

NIET  2023

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

— ELEVATING EDUCATORS —

March 23-24, 2023

INDIANAPOLIS, IN



Welcome.

Welcome to the 22nd annual NIET National Conference! We are excited to share this time together and focus on this year's theme of **Elevating Educators**. Our objective is clear: to support you in strengthening instruction and accelerating the learning of your students. We know that having a high-quality teacher in the classroom — supported by an effective school leader — is the most important in-school factor for student success. This conference is going to provide you with actionable information to improve your practice as an educator. Further, the training you receive here is designed for you to transfer back and impact the educators and students in your schools, districts, and states. We appreciate your continued partnership with NIET, and we look forward to learning collectively over the next few days to elevate the profession together.

BREAKOUT SESSION

DESCRIPTIONS:

STRAND 1

Unleashing Teacher Leadership

Powerful Coaching Cycles

Attend this session to explore a process for defining cyclical, strategic coaching plans grounded in increasing student achievement and teacher effectiveness.

Making Magic Happen During Development Time in Cluster

Explore how to leverage student work during development time to drive instructional planning, delivery, and measurement decisions.

Teachers in the Driver's Seat of Learning

A road map that allows meaningful and continuous opportunities to nurture a shared learning culture is critical to raising student achievement. Join us to engage in practices that build a culture of efficacy on your school campus.

Implementing the Five Steps for Effective Learning in Unique Collaborative Structures

This session allows leaders to apply the Five Steps for Effective Learning to overcome challenges they may face in structuring and scheduling cluster meetings and other collaborative professional learning opportunities.

Leveraging Student Support to Elevate Teacher Practice

Learn how to effectively elevate teacher practice by directly supporting students. This session highlights student-focused support, such as co-teaching and kid-watching, to elevate teacher practice.

STRAND 2

Transforming School Leadership

Leader as Coach: Embracing Your Role as the Instructional Leader

What do you do when instructional support isn't transferring into the classroom and making an impact on learning? During this session, participants will explore a process that will help leaders identify why instructional support isn't transferring and how to get it back on track.

Transforming the Student Experience Through Intentional Leader Actions

Explore how to utilize the *NIET Principal Standards Rubric* alongside evidence of student achievement to reflect on the effectiveness of leader practices and determine next steps.

Raising Academic Achievement Through Strategic, Collaborative Planning

How do principals balance multiple areas of school improvement? Join us to explore a framework for conversations between school and teacher leaders to support the teaching and learning process behind weekly ILT meetings.

What Students Say Matters: Decision-Making that Empowers and Informs

Including student voice and agency in decision-making is more critical than ever. In this session, educators will examine the practices of a school where a student leadership team has been implemented to elevate students' roles in addressing school needs.

Words Matter: Reframing Our Language for Increased Learner Focus

A continuous focus on learners is critical to effective leadership practices. In this session, participants will discuss how to positively impact achievement by ensuring all conversations are focused on students.

STRAND 3

Ensuring Success Through Robust Instructional Practices

Learning Walks: Looking Beyond Teachers' Actions to Maximize Impact

Learning walks are a powerful process for defining learning for leaders within schools and districts. Learn how to maximize the impact of the learning walks process by defining learning expectations and reflecting on student work.

Increased Impact Through Content-Specific Coaching (ELA)

Coaching is the key to strengthening instruction and learning. How does an instructional leader elevate coaching practices by intentionally grounding reflection and feedback in content-specific pedagogy? This session will provide participants with techniques to strengthen coaching skills in ELA classrooms.

Increased Impact Through Content-Specific Coaching (Math)

Coaching is the key to strengthening instruction and learning. How does an instructional leader elevate coaching practices by intentionally grounding reflection and feedback in content-specific pedagogy? This session will provide participants with techniques to strengthen coaching skills in Mathematics classrooms.

Supporting Student Thinking Through Instructional Decision-Making

Instructional decision-making that intentionally supports student thinking improves student mastery of grade-level standards. In this session, participants will identify opportunities to strengthen teachers' understanding of supporting student thinking throughout a lesson.

