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# **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**2017**

**LEADERSHIP CONCEPTS  
FOR MODERN  
EDUCATORS;  
"TOOLS FOR TODAY,  
STRATEGIES FOR  
TOMORROW"**

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# Keynote Speaker



## Alex Kajitani

California's Teacher of the Year  
& "The Rappin' Mathematician"

Thursday, August 3rd

4:10pm-5:15pm

Alexander Ballroom

### Owning It: How To Be Highly Effective & Love What You Do

Fifteen years ago, Alex Kajitani was a struggling teacher in one of San Diego's poorest neighborhoods. His students seemed unmotivated, unengaged and uninterested in what he was teaching. Demoralized and desperate, he set out on a journey to turn his class, and his life, around. Today, Alex holds the title of California Teacher of the Year and Top-4 Finalist for National Teacher of the Year, 2009, and is lauded for his innovation and "real talk" as a teacher.

From a frustrated new teacher to being honored at The White House Rose Garden, Alex now shares with educators across the country his journey to inspire them to new heights and fresh ways of thinking.

# Keynote Speakers



## Jemelleh Coes

**A Thread of Equity!**

Friday, August 4th

9:20am-10:00am

Alexander Ballroom

Georgia's 2014 Teacher of the Year &  
President of the Georgia Teachers of  
the Year Association



## Sydney Chaffe

**National Teacher of the Year**

**Keynote Presentation**

Friday, August 4th

1:00pm-1:20pm

Alexander Ballroom

2017 National Teacher of the Year &  
National Board Certified Teacher

# August 3rd, 2017

## Session 1 (2:10pm-3:00pm)

### **Leading for Teachers - Listening and dialogue: The keys to reflective inquiry for educators today** **Alexander Ballroom**

Dr. Brad Siegel, K-12 Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment,  
Northern Highlands Regional High School

*Reflection is a hallmark of any worthwhile teaching endeavor. It is embedded in all professional standards and teacher evaluation instruments, yet schools do not provide adequate focus on the modes of inquiry to engage teachers in this practice. This session will highlight research and theories on democratic dialogue that foster meaningful teacher reflection.*

### **Leading for the Future - Evidenced-Based Decision-Making Made Easy, but Not Simple.** **Room: Henry**

Chad Marcus, Chief Academic Officer, LinkIt!

*Effective data leadership requires districts to systematically collect and warehouse data, interpret and analyze multiple-measures, and take strategic actions throughout the year. In this session, LinkIt! will share strategies NJ educators have successfully used to make data-driven classroom differentiation a reality, and simplify, if not automate, NJDOE mandates, routine operational tasks, and data-centric instructional and leadership initiatives.*

### **Leading for Innovation - Classroom Learning Labs: Supporting teachers during implementation of any initiative** **Room: Fitzgerald**

Connie Hamilton, Saranac Community Schools, MI

*The Gradual Release of Responsibility (I do, we do, do collaboratively, you do) is a proven model for student learning, but is rarely used for teachers. Classroom Learning Labs bridge the gap between learning a new curriculum, strategy, or program through PD and perfecting it in the classroom. Connie will walk you through a collaborative learning process where teachers observe each other and provide feedback. Possible schedules, tools, and structures will be shared.*

### **Leading for Student Outcomes - Creating a path towards higher level math for historically under served students in middle school-one district's story.**

**Room: 24 Nassau**

George Guy, Principal, Rosa International Middle School

*This session will explore the use of data, scheduling, professional development, access and equity frameworks, and cultural proficiency in moving historically underserved Grade 6 math students into a higher Grade 7 math class. This acceleration model includes professional development supports for Grade 7 math teachers, scheduling changes that support pre-teaching, interventions, enrichment, and counseling supports for students and parents.*

### **Leading for Teacher Leaders - Unpacking the Teacher Leader Standards** **Room: 25 Nassau**

Dr. Anthony Scotto, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Barnegat Township School District

