricular units in a way that's student- and parent-friendly. In this session, you'll learn about the use of curriculum storyboards within an educational leadership preparation program, as well as within a doctoral program for social, emotional, and academic leadership. You'll gain insights into graduate students' perceptions of the creation and use of curriculum storyboards.</p>	Kimberly Hellerich Maureen Ruby
	Transformative SEL in Action: Cultivating Changemakers Through Global Competence <p>Join us to champion global competence, the heart of transformative SEL. In this session, you'll engage with the Global Competence Matrix and its Knowledge to Action Framework through activities facilitated by adults and young people. Learn how over 95 percent of students cultivated their proficiency in global competence skills, 88 percent now feel more confident and comfortable speaking with others, and 94 percent felt challenged by the Knowledge to Action Framework.</p>	Aubrey Icart Bashayir Mohamed Ethan Abrahamson Logan Barcus Maya Kruger
	Beyond Self-Reporting: Machine Learning and Natural Language for SEL Measurement <p>Traditional SEL assessments depend on Likert-scale surveys and self-reports, but emerging technologies now allow us to measure SEL through natural language processing data. Explore how machine learning, speech and text analytics, and AI-driven assessment models are transforming SEL measurement into more objective, scalable, and research-backed insights. Engage with real-world SEL data and discuss strategies for districtwide implementation and policy integration.</p>	Danny Byun Francisco Escobedo Jessica Mathy Joshua Arnold Roman Del Rosario

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
1:15–2:15pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #2 (continued)	Speakers
	An SEL Blueprint for the Future of Learning <p>Create a future-ready SEL blueprint considering the broad trends impacting the next 10 years of K-12 education, from artificial intelligence ecologies to adaptive responses to the climate crisis to the implications of social fragmentation to more specific drivers of change. Take a peek into expansive future possibilities to help yourself make better and more intentional decisions today about the vision for SEL that you want to shape.</p>	Jason Swanson Maria Crabtree
	The SEL-dom Seen: Measuring SEL Implementation Across System Levels <p>Learn about strategies to measure SEL implementation drawn from a federally funded research study. You'll examine examples from several districts that showcase classroom, school, and district measures of SEL implementation (e.g., strategies, completeness, duration), and participate in a discussion with an SEL program purveyor on the use of SEL implementation measures to promote systemic SEL in real-world schools and districts.</p>	Catherine Corbin Taylor Ullrich
	Advancing Student Engagement: Theater, SEL, and Trauma-Informed Practices in Education <p>Explore how theater-based, trauma-informed, and SEL-aligned strategies enhance student engagement and learning in this interactive session. Engage in hands-on activities, analyze case studies from the Student Voice and Engagement project, and discuss practical applications for their own contexts. You'll leave with evidence-based tools to integrate SEL and trauma-informed practices into arts education, fostering student resilience, collaboration, and creativity.</p>	Camille Thomas Samuel Leopold

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
1:15–2:15pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #2 (continued)	Speakers
	Equation for Inclusion: Structuring Math Lessons With SEL in Mind <p>Explore how integrating SEL into math instruction through structured lesson openings and closings can enhance student engagement, build a strong classroom community, and improve academic outcomes. Drawing from the Integrated Math 1 curriculum co-developed for Denver Public Schools and Coherent Math, this presentation will showcase strategies for embedding SEL competencies into daily instruction.</p>	Ashley Burch Saira Galindo Vazquez
	PechaKucha Presentations: Fresh Ideas in SEL <p>In this fast-paced format, each presenter shares 20 slides in 7 minutes. You'll get a quick, inspiring glimpse into innovative SEL practices, tools, and insights.</p> <p>Presentations:</p>	
	The Superhero Within: Protecting and Empowering LGBTQ+ Students in High-Risk Contexts	Elmekah Henderson
	Empowering Students: How Autonomy Develops Essential Skills	Devi Sahny
	From Therapy to Television: Scaling SEL for the Next Generation	Callie Christensen Kelly Oriard

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

1:15–2:15pm

60-Minute Breakout Session #2 (continued)

Speakers

Research Papers: Emerging Findings in SEL

Hear from leading scholars as they share new research on SEL's impact across diverse contexts. Each paper presentation will be followed by brief discussion.

