

# Conference Focus Areas

*November 2018*

## **Select one:**

### **Advocacy Efforts/Policy Development**

How do teachers and school leaders build support for professional learning through policy development, advocacy, and implementation? What is the role of Standards for Professional Learning in establishing effective professional learning? What are the tools that support educators as they advocate for effective professional learning conditions at the school, district, state/provincial, and national levels? How do educators document and share evidence with policy makers about the impact professional learning has on student learning and educator professional learning to mobilize for action? How do external partners support advocacy efforts and policy development?

### **Developing and Supporting Leaders**

What are essential knowledge and skills for leaders and decision makers at all levels of the education enterprise? What is the role of professional learning and leadership standards in leader recruitment, development, support, and evaluation? In what ways do systems identify, develop, and support classroom, school and district leaders? How do systems effectively design, implement and evaluate leadership pathways? How do leaders develop expertise in others about effective professional learning? What policies and practices effectively cultivate the development and support of teachers and school leaders? In what ways can leaders build a culture of trust where educators are skilled at giving and receiving effective feedback?

### **Equity**

What strategies and drivers have demonstrated success in ensuring culturally proficient learning systems that meet the academic and social needs of each and every student (i.e., race, class, culture, gender identity, learning differences and other factors)? What research-based knowledge, skills, and dispositions are required to personalize education for each student to achieve equity and educational excellence? What types of learning might systems craft that help systems address their equity challenges and opportunities? How can systems influence policies and practice related to professional learning to address issues of equity?

### **Instructional Materials and Curriculum**

How do educators institutionalize a coherent and aligned instructional framework/program? How are new research and resources, including OER/OEP (Open Educational Resources / Open Educational Practices), influencing practice? How is the selection of instructional materials and curriculum powerful professional learning? How do teachers learn deeply and effectively to implement and adapt instructional materials and curriculum for their classrooms? How do teachers adapt high-quality instructional materials without reducing rigor? How do systems support curriculum study, lesson study, and other processes that support deep exploration of high-quality instructional materials? How can educative materials be a vehicle for school and district improvement?

### **International Perspectives and Emerging Issues**

What are the critical issues professional learning must address? How are systems transforming professional learning to achieve greater personalization for adults and students? What are some effective professional learning strategies and practices from around the world? What research is emerging from around the world related effective professional learning? How are new technologies changing the landscape of professional learning? What are implications for professional learning from new school models? What innovations will shape professional learning for the future? How do systems ensure educators and students are prepared for global competition? What are structures and policies to support transformation and moving toward deeper learning through next generation professional learning?

# Conference Focus Areas

*November 2019*

## **Leading Learning Systems**

How do leaders establish systems and structures that support effective professional learning and ongoing continuous improvement? What are critical issues for professional learning in the transition to competency-based systems? In what ways can leaders facilitate, support, coach, personalize, and supervise professional learning to ensure all educators and students are learning at high levels? How do leaders support their own learning? What are the advocacy responsibilities of teachers and school leaders and how do they successfully implement them? How do leaders leverage technology, time, finances, and human capital? What tools and processes help leaders ensure alignment of coherent and relevant resources and make critical and strategic decisions? What are critical research findings related to this topic?

## **Learning Communities and Continuous Improvement**

What are the essential policies and conditions for establishing collective responsibility, authentic, collaboration and trust? What are critical elements of communities/networks within and across schools and systems? How do educators create, sustain, and evaluate school- and district-based learning teams? What are policies, tools, protocols, and resources to guide and structure continuous improvement? How do educators promote sustainable change, increase educator effectiveness, and drive student achievement through professional learning?

## **Learning Designs and Implementation:**

How do educators apply the evidence base to inform the selection of learning designs? What are essential knowledge and skills associated with planning, facilitating, presenting, and advancing effective, ongoing professional learning? What norms, protocols, processes, and resources support effective professional learning? What are innovative approaches to engaging adult learners and how is impact measured? What support systems and follow-up strategies ensure deeper learning (adults and students) and sustained implementation of new practices? How can reflection and effective feedback lead to stronger and sustained implementation of new practices? How do external partners contribute to effective designs and implementation?

## **Leveraging Coaches and Mentors**

How do systems accelerate new teacher and leader competency and efficacy and increase retention? What are innovative and effective models of coaching and mentoring? How do mentors and coaches provide effective feedback to improve educator practice and results for students? How do systems prepare and support mentors and coaches? What are the critical attributes of effective mentoring and coaching programs?

## **Social & Emotional Learning and Health**

What critical research findings are essential for educator understanding and application? How do educators apply research on social emotional learning, the dynamics of systemic change, power, entitlement, and privilege to support learning for all? How are SEL practices integrated into classroom and school practices? What are some common implementation challenges and strategies to address them? How is impact of SEL documented and used to advocate for continuous support?

## **Using Data and Measuring Impact**

How do successful schools and teams use data-informed approaches (e.g. improvement science) to make decisions about instruction, professional learning, and resource allocation? In what ways are educators documenting evidence about the link among professional learning, educator practice, and student learning? How do educators measure the impact of professional learning experiences to inform teacher, school, and system decisions to drive continuous improvement and enlist decision-maker support? What protocols, processes, and resources support the use of assessment for learning to improve teaching and learning?

# Conference Focus Areas

November 2019

**Select no more than 2 topics addressed in your session**

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Development and Learning                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Instructional Leadership and Supervision            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy Efforts   | <input type="checkbox"/> Instructional Rounds / Walk-Throughs                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allocating Resources for Professional Learning<br>(time and dollars) | <input type="checkbox"/> Integrating Student or Teacher Voice                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blended/Online Learning  | <input type="checkbox"/> International Perspectives                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career Pathways  | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Development                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change Management  | <input type="checkbox"/> Learning Networks                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charter Schools/Networks   | <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coaching Practices/Programs  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative Inquiry  | <input type="checkbox"/> Micro-Credentials / Badging                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College- and Career-Readiness/Student<br>Performance Standards       | <input type="checkbox"/> Models of Professional Learning                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community/Family Engagement  | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Educational Resources/Practices<br>(OER/OEP)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive System Improvement/Reform                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships and coalition building                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuous improvement Cycles  | <input type="checkbox"/> Personalized Learning (Educators and Students)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural/Gender/Racial Equity  | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Development                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culturally Responsive Pedagogy                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Principal Pathways/Pipelines                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culture and Climate  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Issues and Settings                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Data-Driven Decision Making  | <input type="checkbox"/> School Improvement/Reform                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deeper Learning  | <input type="checkbox"/> Science   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distributed/Shared Leadership  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Emotional Learning/Health (SEL/SEH)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Effectiveness   | <input type="checkbox"/> STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and<br>Math |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engaging/Motivating Disenfranchised Learners                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Pathways/Pipelines                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English Learners / Linguistic Diversity                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Leadership                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equitable Access and Outcomes  | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology for Professional Learning                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ESSA - Every Student Succeeds Act                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology to Enhance Student Learning              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation and Impact  | <input type="checkbox"/> Title I / Economically Disadvantaged Population     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Issues and Setting                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feedback and Observations  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Formative Assessment Practices                                       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improving Instruction  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Induction and Mentoring  |  |