

# NYCESPA NEWSLETTER

THE NEW YORK CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION  
OLIVIA FRANCIS-WEBBER PRESIDENT

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## PETER DE WITT KEYNOTES 86TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

FEBRUARY 9, 2019

BROOKLYN BRIDGE MARRIOTT

NYCESPA's 86th Annual Convention is set to take place on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott. Convention Chair Elizabeth Jarrett, Principal of PS 154M is pleased to share this year's Convention Theme: "It's Elementary: Caring Principals Create Caring Schools. This year's Convention Keynote Speaker will be Peter DeWitt. Dr. DeWitt is a nationally renowned educator, and has served as a teacher and elementary school principal. Dr. DeWitt is an expert on fostering collaborative leadership and inclusive school climates, Dr. DeWitt is a Visible Learning Trainer, working with Dr. John Hattie. Dr. DeWitt appears courtesy of Corwin Press.

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# A Letter From Our President

January 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Saturday, February 9, 2019 marks our New York City Elementary School Principal Association's (NYCESPA) 86th Annual Convention at the Brooklyn Marriott. Our theme is, "It's Elementary: Caring Principals Create Caring Schools." This is a great time for principals and their leadership teams to listen to the inspirational keynote speaker Peter DeWitt. He is a leadership guru, author and a nationally recognized expert on motivating teams, and is widely seen as a powerful advocate for social justice. His topic is: Collaborative Leadership.

As New York City Elementary School Leaders, we know that: "This is the work! Now is the time! We are the people!" Collaborative leadership is needed more than ever to engage teachers, principals, students, and families. It combines transformational and instructional leadership, but includes ways to engage the whole school community and put the focus on learning. Additionally, there will be great opportunities to attend a variety of workshops specially designed for principals, teachers and parents. Afterwards, you and your team can debrief over a delicious hot meal.

We are also recognizing and honoring NYCESPA member principals who have accomplished 5, 10, 15 or 20 years of service as an elementary school principal. If you are one of these Jubilarians, please come and join us to celebrate your years of success. We are honoring leaders who espouse the NYCESPA Principals. These inaugural awards are being presented to Executive Superintendent Meisha Ross Porter, Superintendent District 5 Danika Rux and District 28 Superintendent Mabel Muniz Sarduy. Registration forms, found on page 6 of this newsletter, and on NYCESPA's website [www.nycespa.nyc](http://www.nycespa.nyc), may either be faxed or emailed to our main office.

Remember principals will get to participate in many great fun raffles besides the quality professional learning offered at the conference. Here are just a few examples: Visit the Exhibitor Contest: 5 \$ 100 gift card winners, Early bird arrival: 4 \$ 50.00 gift cards, Night at the Marriott Raffle, Free parking voucher (Non-transferable) and much, much more. Please keep warm and stay safe until we meet again on February 9th. Please spread the word and bring your colleagues, staff, parents and friends to join us at this awesome and inspiring event. I look forward to greeting each of you in person in two weeks.

Sincerely,

Olivia

## NYCESPA CONVENTION HONOREES

NYCESPA'S MISSION IS TO PROVIDE AN ADVOCATE'S VOICE FOR THE NEEDS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AT THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS, AND TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WHICH MEETS THE NEEDS OF ELEMENTARY AND K-8 PRINCIPALS. WE ARE PLEASED TO HONOR LEADERS WHOSE WORK EMBODIES ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPALS

### LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION MEISHA ROSS PORTER EXECUTIVE SUPERINTENDENT



Meisha Ross Porter exemplifies advocacy of and support for principals. Executive Superintendent Ross Porter was tapped last year to serve in the newly created position of Executive Superintendent. She served as superintendent of District 11 in the Bronx from 2015, where she oversaw 45 schools and four pre-k centers. Superintendent Ross Porter served as a long-time principal and assistant principal of The Bronx School for Law, Government, and Justice, a school she helped found in the 1990's. In her role as Superintendent, Ross Porter has been invested in deepening school leaders' equity lens and building collaborative practices across schools.

