

2016 National  
**Blue Ribbon**  
Schools

**AWARDS CEREMONY**  
**Agenda**



EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION SINCE 1982

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

### REGISTRATION

◆ Arlington Registration Desk

### SCHOOL SUPPORTER SIGN IN

◆ Registration Desk

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### REGISTRATION

◆ Arlington Registration Desk

### SCHOOL SUPPORTER SIGN IN

◆ Registration Desk

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

### SPONSORED WORKING BREAKFAST

◆ Arlington Ballroom

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

### GENERAL SESSION

#### WELCOME

Adam Honeysett, Managing Director  
State and Local Engagement  
Office of Communications and Outreach  
U.S. Department of Education

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Jacob Ayars, 8th Grade Student  
Vistancia Elementary School  
Peoria, AZ  
2015 National Blue Ribbon School

#### INTRODUCTION OF PARTNERS

Adam Honeysett

#### CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

Steven Geis, President  
National Association of Elementary School Principals  
Will Waidelich, Executive Director  
Association for Middle Level Education  
Thomas Dodd, 2017 National Principal of the Year  
National Association of Secondary School Principals

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

#### INTRODUCTION OF SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

Liam Beltram, National Junior Honor Society President  
Vistancia Elementary School

#### CONGRATULATORY REMARKS AND Q&A

John B. King, Jr., Secretary of Education  
U.S. Department of Education

#### PRESENTATION OF THE 2016 TERREL H. BELL AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

#### GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

#### CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

##### *Anchor Down! Excellence and Equity Through High Expectations with High Support Aboard the Leshar Middle School Viking/Viqueen Ship*

◆ Salon I & II

Thomas Dodd, 2017 National Principal of the Year and Principal of Leshar Middle School, Ft. Collins, CO

##### *Sustainable Leadership for “Tomorrow’s Schools”—Today!*

◆ Salon A & B

Dwayne Young, Principal of Centreville Elementary, Fairfax County, VA  
Kelly Baugh, Instructional Support Teacher, Centreville ES and the Office of ESOL Services, Fairfax County, VA

##### *I Didn’t Pick These People! How to Work With Difficult Staff Members*

◆ Salon J & K

Diane Watkins, Director of Assessment and Accountability, Chesapeake Public Schools, VA  
Stephanie Johnson, DODEA Grant Project Director, Chesapeake Public Schools, VA

##### *Breaking Ranks: 10 Skills for Successful School Leaders*

◆ Salon C & E

Thomas Evans, 2010 Terrel H. Bell Awardee; Consultant and Trainer

**11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**SESSION FOR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES**

◆ Salon F & H

**Your Blue Ribbon Year: A Private School Perspective**

Office of Non-Public Education  
U.S. Department of Education

- Maureen Dowling, Director
- Pamela Allen, Education Program Specialist
- Isadora Binder, Management and Program Analyst
- Ashley Gardner, Management and Program Analyst
- Jenay Morrissey, Management and Program Analyst

Joe McTighe, Executive Director  
Council for American Private Education (CAPE)

**12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

**LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS**

**ED Café: Family and Community Engagement**

◆ Salon A: max 50

**ED Café: Whole Child Education**

◆ Salon B: max 50

**ED Café: College and Career Readiness**

◆ Salon C: max 50

**ED Café: Special Populations**

◆ Salon D & E: max 50

**ED Café: Teacher Development**

◆ Salon K: max 50

**ED Café: Early Childhood Education**

◆ Salon J: max 50

**ED Café: Dual Language Education**

◆ Salon H: max 50

**Strategies for Leveraging Your National Blue Ribbon School Award**

◆ Salon I & II: max 180

National Catholic Educational Association

- Annette Jones, Assistant Director of Leadership Development
- Shannon Andrea, Director of Marketing

Duane Emery, Director of Enrollment Management  
Cathedral High School, Indianapolis IN  
Lynne Scheffler, Principal  
St. Joseph Catholic School, Lockport, IL

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**GENERAL SESSION**

◆ Arlington Ballroom

**INTRODUCTION**

Frances Hopkins, Program Manager  
National Blue Ribbon Schools Program  
Office of Communications and Outreach  
U.S. Department of Education

**STUDENT VOICE: THEY HAVE SOMETHING TO TEACH US!**

Russell Quaglia, Author, Consultant  
Founder of Quaglia Institute for Student Aspirations  
Founder of the Teacher Voice & Aspirations  
International Center