*By the end of the session, participants will unpack the teacher leader standards, examine point of view(s) from past teachers-of-the-year, self-assess the standards, and begin to develop an action plan for implementation.*

# August 3rd, 2017

## Session 2 (3:10pm-4:00pm)

### **Panel Discussion - The Power of Networking in Advancing Social-Emotional Learning, School Culture and Climate, and Character Education** **Alexander Ballroom**

Dr. William H. Trusheim, President, NJ Alliance for Social, Emotional, and Character Development

*This session is a panel discussion with organizations dedicated to advancing social-emotional learning in schools. These include the SEL Academy for Leaders, SEL Academy for Direct Instruction, NJ Alliance for Social, Emotional, and Character Development, the NJ School Health and Climate Coalition, and the Hudson County SECD Consortium. Each of these organizations uses a framework to create a network promoting professional learning opportunities for both teachers and school leaders.*

### **Leading for the Future - 7 Steps to Personalized Mindfulness for Educators** **Room: Henry**

Nicholas Mosca, Personalized Mindfulness in Education

*Between the multiple needs of students, endless grading, and evaluations (not to mention lunch duty!), teachers have their work cut out for them. Thankfully, mindfulness empowers educators to effectively navigate their stress so they can burn from within -- rather than burning out. Whether you've tried mindfulness and like it, have never tried it, or have tried it but didn't stick with it, this presentation will leverage your unique interests to help you access it and live more fully.*

### **Leading for Innovation - Redefining PD in the Age of Innovation** **Room: Fitzgerald**

Kimberly Gruccio, Assistant Superintendent, Egg Harbor Township School District

*Interested in hosting your own EdCamp, Summit, or Conference? How about offering job-embedded PD opportunities aimed at supporting staff with new endeavors? Find out what PD in the 21st Century is all about! Utilizing the 4 C's in education, we'll help you transform boring, ineffective PD into relevant and sustainable learning that inspires your staff. We'll give you the "down low" on what works and identify best practices from the planning stage to the implementation phase.*

### **Leading for Student Outcomes - Get 'Em Moving Then Get' Em Writing: Active Engagement Strategies** **Room: 24 Nassau**

Janice Malone, CEO, ELA Seminars

*This session is jam-packed with strategies to help teachers get students actively involved in reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary and oral communication lessons. Participants will interact with one another "Meet-Up" style, assume character identities, discuss prompts posted around the room, and experiment with role play to teach core literacy skills to middle/secondary students.*

### **Leading for Teacher Leaders - Making the Shift - Great Teacher to Teacher Leader** **Room: 25 Nassau**

Michael Dunlea, Teacher, National Network of State Teachers of the Year

*Taking on formal and informal teacher leader roles requires intentional shifts in our practice. This session will explore those shifts and how we can grow our leadership skills and support teachers in their leadership work.*

# August 4th, 2017

## Session 1 (10:10am-11:00am)

### **Leading for Teachers - Leading a District-wide Culture for Adult Learning Systems**

**Room: Henry**

Bruce Preston, Assist. Superintendent, Howell Township Public Schools; Joseph Isola  
*Evolving a culture of high-quality adult learning requires an organized structure of mutually understood expectations, responsive adaptability, and pathways of shared influence. Participants will experience the professional learning and leadership strategies used in Howell Township Public Schools to create strong coherence between those structures and the beliefs that have invigorated a strong culture for adult learning.*

### **Leading for Innovation - Leveraging Technology to Accelerate Research-based Instructional Strategies**

**Room: Fitzgerald**

Linda Carmona-Bell, Education Technology Specialist, NJDOE  
*This interactive session will offer ways to leverage technology in research-based practices to increase student academic success. We will focus on practices that check for understanding and provide effective feedback. There will be a back channel website that will be available for 30 days after the session, to capture information from the session and assist in furthering the networking activities among the participants to continue the conversations from the session.*