Papers:

Impacts of Year-Long Professional Learning Experience on Education Faculty

**Deirdre Hon
Josh Lovett
Rebecca Baelen**

It's Getting Physical! Emotional Competencies and Teachers' Physiological Well-Being

**Alison Hooper
Hayley MacDonald
Summer Braun**

Coding With Care: Integrating SEL Into Computer Science in Secondary School

**Helen Lee
Janelle Salcedo
Jovani Azpeitia**

SEL Unplugged: Colombian Deans on Gaps, Barriers and Breakthroughs

**Ana María Velásquez
Angela María Jaramillo
Maria Natalia Marin Suarez**

Getting SEL Implementation Right

SEL's impact on student outcomes is only as effective as its implementation. Yet there has been little research on effective SEL implementation. Based on in-depth studies of systemic implementation of SEL in rural, suburban, and urban districts, this session offers insights into the strategies, programs, and infrastructure supports that lead to greater depth in systemic SEL implementation, better academic integration, more significant faculty investment, and more successful student outcomes.

Sheldon Berman

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

2:15–3pm	Exhibit Hall Visit	
3–4pm	Fireside Chat	Speakers
	Common Ground and Constructive Tension: A Candid Conversation on SEL’s Role in Education <p>This fireside chat brings together diverse viewpoints to explore the opportunities and challenges of SEL in today’s schools. Through candid, constructive dialogue, panelists will unpack key tensions, question assumptions, and seek areas of common ground to support students’ success.</p>	Dr. Michael Strambler Mike Petrilli Dr. Sara Rimm-Kaufman
	Reimagining Belonging and Engagement: From Educators to Every Student <p>Explore how school systems can foster authentic engagement by centering belonging—for both students and educators. This fireside chat highlights strategies to move beyond compliance, build human-centered environments, and create the conditions where people want to show up and thrive.</p>	Dr. Hedy Chang Kevin Armstrong Dr. Rose Prejean-Harris
	Powering SEL From the Ground Up: Lessons in Implementation and Impact <p>Explore how school systems build, scale, and sustain systemic SEL from the inside out. This conversation brings together leaders from schools, districts, and the national field to share how they’ve turned strategy into daily practice—navigating policy shifts, centering student voice, building support across communities, and working together to make SEL stick.</p>	Heather Schwartz Jim Vetter Dr. Beth Rice Kamilah Drummond-Forrester
	Protecting What Matters: Staying the Course for Students’ Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning <p>Contrary to decades of research, longstanding bipartisan support, and consistent approval from parents in national polling, SEL has been increasingly targeted in divisive political debates. Despite the challenges, leaders at the federal, state and local levels are standing firm in their commitment to meeting students’ academic, social and emotional needs. Join us for a timely conversation with leaders who are navigating the current climate in different contexts, and come away with strategies and insights you can use to protect and advance SEL.</p>	Dr. Aaliyah Samuel Kaya Henderson

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
8:30–9am	Welcome to the CASEL Virtual Conference: Technical Overview	
9–10:15am	Featured Session: Reimagining Learning: Designing Student-Centered Pathways to Lifelong Success <p>Explore how schools and systems can design personalized, relevant learning experiences that prepare students for lifelong success—academically, socially, and emotionally. You'll have a chance to reimagine what education can look like—particularly in advancing SEL, career readiness, and student-centered approaches—and how to engage diverse voices and translate big ideas into practical strategies for their districts, schools, and classrooms.</p>	Presenters Eric Gordon
	Featured Session: Human Connection in the Age of AI <p>This interactive session will review the latest research on social emotional learning and invite participants to consider how the emerging capabilities of artificial intelligence may both strengthen and challenge the social emotional competencies of our youth and our nation. Together, we will examine the ways that new technologies shape the skills, habits, and relationships that form the foundation of social and emotional development, with particular attention to how AI may transform the ways young people communicate, collaborate, and build empathy in a rapidly changing world.</p>	David Adams
	Featured Session: Dealing With Feeling: The Master Skill for Thriving in a Complex World <p>In this featured session, Marc Brackett, Ph.D., founding director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, CASEL Board Member, and author of <i>Dealing with Feeling</i>, makes the case that emotion regulation is the master skill for thriving in today's world. He'll unpack what emotion regulation really is—and what it isn't—while debunking myths that hold us back. Drawing on decades of research and practice, Marc will show how building these skills is essential not only for personal well-being but also for stronger relationships, healthier schools, more effective workplaces, and a more compassionate society.</p>	Dr. Marc Brackett

