



Building a Foundation for Success

Tennessee Alternative Education Association

Summer Conference

June 25-27, 2018, Murfreesboro, TN

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Robert L. Kirton



Dr. Craig Boykin



Todd Scott Parker



Commissioner
Burns Phillips III

The Embassy Suites Hotel

1200 Conference Center Boulevard, Murfreesboro, TN 37129

www.the-taea.org

2018 TAEA Conference at a Glance

Monday, June 25, 2018	
11:00am – 4:00pm	Exhibitor Set-up and Registration
1:00 – 1:15 pm	Welcome to Murfreesboro - TAEA Board
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Break Out Session 1
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 - 3:45 pm	Break Out Session 2
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Manager’s Reception for Hotel Guests
Tuesday, June 26, 2018	
7:00 - 8:00 am	Registration
8:00 - 8:15 am	Opening Remarks: TAEA Board
8:15 - 9:30 am	Opening Keynote: Dr. Robert Kirton, DNA Solutions, Adjunct Professor, South Carolina State University
9:30 - 9:45 am	Refreshment/Exhibitor Break
9:45 – 10:45 am	Breakout Session 3
10:45 – 11:00 am	Refreshment/Exhibitor Break
11:00 – 12:00 am	Breakout Session 4
12:00 – 12:45 pm	Lunch
12:45 - 2:00 pm	Afternoon Keynote: Craig Boykin, 180 Group LLC
2:00 – 2:15 pm	Refreshment/Exhibitor Break
2:15 - 3:15 pm	Breakout Session 5
3:15 - 3:30 pm	Refreshment/Exhibitor Break
3:30 - 4:30 pm	Breakout Session 6
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Manager’s Reception for Hotel Guest
Wednesday, June 27, 2018	
8:00 - 8:30 am	Opening Remarks –TAEA Board
8:30 - 9:30 am	Morning Keynote: Todd Parker, CEO, Parker Education & Development, LLC
9:30 – 9:40 am	Refreshment/Exhibitor Break
9:40 - 10:40 am	Breakout Session 7
10:40 – 10:50 am	Refreshment/Exhibitor Break
10:50 - 11:50 am	Breakout Session 8
11:50 – 12:00 am	Refreshment/Exhibitor Break
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Closing Keynote Commissioner Burns Phillips III, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development Door Prizes – Must be present to win



Building a Foundation for Success

June 25, 2018

Greetings Friends and Colleagues,

The Tennessee Alternative Education Association (TAEA) would like to personally welcome each of you to the 2018 Summer Institute where we are building a foundation for success and sharing practices to meet the needs of students who require the support of alternative learning environments. We began planning for this year's institute last July after reviewing the 2018 evaluations and comments made by you, our members. The comments you provided gave us insight on selecting our presenters for the 2018 institute.

During this year's institute, you will learn new techniques on how to implement Instructional Technology to Personalize Learning and Mindful Education in the alternative school setting. You will also have the opportunity to collaborate with experts on special education law, school counseling, resiliency, and exemplary practices for alternative education. Our goal is to equip you with new knowledge and skills that will motivate and inspire you to return to your districts on fire and prepared to meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of your students.

Our presenters include alternative education teachers and administrators, CEOs, behavioral specialists, educational consultants, school counselors, central office administrators, health and wellness practitioners, professors, authors, and the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and a representative from the Tennessee Department of Treasury. We also have fellow educators from 16 other states including Hawaii who will be sharing their research and practices.

During the day on Tuesday, June 26 in Mirabella G you will hear from the principals, teachers and staff of three of Tennessee Alternative schools that were awarded Exemplary Practices in Alternative Education. The Tennessee Department of Education, in partnership with the Governor's Advisory Council for Alternative Education and the Tennessee Alternative Education Association (TAEA), established the Exemplary Practices in Alternative Education Recognition Program to recognize the efforts of districts who exemplify high-quality alternative education services.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the dedication, commitment and hard work of our TAEA Board and the TAEA Treasurer Major Shelton. A special thanks goes out to our exhibitors. Be sure visit with them and discuss how their products might benefit your students. I also want to thank my fellow colleagues at Smyrna West Alternative School for their support in planning and promotion efforts of the conference and their assistance with registration and facilitation.

Over the next two and a half days, we encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity to fellowship and share your experiences in education. We also encourage to envision how the strategies and practices presented during this conference can be used in your programs to improve achievement and support the needs of your students. In your free time, please venture out and explore Murfreesboro. It's a beautiful city with lots of shopping and great places to eat! For more information regarding local attractions, feel free to visit the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, which is right across the street.

In closing, the TAEA would like to thank each of you for joining us this year and your continuous support our efforts.