### LEADERSHIP COACHES SUPERINTENDENT DANIKA RUX, CSD 5 SUPERINTENDENT MABEL MUNIZ SARDUY CSD 28



**SUPERINTENDENT  
DANIKA RUX**

Danika Rux, is the Superintendent of Community School District 5 in Manhattan, a position she was chosen for in 2017. Danika's leadership is marked by her commitment to collaboratively drive progress, serving and supporting all engaged in this work. Danika uses the hashtags #leadershipmatters and #educationsaveslives to hallmark this work. Danika started her career as a speech therapist and classroom teacher at Brooklyn's P.S. 307 in 1995. Danika was the founding principal of Young Scholars' Academy for Discovery and Exploration in Bedford-Stuyvesant for five years, as well as holding other leadership positions in the Department of Education, moving into the Superintendency from overseeing the partnership between Brooklyn's District 23 with charter network Uncommon Schools



**SUPERINTENDENT  
MABEL MUNIZ-SARDUY**

Mabel Muniz-Sarduy is Superintendent of New York City School District 28, diligently serving the Department of Education for the past 27 years. On a daily basis, she assists principals, supervisors, teachers, students and families in providing a challenging and rewarding educational experience for all District 28 students.

Mabel served for 13 years as the Principal of P.S. 86K in District 32. In her 30 years as an educator, Ms. Muniz-Sarduy has worked as an Assistant Principal, Parent Coordinator and as a teacher in both public and private institutions. Mabel is a past president of NYCESPA, leading the organization in 2014 leaving the presidency when tapped as the Superintendent.

## February 9th Schedule of the Day

*8AM to 1PM*

*Registration - Promenade Second Floor*

*8AM to 1PM*

*Instructional Materials Exhibition*

*Ballroom Foyer, Salons G, H, I, Second Floor*

*8AM to 8:45AM*

*Continental Breakfast - In the Exhibit Area*

*9AM to 10:05AM*

*Professional Development Session A*

*See list of workshops on Page 5*

*Descriptions to be found in the Conference Program*

*10:05AM to 10:30AM*

*Exclusive Exhibitor Time and Coffee Break*

*10:30AM to 11:30AM*

*Professional Development Session B*

*Plenary Session, Grand Ballroom*

*Peter DeWitt: Collaborative Leadership*

*11:30AM to 11:50AM*

*Exclusive Exhibitor Viewing Time*

*11:55PM - 1PM*

*Professional Workshops Session C*

*See list of workshops on Page 5*

*1PM to 3:30PM*

*Gala Luncheon Grand Ballroom*

# Conference Workshops

9AM to 10:05AM

Professional Development Session A

Descriptions to be found in the Conference Program

- A-01 Heightening Student Performance Through Creative Scheduling
- A-02 Student Autonomy: Establishing a Culture of Self-Directed Learners
- A-03 Next Generation Learning Standards: Advance Literacies for ELL/MLLs
- A-04 Decision Making Made Easy: A Tool Kit to Help Leaders Make Good Choices
- A-05 Drive Professional Learning With Visionary Leadership
- A-06 Proven & Effective Strategies to Eliminate the Achievement Gap in Math
- A-07 A Fresh Look at Phonics
- A-08 A Different Literacy Lens – Using Social Emotional Learning as a Focus for Literacy Before and After School and Beyond
- A-09 The Power of Play: Social Emotional Learning Through Games and Strategies at Recess

10:30AM to 11:30AM

Professional Development Session B

Plenary Session, Grand Ballroom

Peter DeWitt: Collaborative Leadership

11:55PM - 1PM

Professional Workshops Session C

- C-01 Evaluating, Selecting, and Incorporating Children's and YA Literature Featuring Black Boys
- C-02 Conferring in Reader's and Writer's Workshop
- C-03 Personalized Learning
- C-04 Engaging Primary Learners with iPad
- C-05 Building Foundations with LEGO Education
- C-06 Cultivating Wellness and Mental Health in Our Classrooms
- C-07 Thinking and Talking About Big Ideas in Nonfiction Text
- C-08 The Brain Power School: Enhancing Focus, Mindfulness, and Emotional Well Being
- C-09 Parent Workshop – Have Fun Reading: Explore Book That Engage and Develop Your Child's Social-Emotional Skills

## Session A Workshops

### **A-01 Heightening Student Performance Through Creative Scheduling**

This interactive workshop is designed to enhance Principals' abilities to create schedules that maximize student performance. Our starting point will be the needs and challenges faced by the participants. Samples of schedules used by other schools in meeting these needs and challenges while meeting all contract provisions will be analyzed and discussed by students. In addition, participants will be able to create essential elements for constructing their schools' master schedule.

Joel Brodsky, Scheduling Consultant EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

### **A-02 Student Autonomy: Establishing a Culture of Self-Directed Learners**

Are you ready to transform your school by letting students take control of their own learning? School Leaders will explore the characteristics of learner independence and the link between student autonomy and highly effective teaching practices.