### **Leading for Student Outcomes - How To Connect Math & Literacy: Getting Students Reading, Writing & Speaking in Math Class**

**Room: 24 Nassau**

Alex Kajitani, California Teacher of the Year and the "Rappin Mathematician"  
*The ability to read, write and speak is now an essential part of math class. In this dynamic and entertaining session, participants will learn high-leverage strategies that are easy-to-implement, and will get students of all levels on the path toward achieving in math. By the end of this session, you will know how to get students: Talking about math in a way that is meaningful and relevant to their lives; Writing about math to clearly communicate and deepen their ideas; Reading word problems and persevere in solving them, and Understanding the importance of math in our everyday lives!*

### **Leading for Teacher Leaders - Creating a Space for Teacher Leadership**

**Room: 25 Nassau**

Dr. Julie Glazer, Superintendent, Nutley Public Schools; Dr. Maryann Woods-Murphy  
*This session will provide a case study and replicable structures for empowering and nurturing teacher leadership districtwide. Participants will hear the perspectives of district administration and teacher leaders and begin to plan for creating a space for teacher leadership in their own district.*

**August 4th, 2017**

## **Session 2 (11:10am-12:00pm)**

**Leading for Innovation - Trends in Learning: Redefining the Student Experience with a Digital Learning Environment.**

**Room: Fitzgerald**

Leah McConaughey, Education Development Executive, Apple, Inc.

*65% of our current students will have jobs that do not yet exist. How must schools respond to this ever-changing nature of learning? What performance-based, authentic experiences must our students engage with in order to adequately prepare them for their future? This session will explore inspiring Common Core-aligned learning opportunities and renew your vision for how to leverage technology to not only enhance, but redefine what your students are able to achieve.*

**Leading for Student Outcomes - Creating a Common Vision to Improve School Culture.**

**Room: 24 Nassau**

Tom Conroy, Principal, Westwood Regional School District

Participants will engage in an active learning experience on how to change the culture of your school by creating a common vision.

**Leading for Teacher Leaders - Leading From Within: Finding The Teacher Leader In You!**

**Room: 25 Nassau**

Billy Krakower, Founding Partner, Evolving Educators; Rob Pennington

*We will discuss specific ways we led in our schools/districts and community. First looking at building relationships as a teacher, then developing different strategies in which you can use technology to build these relationships with other teachers. Sometimes leading from the middle can be difficult and challenging. How do we support teachers, build administrative trust and move whole schools forward?*

**August 4th, 2017**

## **Session 3 (1:30am-2:20pm)**

**Leading the Future - Is your school "Future Ready"?**

**Room: Henry**

Joshua Koen, Chief Innovation Officer, NJDOE Jeremy Reich

*Learn about "Future Ready-NJ", a school-level recognition program developed by NJSBA, NJDOE, and NJIT to support personalized, research-based digital learning strategies so all students can achieve their full potential.*

**Leading For Teachers - Leading the Conditions for Adult Learning: It's more than creating an agenda!**

**Room: 25 Nassau**

Bruce Preston, Assist. Superintendent, Howell Township Public Schools

Like great lessons for students, the appropriate conditions for learning must first be set before we can expect our adult learners to be ready for professional learning. Participants will explore the ways Howell Township Public Schools create those conditions and creates a mutual understanding of the highest quality Professional Learning.

August 4th, 2017

Session 3 (1:30am-2:20pm)

Leading for Student Outcomes - A "Growth Mindset" to Create a Climate of High Expectations

Room: 24 Nassau

Tonya Breland, CEO, Teach Educators and Scholars Organization

*This interactive workshop will explore the growth and/or fixed mindset of educators as it relates to their roles with colleagues and students. There will be an opportunity for educators to introspectively challenge their deeply held beliefs as they work collaboratively to solve problems and improve growth mindset thinking. Participants will walk away with a renewed sense of purpose and gain new strategies to raise expectations while eliminating excuses, thus leading to better student outcomes.*

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