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

**7:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**REGISTRATION**

◆ Arlington Registration Desk

**SCHOOL SUPPORTER SIGN IN**

◆ Registration Desk

**7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

**SPONSORED WORKING BREAKFAST**

◆ Arlington Ballroom

## 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

### GENERAL SESSION

◆ Arlington Ballroom

#### INTRODUCTION

Adam Honeysett

#### UNDERSTANDING OUR DIVERSE STUDENTS BY UNDERSTANDING OURSELVES FIRST

Eileen G. Kugler, Author, Consultant  
Phillip C. Chinn Multicultural Book of the Year Awardee  
Virginia Education Advocate of the Year

## 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### GENERAL SESSION

◆ Grand Ballroom

#### INTRODUCTION

Celeste Rodriguez Jensen, Teacher Liaison  
National Public Engagement  
Office of Communications and Outreach  
U.S. Department of Education

#### FERTILE GROUND: CREATING CONDITIONS FOR TEACHERS TO THRIVE AND STUDENTS TO FLOURISH

Sean McComb, English and Resource Teacher  
Patapsco High School & Center for the Arts  
Baltimore, MD  
2014 National Teacher of the Year

## 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

#### INTRODUCTION

Adam Honeysett

#### DIVERSITY IN LITERATURE

Ellen Oh, Author  
Co-founder, President, and CEO of We Need Diverse Books

## 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### 2016 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

◆ Arlington Ballroom

#### OPENING PERFORMANCE

Steel Drums: Vistancia Iron Pans  
Vistancia Elementary School

#### WELCOME

Aba Kumi, Director  
National Blue Ribbon Schools Program  
Office of Communications and Outreach  
U.S. Department of Education

#### PRESENTATION OF COLORS

VA-821 at the Arlington Career Center  
Escorted by Chief Master Sergeant (Retired) Ty Williams

#### THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Laleh Lonteen 8th Grade Student  
Vistancia Elementary School

#### SPONSOR REMARKS

Nara Lee, Senior Manager,  
Jack Kent Cooke Foundation  
Steven Hoy, CEO  
DimensionU, Inc.  
Kelvin W. Miller, Corporate Vice President,  
Lifetouch National School Studios Inc.

#### MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Steel Drums: Vistancia Iron Pans

#### INTRODUCTION

Aba Kumi

#### CONGRATULATIONS.....WHAT'S NEXT?

Sheila Harrity, Superintendent  
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical High School  
Fitchburg, Massachusetts  
2013 Terrel H. Bell Awardee  
2013 National High School Principal of the Year

## 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### PRESENTATION OF 2016 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARDS

◆ Arlington Ballroom

#### CLOSING REMARKS

Aba Kumi

## 4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### STATE LIAISON BUSINESS MEETING

◆ Alexandria Room (Second Floor)

# SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

**Monday 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

## **CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS**

### ***Anchor Down! Excellence and Equity Through High Expectations with High Support Aboard the Lesher Middle School Viking/Viqueen Ship***

◆ Salon I & II

Thomas Dodd, 2017 National Principal of the Year and Principal of Lesher Middle School, Ft. Collins, CO

Recognizing that culture must precede structure and all staff have a professional responsibility and moral imperative to ensure every child's access to vigorous instruction, 2017 National Secondary Principal of the Year Dr. Tom Dodd will tell the story of Lesher Middle School's 12-year journey from a "ghetto school" with declining enrollment to the most "choiced to" neighborhood secondary school in Poudre (CO) School District. Using the NASSP Breaking Ranks Framework for School Improvement (collaborative leadership and professional learning communities, personalization, and curriculum, instruction, and assessment), Lesher faculty and staff used common planning and teams to: re-align its mission/vision, assess and revise its delivery of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program (from school-within-a-school to whole school), implement IB criterion-related grading (no more A-F/100-point scales), employ strategies to honor student diversity (two-way dual language immersion and gifted and talented programming with advanced learning plans), introduce literacy initiatives and a building-wide accelerated math model, target the instructional core (the interaction of the teacher-student-content), offer Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) via Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs), and catalyze internal and external professional development efforts to improve student behavior and achievement in a culture of acceptance. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of the influence adult beliefs and practices have on educational programming, student learning experiences, and performance outcomes.