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
9–10:15am	Featured Session: Harnessing The Power of Belonging in Schools A sense of belonging within a school community is perhaps our most powerful tool to promote student mental health, intensify academic engagement, and improve attendance while reducing behavior problems and substance use. Unfortunately, our schools are experiencing a belonging crisis. Drawing upon research from brain science, social sciences, education and 30 years of practice within schools, this workshop will help participants uncover the positive impact of a belonging community on students and staff, discuss factors that threaten a student's sense of belonging and provide strategies that can be implemented immediately to create belonging communities for children and staff in our classrooms and in our schools.	Presenters
		Dr. Doug Bolton
10:15–11am	Poster Board Presentations	
	Independent Elementary School Parent and Teacher Perceptions of SEL	Marie Ortolani
	Training ParaEducators With SEL Competencies: An Innovative Approach to Workforce Development	Kristin Asadourian
	Facilitating Belonging: Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood on a Global Scale	Amber Larson
	Reclaiming Recess: Boost Academic Achievement and Student Well-Being Through Structured Recess	Cynthia Robinson-Rivers
	Optimizing SEL Opportunities Through the Exploration of Community and Business Partnerships	Lindsay Orme Meredith Soroush Jennifer Brener
	Teacher-Student Relationships to Integrate tSEL: Supporting Identity and Belonging for Marginalized Youth in Alternative Education	Victoria Amaral
	Beyond the What: Implementing the How of SEL for Lasting Impact	Sara Bates Julie Stubblefield

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
10:15–11am	Poster Board Presentations (continued)	Presenters
	Improving PLCs by Using Transformative SEL Practices: One District's Journey	Lisa Becker Sara Bates
	Strengthening SEL and Belonging Through Hip-Hop Culture and Storytelling	Jamila Sams Kareem McQuilkin
	A Musical Field Journal: Integrating SEL, Eco-Literacy, and the Arts	Lindsay McIntosh Owen McIntosh
	Building Tomorrow's Leaders: A District's Tier 1 SEL Initiative	Anne Kraus Inta Sanford
	An Analysis of High School Students' Experiences of Virtual Internships	Emma Korolik
	Silent Struggle: Empowering Preschool Voices, Nurturing Social Skills	Maureen Ruby Meghan Greeley
	How Can Neuroscience-Informed SEL Address Teacher and Student Well-Being?	Kara Sievel
	Using Real-Time Youth Feedback to Strengthen SEL Programs	Nicki Thomson Brianna Anderson
	ConstructED: A Brain-Based Blueprint for SEL-Infused Math Learning	Courtney Mallett
	SEL and Leadership Education at a Women's University in Japan	Megumi Okugiri
	Designing Tomorrow's Learning: Science-Driven, Innovative, Future-Ready	Amy Miner Ken Marlowe
	Exploring SEL's Role in Reducing Racial Disparities in School Discipline	Kelly Allen Amber Gentile
	Play, Connect, Learn	Soledad Montes

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
10:15–11am	Poster Board Presentations (continued)	Presenters
	Community Forward: Scalable Systems for Whole-Child, Whole-Community Thriving	Cait Steward
	Seven Impactful Facilitator Tips to Classroom Management	Julia Gabor
	Ellis: Support That Shows Up for You and Your Students	Natalie Tamburello
	Sustaining Practice, Shifting Narratives: Youth Resiliency Amid Political Changes	Knellee Bisram Lela Bell Wesley
	Empowering Youth to Lead Restorative Justice in Chicago Public Schools	Benjamin McKay T McDaniel
	Movement Matters: Enhancing Preschool SEL Through Kinesthetic Learning	Xiuye Xie
	Clever Ways to use AI to support SEL	Kim Normand Dobrin
	Bridging the SEL Gap: Data-Driven Tier II Interventions for Student Success	Sabrina Stavonor, Veronica Cruz
	More Than Academics, Making SEL the Heart of our School Culture	Chloe Parcella Tracey Mara
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #3	Speakers
	Writing for Well-Being: SEL Strategies for Student Growth Writing is a powerful tool for SEL, fostering self-awareness, resilience, and mental well-being. In this interactive session, you'll explore evidence-based strategies for integrating reflective writing into SEL instruction, engage in hands-on activities, and gain actionable tools to support students' mental health and emotional growth. You'll leave with resources to create writing spaces that empower students to process emotions and share their voices.	Gabriela Oliveira Kait Steele

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #3 (continued)	Speakers
	Empowering Educators: Leveraging AI and Tech for SEL <p>Explore how AI and mobile technology can transform educator SEL and well-being in underserved, low-connectivity regions like Mexico’s Yucatán Peninsula. This session features hands-on demonstrations of an SEL mobile application and an AI tool offering real-time, personalized strategies for teacher support. You’ll engage in collaborative reflection and learn human-centered design practices for scaling equitable, sustainable SEL implementation.</p>	Daniela Labra Cardero Lina Lopez Leandro Chernicoff
	Bridging Research and Community: Co-Interpreting Data for Student Well-Being <p>Explore how community collaboration transforms student well-being data into action. In 2024, Colombian students (4th–11th grade) completed the Youth Well-Being Survey (YBS) to assess well-being and SEL. In 2025, researchers and community members co-interpreted the data, combining research and local insights to set priorities and develop action plans. You’ll engage in this process and reflect on applying these strategies in your own contexts.</p>	Angela María Jaramillo Denise Buote Kimberly A. Schonert-Reichl Nanook Smildiger
	AI in Action: Explore Personalized SEL Through Research and Practice <p>Hear from researchers and education leaders with firsthand experience testing new models of AI-assisted tools that guide students through personalized SEL activities. Test drive a sample activity and hear from an administrator about how AI is having an impact on student outcomes in their district. Learn about new research on SEL-focused tech and best practices on how to build, vet, and implement SEL-tech tools including those with AI.</p>	Brenda Pena Elsa Friis Justin Long