Real-Time Responsiveness to Student Thinking

Responsiveness to evidence of student thinking within lessons is critical to success. Attend this session to learn how to make informed, in-the-moment instructional adjustments to meet students' needs.

STRAND 4

Establishing Positive Environments

The Power of Mission and Vision in Establishing Shared Leadership and Trusting Relationships

Are you launching a new ILT or welcoming new members? This session examines ways to leverage your school's mission and vision to foster shared leadership and trusting relationships that enable your ILT to lead school improvement efforts successfully.

Leveraging Relationships to Empower Learners

How do students think of themselves as learners on your campus? Educators in this session generate strategies to nurture positive relationships and a respectful culture that empowers students as learners.

Thriving School Communities that Achieve Learner-Centered Excellence

What can school leaders do to ensure all teachers have a sense of belonging and feel empowered in their work? In this session, participants will apply principles of learner-centered excellence to address challenges you may face on your campus.

School Improvement at the Speed of Relationships

School leadership practices that foster trusting relationships can positively impact school improvement efforts. Learn how to build relationships that support academic improvement on your campus.

Coaching for Teacher Ownership

Coaching for teacher ownership considers our beliefs, values, and biases and seeks diverse perspectives and feedback from others to co-create professional learning experiences. Join us to elevate a reflective and nurturing culture on your campus.

STRAND 5

Building the Educator Pipeline

Effective Mentoring Programs: Actions that Lead to Increased Ownership and Impact

Teacher mentorship programs, where novice teachers are paired with veterans, often lack clarity and focus. Join this session to explore actions that increase the effectiveness of mentors' support for teachers.

Supporting Aspiring and Novice Teachers to Effectively Use High-Quality Curriculum

How can we ensure that aspiring and novice teachers effectively implement high-quality curriculum? Join us to examine ways to provide meaningful professional learning opportunities for aspiring and novice teachers to engage with high-quality curriculum materials.

Making the Most of Professional Learning for Aspiring and Novice Teachers

In this session, participants consider the professional learning needs of aspiring and novice teachers and consider how teacher educators can strengthen professional learning using effective modeling to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

Starting Strong: Supporting Mentors of Aspiring and Novice Teachers (Roundtable)

This facilitated roundtable session will highlight intentional support for mentors of aspiring and early-career teachers from the perspectives of a university supervisor, a district leader, a school leader, and a teacher leader.

Panel Sessions

Elevating Educators, Investing in the Profession: The Role of State and District Leaders

Today, more than ever, it is critical that district and state leaders find new ways to elevate and promote the profession if we as a country are going to attract and retain excellent teachers and leaders. In this session, panelists will share their experiences, expertise, and perspectives around how we can elevate the profession so that it is more attractive and respected.

Facilitated by Dr. Patrice Pujol, Senior Executive-in-Residence

Investing in Teacher Leaders to Support the Implementation of HQIM

Growing bodies of research link the implementation of HQIM to increased student outcomes and instructional excellence. NIET's investment in teacher leaders has guided various partners to enhance student outcomes and coherence of instructional excellence when implementing HQIM. In this session, education leaders will share key practices for supporting teacher leaders when implementing HQIM.

Facilitated by Dr. Davita Lancelin, Vice President of Services

Partnering to Impact Educator Effectiveness

How do we build educator excellence to give all students the opportunity for success? NIET's approach to investing in educators has been to form intentional, sustained, and high-quality partnerships with states, districts, schools, and universities. In this session, education leaders will share their first-hand experiences partnering with NIET to improve educator and student outcomes.

Facilitated by Dr. Tanée Hudgens, Vice President of Research and Evaluation

Learning from Award Winners

A valued tradition at NIET's conference is honoring schools and districts that are exceptional models for building educator excellence and advancing student success. We invite you to learn from recent winners of the NIET Founder's Award and District Award of Excellence for Educator Effectiveness.