Participants will also define the role of each stakeholder and workshop strategies for implementing practices to foster a culture of self-directed learners. Dr. Sonia Martinez, SSP Director, Dr. Willena George, Intervenor and SSP Team SUPERVISORY SUPPORT PROGRAM

### **A-03 Next Generation Learning Standards: Advanced Literacies for ELL/MLLs**

Today's ELL students must be able to communicate and navigate an increasing interconnected society, which requires Advanced Literacies as required under the New Generation Learning Standards. During this session administrators will leave with a set of protocols that support the intentional teaching of advanced literacies in the Stand-alone and Integrated ENL classroom. Eva Garcia, NYS/NYC RBERN Executive Director, Luis Quan, Assistant Principal, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

### **A-04 Decision Making Made Easy: A Tool Kit to Help Leaders Make Good Choices**

Are you a leader that must make a lot of decisions? Professionally, do you have to select a new curriculum, programs, staff and partners? Personally, do you make choices about what you do and what you buy? Are you sometimes overwhelmed by the number of decisions you must make? Come to this session for the efficient tool kit that you can apply right away to help you make choices about personal and professional matters. You will leave with a set of tools that will help you make decisions in your personal and professional life. This presentation includes the use of Thinking Maps.

### **A-05 Drive Professional Learning With Visionary Leadership**

Professional development is crucial in the ongoing development for teachers and staff. The richer and more meaningful these opportunities are, a greater shift will occur with both mindset and learning for both teachers and students. During this session, participants will explore how to transform faculty meetings into deeply engaging and effective professional development with the utilization of technology. Presenters will focus on various technologies which aid helping principals and teachers develop a plan on how to shift traditional faculty meetings into a more engaged, teacher-centered learning opportunity. Cory Kindelmann, Management of Client Engagement, Kya Lyal Education Associate Educate LLC

### **A-06 Proven & Effective Strategies to Eliminate the Achievement Gap in Math**

The purpose of this session is to provide instructional leaders with proven strategies that have helped make math fun and engaging for students and teachers. We have worked with K-12 schools over the past 33 years to increase student math achievement. Instructional leaders will walk away with a better understanding of how the implementation of the "Up-Tempo Instructional Model" and other achievement gap-closings strategies can help boost student performance on state assessments. Mr. Charles Winslow, III Sr Development Manager, ACALETICS-Math

### **A-07 A Fresh Look at Phonics**

This session reviews the 7 key characteristics of strong phonics instruction, ways to ensure they are in place, and how to fine-tune them (if already in place) to maximize instructional success. Participants will examine the 10 common causes of phonics instructional failure and how to avoid them. This session is based on Blevins' work with school districts-examining test scores vs. instructional tools and classroom practices to identify the mismatches and areas of weakness that impede or slow learning. Dr. Wiley Blevins, Researcher, Author, and Literacy Consultant SADLIER

### **A-08 A Different Literacy Lens—Using Social Emotional Learning as a Focus for Literacy Before & After School & Beyond**

Using the work of Pam Allyn and Dr. Ernest Morrell, participants will review and discuss how the combination of literacy skills, Engagement Strategies and Social-Emotional Development Learning needs can positively impact student learning.

Participants in this session will explore strategies for before and after school learning time that positively impact learning. Mollie Henderson, Professional Learning Specialist SCHOLASTIC, INC

### **A-09 The Power of Play: Social Emotional Learning Through Games and Strategies at Recess**

Participants will learn best practices for creating a recess environment at their school that maximizes opportunities for children to develop social emotional skills such as conflict resolution, negotiation, empathy, inclusion and respect.

Participants will also leave with tips on how to leverage Playworks Free online assessment tool "The Recess Check Up" to evaluate the address immediate challenges associated with the recess experience at their school. Maya Posey, Henry Appiah, Regional Trainers PLAYWORKS

## Session C Workshops

### **C-01 Evaluating, Selecting, and Incorporating Children's and YA Literature Featuring Black Boys**

What children's and young adult literature centers the experience of Black boys and how do educators incorporate these robust texts into their classroom practices? This workshop – grounded in the belief that transformative literacy practices for our Black boys are possible and necessary – will provide participants with tools for evaluating and selecting #ownvoices texts (those written and illustrated by writers who share the same racial and ethnic background) about Black Boys.