### **Sustainable Leadership for "Tomorrow's Schools"—Today!**

◆ Salon A & B

Dwayne Young, Principal of Centreville Elementary, Fairfax County, VA

Kelly Baugh, Instructional Support Teacher, Centreville ES and the Office of ESOL Services, Fairfax County, VA

As school and system leaders effect school-wide changes that result in improved student achievement, behavior and social emotional growth, they must plan strategies and supports to ensure the progress is not short-lived. This session, led by a veteran principal with over 30 years of experience leading a variety of change efforts, is an interactive workshop designed for school and system leaders and aspiring leaders. We will review guiding principles from the research while allowing time for participants to reflect, share, and learn from their peers. You will leave with strategies to take back to your school that will ensure enduring impact and a legacy of leadership.

### **I Didn't Pick These People! How to Work With Difficult Staff Members**

◆ Salon J & K

Diane Watkins, Director of Assessment and Accountability, Chesapeake Public Schools, VA

Stephanie Johnson, DODEA Grant Project Director, Chesapeake Public Schools, VA

In this session designed for current and aspiring principals, two veteran principals with a combined 40 years of administrative experience reflect on how challenging it is to work with difficult staff members who possess character traits that are contrary to what research says about effective educators. In order to increase student achievement in our schools, principals must monitor instruction and provide effective instructional feedback. This process is hindered when you spend too much time with difficult staff members. In this lively session, you will walk away with strategies for dealing with many personality types so that your school can create effective teams and maintain a positive culture. Time will be allocated to answer questions and respond to audience scenarios.

### **Breaking Ranks: 10 Skills for Successful School Leaders**

◆ Salon C & E

Thomas Evans, 2010 Terrel H. Bell Awardee; Consultant and Trainer

Do you know and understand the 10 skills that NASSP has identified as the core requirements of school leadership? This session explores these skills, which are the result of more than 30 years of analysis and study by NASSP. Your understanding of these skills—coupled with the discrete, observable, and measurable behaviors that make up the skills—will launch your professional growth. School leaders must have these skills to take the "what" and the "how" of school change and put them into effective practice so all students learn and grow.

# SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

**Monday 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

## **SESSION FOR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES**

### **Your Blue Ribbon Year: A Private School Perspective**

◆ Salon F & H

Maureen Dowling, Director, Office of Non-Public Education

- Pamela Allen, Education Program Specialist
- Isadora Binder, Management and Program Analyst
- Ashley Gardner, Management and Program Analyst
- Jenay Morrissey, Management and Program Analyst

Joe McTighe, Executive Director Council for American Private Education (CAPE)

Join us for a panel discussion with previous non-public National Blue Ribbon School awardees as they describe how they have leveraged the award to motivate students and teachers and increase community engagement. In addition, valuable information will be presented by CAPE.

**Monday 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

## **CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS**

### **Ed World Cafés**

**Family and Community Engagement** ◆ Salon A: max 50

**Whole Child Education** ◆ Salon B: max 50

**College and Career Readiness** ◆ Salon C: max 50

**Special Populations** ◆ Salon D & E: max 50

**Teacher Development** ◆ Salon K: max 50

**Early Childhood Education** ◆ Salon J: max 50

**Dual Language Education** ◆ Salon H: max 50

The world café is a social technology for engaging people in conversations on essential topics and creating opportunities to share knowledge and make connections. Based on the understanding that conversation is the core process that drives personal, business, and organizational life, the café model enables the cross-pollination of ideas in a dynamic environment. Think: Speed dating for school practices.

Each cafe will consist of 4 or 5 tables; each table will be hosted by a representative(s) of 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools. Table hosts will briefly describe a practice at their school and facilitate a conversation with table participants. After about 15 minutes, hosts will move to a new table and facilitate a new conversation until all participants have talked with all hosts. Learn about successful practices at other schools and network with like-minded educators.

### **Strategies for Leveraging Your National Blue Ribbon School Award**

◆ Salon I & II: max 180

Annette Jones, Assistant Director of Leadership Development, NCEA

Shannon Andrea, Director of Marketing, NCEA

Duane Emery, Director of Enrollment Management Cathedral High School, Indianapolis IN

Lynne Scheffler, Principal St. Joseph Catholic School, Lockport, IL

With much enthusiasm, the presenters will share their first-hand experiences of celebrating and amplifying the National Blue Ribbon Award. Please join us to learn enjoyable “blue” activities and practical strategies for leveraging this prestigious national award. Attendees will have an opportunity to design and develop an action plan for their school community.



**Stay in touch.  
Add your voice.**

#nbrs2016

<http://nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov>