Facilitated by Stephanie Mosqueda, Senior Vice President of Strategic Projects

Bubble Sessions

Bubble sessions allow educators to observe a collaborative learning opportunity being modeled by school and district leaders and facilitated by NIET leaders. In these sessions, educators are seated around a center table where the meeting will occur, with participants surrounding them in a "bubble" to observe. Throughout the meeting, there will be "step-outs" where participants will reflect on what they are observing, and facilitators will unpack what they are learning. These sessions will each highlight a different collaborative learning opportunity: cluster/PLC meeting, instructional leadership team (ILT) meeting, and district instructional leadership team (D-ILT) meeting.

Participants will:

- Identify key elements of high-quality cluster/PLC, ILT, or D-ILT meetings that build educator capacity to improve instructional practice.
- Analyze how cluster/PLC, ILT, or D-ILT meeting structures can accelerate educator impact.
- Determine the next steps for creating or strengthening cluster/PLC, ILT, or D-ILT meeting structures in their district or school.

District Instructional Leadership Team in a Bubble

Team: Clinton City Schools, Tennessee

Facilitated by Dr. Angela Davis, Assistant Director of Professional Learning, and Keely Potter, Director, East Team

Instructional Leadership Team in a Bubble

Team: Somerset ISD, Texas

Facilitated by Nicole Bolen, Executive Director of Services, and Theresa Hamilton, Director, Louisiana

Instructional Leadership Team in a Bubble

Team: Perry Township Schools, Indiana

Facilitated by Lindsey Parker, Associate Director of Professional Development; Claire Murray, Director, South Carolina SEED; and Jen Brady, Partnership Coordinator

Cluster/PLC Meeting in a Bubble

Team: Perry Township Schools, Indiana

Facilitated by Bekki Sarradet, Executive Director of Professional Learning, and Erin Foster, Midwest Director

Thursday March 23

ROOM	8:30-10AM	10:15-11:45AM	12-1:30PM	1:45-3:15PM	3:30-5PM
	Conference Welcome & Opening		Awards & Recognition Luncheon	Breakout Session B	Breakout Session C
Grand 1 & 2	Breakout Session A BUBBLE SESSION District Instructional Leadership Team - Clinton City Schools, TN Angela Davis and Keely Potter	Breakout Session B BUBBLE SESSION Instructional Leadership Team - Somerset ISD, TX Nicole Bolen and Theresa Hamilton		Breakout Session C BUBBLE SESSION Cluster/PLC Meeting - Perry Township Schools, IN Bekki Sarradet and Erin Foster	
Grand 3	Leveraging Student Support to Elevate Teacher Practice LaDazha Ford and Courtney Rayburn	Powerful Coaching Cycles Bobbie Jo Bright and Christina Hulin		Teachers in the Driver's Seat of Learning Theresa Hussey and Abigail McKamey	
Grand 4	What Students Say Matters: Decision-Making that Empowers and Informs Kevin Winters and Rossette Osamba	Words Matter: Reframing Our Language for Increased Learner Focus Stacy Knoop and Robin Cornet		Raising Academic Achievement Through Strategic, Collaborative Planning Devon Willis-Jones and Michelle Wolfenbarger	
Grand 7	Supporting Student Thinking Through Instructional Decision-Making Shelia Banks and Nicole Gonzalez	Learning Walks: Looking Beyond Teachers' Actions to Maximize Impact Christa Stewart and Sarah Jolly-Swift		Increased Impact Through Content-Specific Coaching (ELA) Jill Crain and Elizabeth Rose	
Grand 8	Thriving School Communities that Achieve Learner-Centered Excellence Jodi Leckbee and Angie Kendall	Leveraging Relationships to Empower Learners Tad Savage and Laura Tew		The Power of Mission and Vision in Establishing Shared Leadership and Trusting Relationships April Woolard and Shayla Canady	
Grand 9	Making Magic Happen During Development Time in Cluster Robin Variest and Erin Foster	Implementing the Five Steps for Effective Learning in Unique Collaborative Structures Vicki Cabra and Amy Campbell		Increased Impact Through Content-Specific Coaching (Math) Kat Deleon and Kim Herring	
Grand 10	Real-Time Responsiveness to Student Thinking Kyle Kovach and Tiffaney Kelly	Leader as Coach: Embracing the Role of Instructional Leader Trey Forrester and Amber Simpson		Transforming the Student Experience Through Intentional Leader Actions Angelina Burrows and Jill Crossley	
302-303	Raising Academic Achievement Through Strategic, Collaborative Planning Devon Willis-Jones and Michelle Wolfenbarger	Thriving School Communities that Achieve Learner-Centered Excellence Jodi Leckbee and Angie Kendall		Learning Walks: Looking Beyond Teachers' Actions to Maximize Impact Christa Stewart and Sarah Jolly-Swift	
304-305	Elevating Educators, Investing in the Profession: The Role of State and District Leaders (Panel) Patrice Pujol	Investing in Teacher Leaders to Support the Implementation of HQIM (Panel) Davita Lancelin			
309-310	Effective Mentoring Programs: Actions that Lead to Increased Ownership and Impact Amy Gayle and Angela Griffis	Supporting Aspiring and Novice Teachers to Use High-Quality Curriculum Ruhi Khan and Sandra Walker-Parker			