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #3 (continued)	Speakers
	Evidence and Implementation for Whole-School Approaches to SEL in Secondary Schools In this session, you'll examine the implementation of SEL programs and the important elements needed to facilitate positive student outcomes in secondary schools and explore two whole-school approaches to fostering SEL and positive school climate in middle and high schools. This is your chance to learn about early findings on the implementation and impact of these two approaches and engage in discussion around challenges and opportunities for SEL in your local context.	Celene Domitrovich Jessica Hoffmann Lucy Nonas-Barnes Yibing Li Yinmei Wan
	Transformative SEL: Centering Equity and Justice in PreK-6 Classrooms In this interactive session, you'll gain guidance and strategies for infusing transformative social and emotional (tSEL) in your instruction and across other content areas. You'll explore ways to foster professional learning communities and identify practical approaches to overcome these challenges in applying tSEL work in your educational settings and leave with actionable strategies to effectively reflect and implement tSEL in school contexts.	Alessandra Ward Chu Ly
	Leading the Next Era in Higher Education: Embedding SEL Into Educator Preparation How can we prepare future educators to teach and embody SEL? In this session, faculty from multiple Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) share how they integrate SEL into coursework, clinical practice, assessment, and programmatic elements based on new higher education SEL standards in Oregon. You'll reflect on best practices and challenges in integrating SEL throughout teacher preparation and leave with actionable strategies to elevate SEL in your own institution.	Deirdre Hon

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #3 (continued)	Speakers
	Scaling SEL: A Districtwide Approach to Student Growth and Success <p>Discover how Los Angeles Unified School District's SEL Portfolios support student growth in self-awareness, self-management, decision-making, and more. This session showcases district strategies for getting schools to integrate SEL into instruction and schoolwide practices, tools for assessing student reflections, and the impact of SEL on academic thriving and lifelong learning. You'll engage in interactive discussions and hands-on rubric calibration to strengthen SEL implementation.</p>	Karla Lopez
	Research Papers: Emerging Findings in SEL <p>Hear from leading scholars as they share new research on SEL's impact across diverse contexts. Each paper presentation will be followed by brief discussion.</p> <p>Papers:</p>	
	Social and Emotional Competencies From 4th to 12th Grade	Sara Rimm-Kaufman
	Streamlining SEL Competencies: Research-Based Insights for Improving Assessments	Essie Sutton
	Transforming Questionnaire Administration into an SEL-Driven Dialogic Learning Opportunity	David Ratner
	Future Leaders: Amplifying Student Voices for Tomorrow's Challenges <p>In this dynamic student-led workshop, you'll explore the power of student voice, advocacy, and SEL. Through interactive activities and collaborative discussions, you'll learn how the development of a division wide student voice network empowers students and fosters essential future-ready skills. By the end of the session, you'll gain actionable insights and tools to enhance student engagement and advocacy in their educational environments.</p>	Beulah Sarsah Heather Wines Kareena Grover Melissa Viola-Askey Shavonne Davis

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME	SESSION	
11am–12pm	60-Minute Breakout Session #3 (continued)	Speakers
	Equations and Empathy: SEL Meets Math <p>How can we transform math classrooms into dynamic spaces where students not only think deeply but grow as humans? In this session, explore how intentional instructional moves—based on research-informed classroom practices—paired with AI-powered task creation create a learning environment that develops both mathematical thinking and essential social-emotional skills.</p>	Christy Tainter Jennifer Riggle
12–1:15pm	Lunch	
1:15–2:30pm	Closing Plenary: Heartwired: Leading With Purpose and Emotional Intelligence in a Tech-Driven World <p>In an age defined by rapid innovation, the greatest disruption in education may not be technology—but how we lead through it. Leaders from the classroom to the boardroom face a profound challenge: how to empower students in the digital age while embracing the human skills that matter most. In our closing plenary, Mellody Hobson ties together our shared learning around engagement, resilience, technology, and future readiness. Drawing on her experiences in business and civic life, Hobson will leave you with a renewed vision for how to lead with purpose, emotional intelligence, and ethical clarity in the digital age.</p>	Speakers
		Dr. Tim Shriver