Participants will gain an understanding of the breadth of availability of Black boy literature and have the ability to identify texts which are worthy of incorporation into their classrooms, as well as the strategies to incorporate these into inclusive reading practices. Dr. Kim Parker, Assistant Director, Teacher Training Course SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS

### **C-02 Conferring in Reader's and Writer's Workshop**

Workshop participants will receive a PowerPoint presentation which will address the importance of conferring, demonstrate the architecture of a reader's conference and show how conferring will drive further reading instructions. Attendees will receive additional materials to assist in the laying the groundwork for effective reading instruction. All attendees are welcome. Luisa Travaglia, Literacy Consultant CITE

### **C-03 Personalized Learning**

Participants will reimagine the educational process so that staff members are equipped to adapt to meet the needs to the students they serve. They will explore personalized learning as an approach that embraces students as partners in their educational experience. Participants will engage in meaningful conversations, consider critical questions about the roles of students in the classrooms, and begin to consider solutions for shifting practice to meet the needs of individual students. All materials will be presented and distributed in a digital format so that participants have access to materials when they return to their buildings. Michael Windram, Professional Learning Specialist CEI Center for Educational Innovation

### **C-04 Engaging Primary Learners with iPad**

Learn from inspirational stories of teachers who are having a great success improving literacy, numeracy, creativity, and student engagement with iPad. Explore the built-in features on iPad and education apps to support early reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Discover innovative teaching strategies for personalizing learning for primary students. Paul Vassak, Development Executive, Apple

### **C-05 Building Foundations with LEGO Education**

Join us for this fun, hands-on learning experience with LEGO Education to explore how you can incorporate creativity, inquiry and collaboration in early childhood instruction to build important foundation for student learning in areas such as STEM, literacy and social emotional skills. Dr. Leanna Prater, Solutions Engineer LEGO Education

### **C-06 Cultivating Wellness and Mental Health in Our Classrooms**

Participants will receive an overview of the current science and research supporting the integration of mindfulness, movement, breath and social emotional learning activities as viable and successful practices to foster a community of wellness including mental health and social well-being in our classrooms and schools. Participants will engage in and learn how to integrate these important strategies. Diane L. MacDonald, Founder Education Alive: a Division of It Takes a Village Wellness

### **C-07 Thinking and Talking About Big Ideas in Nonfiction Text**

This interactive session invites participants to consider instructional strategies designed to encourage language and cognitive development. Teachers will observe and discuss videos of students as they co-construct understandings of nonfiction texts. Nonfiction texts and assessments designed specifically to consider integration of text and graphics will be shared. Diane Crouch, Educational Consultant, Okapi Educational Publishing

### **C-08 The Brain Power School: Enhancing Focus, Mindfulness, and Emotional Well Being**

This engaging presentation will explain the essence of the Brain Power Wellness program, utilized by more than 200 NYC schools. Participants will not only receive materials and information regarding the effectiveness of Brain Power Breaks, we will also practice 10 hands-on classroom activities that boost focus, promotes mindfulness and emotional wellness. You will learn brain-based classroom management strategies and tips for creating collaborative school-wide culture. Participants will receive a signed copy of the book "The Brain Power Classroom". Dave Beal, Executive Director, BRAIN POWER LEARNING

### **C-09 Parent Workshop: Have Fun Reading: Explore Book That Engage and Develop Your Child's Social-Emotional Skills**

This workshop will help parents to develop their children's social and emotional learning through enjoyable activities which children and adults alike will find enjoyable and stimulating. Katherine Marshall-Polite, LCSWR, Executive Director, Rebekah Askew-Morris, Content Specialist, Caroline Rostant, Social Worker, Students in Temporary Housing, NYCDOE



## NYCESPA'S 86<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION

*The New York City Elementary School Principals Association*

Saturday, February 9, 2019 8 AM to 3:30 PM

The New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge

### Ticket Requests

SCHOOL DBN \_\_\_\_\_ School Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

1. Principal \_\_\_\_\_ @schools.nyc.gov

If any of the tickets is being purchased for a principal other than the one named above, please check the box next to the person's name.

#	Principal?	First Name	Last Name
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

NB Tables seat 10. Free Parking Voucher for NYCESPA member only.

**NYCESPA Vendor No. 131635275 – Use SOLE VENDOR Tab.**

Method of Payment  Check/Money Order  Purchase Order  SIPP  PayPal\*

\*PayPal Payments must be made over the phone prior to January 25<sup>th</sup> to secure seating.

Purchase Order/SIPP Number \_\_\_\_\_ (Attach copy to this form.)

Seating Preference (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_

**Tickets will be held for pickup at the Conference:**

Name of Person Completing this Form \_\_\_\_\_

Email of Person Completing this Form \_\_\_\_\_ @schools.nyc.gov

<p style="text-align: center;">Summary Information</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ Tickets @ \$130 = _____</p> <p>Please note: Returned checks are subject to a \$25 fee.</p> <p><b>NO REFUNDS will be given after Friday, Jan. 25</b></p>	<p>Return completed form and payment by Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NYCESPA Attn: Elizabeth Jarrett 40 Rector Street 12<sup>th</sup> Floor NY, NY 10006</p>
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