Friday March 24

ROOM	8-9AM	9:15-10:45AM	11AM-12:30PM	12:30-1:30PM	1:30-3PM
	Morning General Session	Breakout Session D	Breakout Session E	Boxed Lunch	Team Meeting and Networking
Grand 1 & 2		BUBBLE SESSION Instructional Leadership Team - Perry Township Schools, IN Lindsey Parker, Claire Murray, and Jen Brady			
Grand 3		Powerful Coaching Cycles Bobbie Jo Bright and Christina Hulin	Leveraging Student Support to Elevate Teacher Practice LaDazha Ford and Courtney Rayburn		
Grand 4		Words Matter: Reframing Our Language for Increased Learner Focus Stacy Knoop and Robin Cornet	What Students Say Matters: Decision-Making that Empowers and Informs Kevin Winters and Rossette Osamba		
Grand 7		Real-Time Responsiveness to Student Thinking Kyle Kovach and Tiffaney Kelly	Supporting Student Thinking Through Instructional Decision-Making Shelia Banks and Nicole Gonzalez		
Grand 8		Coaching for Teacher Ownership Natalie Szakacs and Nicole Teyechea	School Improvement at the Speed of Relationships Sherrie Fairchild-Keyes and Danielle Chretien		
Grand 9		Making Magic Happen During Development Time in Cluster Robin Variest and Lydia Stevenson	Implementing the Five Steps for Effective Learning in Unique Collaborative Structures Vicki Cabra and Amy Campbell		
Grand 10		Leader as Coach: Embracing the Role of Instructional Leader Trey Forrester and Amber Simpson	Transforming the Student Experience Through Intentional Leader Actions Angelina Burrows and Jill Crossley		
302-303		Leveraging Relationships to Empower Learners Tad Savage and Laura Tew	Teachers in the Driver's Seat of Learning Theresa Hussey and Abigail McKamey		
304-305		Partnering to Impact Educator Effectiveness (Panel) Tanée Hudgens	Learning from Award Winners (Panel) Stephanie Mosqueda		
309-310	Starting Strong: Supporting Mentors of Aspiring and Novice Teachers (Roundtable) Patti Cruz and Pilar Holtrop	Making the Most of Professional Learning for Aspiring and Novice Teachers Jen Brady and Scott Duncan			

Legend

- Strand 1:** Unleashing Teacher Leadership
- Strand 2:** Transforming School Leadership
- Strand 3:** Ensuring Success Through Robust Instructional Practices
- Strand 4:** Establishing Positive Environments
- Strand 5:** Building the Educator Pipeline
- Bubbles and Panels**

CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

JW MARRIOTT INDIANAPOLIS

10 S. West Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

- Breakout Sessions
- General Sessions



2023 Founder's Award Finalists

Desert Thunder School

Avondale Elementary School District, AZ

William Henry Burkhart Elementary

Perry Township Schools, IN

Slaughter Elementary School

East Feliciana Public Schools, LA

Forest Acres Elementary School

School District of Pickens County, SC

Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary

San Felipe Del Rio CISD, TX

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