Sincerely,

Lee Farris

Lee Farris M.Ed.
TAEA President – Middle Tennessee Region
Conference Chair

TAEA Summer Conference June 25-27, 2018

Monday, June 25		
Time	Location	Event/Session Title
1:00 – 4:00pm	Conference Hall	Registration
1:00 – 1:15pm	Mirabella A,B,C	Welcome to Murfreesboro – TAEA Board
1:15 - 1:30pm	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
1:30 – 2:30pm	Mirabella A	School Safety Protocol ... Make Sure Your School is Safe Dr. Robert Kirton, DNA Solutions, Adjunct Professor, South Carolina State University
	Mirabella B	Class not Chaos Sharla Reynolds, Consultant, Class not Chaos Consulting
	Mirabella C	Drowning In A Sea of Discipline Referrals? I've Got Your Life Vest! Cyndee Kawalek, Educational Trainer and Consultant, Cyndee's Teacher Training
	Mirabella D	Creating a Differentiated Classroom Without 20 Different Lesson Plans Dana Cochran, Teacher, Stilwell Public Schools
2:30 – 2:45pm	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
2:45 - 3:45pm	Mirabella A	Positively Ridgedale! Diana Gossett, Ridgedale School
	Mirabella B	Using Behavioral Types (DISC) For Classroom Management Dr. Tuesday Tate, Vision Focus Group
	Mirabella C	Creating a Safe, Respectful, Calm, Productive Learning Environment Jeanette Gassaway, Adjunct Faculty, Southern State Community College
	Mirabella D	The Kuleana Framework - Changing School Culture Through Place-Based Practices Brad Bennett, Complex Area Superintendent, Hawaii Department of Education
5:30 – 7:30pm	Lobby	Manager's Reception for Hotel Guest

Tuesday, June 26		
Time	Location	Event/Session Title
7:00 - 8:00am	Conference Hall	Registration
8:00 - 8:15 am	Mirabella A,B,C	Opening Remarks: TAEA Board
8:15 - 9:30am	Mirabella A,B,C	Keynote Session Dr. Robert Kirton, DNA Solutions, Adjunct Professor, South Carolina State University The 100% School Climate Challenge: Staff & Students
9:30 -9:45am	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
9:45-10:45am	Mirabella A	Change Behavior, One Behavior At a Time Brenda Prestage, Educational Consultant
	Mirabella B	TN Volunteer Challenge Academy Leah Powell Blocker, RPM Coordinator, TN Volunteer Challenge Academy
	Mirabella C	Making the Classroom Connection Jackie Morgan, Senior Economic and Financial Education Specialist, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta - Nashville Branch
	Mirabella D	Out of Desperation Comes Inspiration Debbie Leonard and Marcey Aronson, Consultant and Co-Developer of Brainzones, Learn Brainzones LLC
	Mirabella G	Project STAND at G. W. Carver College and Career Academy Dr. James Suggs, Principal, G. W. Carver College and Career Academy

10:45 – 11:00am	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
11:00 - 12:00am	Mirabella A	Change Behavior, One Behavior At a Time Brenda Prestage, Educational Consultant
	Mirabella B	Brain Child - Perfect practice makes perfect Joey Gamble, Regional Manager, Brainchild Company
	Mirabella C	The Kuleana Framework - Changing School Culture Through Place-Based Practices Brad Bennett, Complex Area Superintendent, Hawaii Department of Education
	Mirabella D	The 7 Keys to Success: Unleashing Teacher and Student Potential Cedric Threatt, Author, Ahava Publishing, LLC
	Mirabella G	Question and Answer Session Exemplary Small Alternative School Garry Jett, Principal, Jefferson Academy
12:00 – 1:00pm	TBA	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00pm	Mirabella A, B, C	Afternoon Keynote Make Your Time Count Dr. Craig Boykin, 180 Group LLC
2:00 – 2:15pm	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
2:15 – 3:15 pm	Mirabella A	School Based Dangers Todd Parker, Chief Executive Officer, Parker Education & Development
	Mirabella B	Connecting to the REAL World Jeannette Bennett, Senior Economic Education Specialist, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis-- Memphis Branch
	Mirabella C	From Individualized Learning Plan to Individualized Learner David Cicero, Educational Programs Consultant, Edmentum
	Mirabella D	From Credit Recovery to Personalized Learning Jody Burns, National Curriculum and Instruction Specialist , Edgenuity
	Mirabella G	The Navigator Way: Best Practices of an Exemplary Tennessee Alternative School April Baer, School Counselor, Richard Yoakley School
3:15 - 3:30pm	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
3:30 - 4:30pm	Mirabella A	Ships, Trips & Anchors: De-escalating the negativity while escalating the humanity Todd Parker, CEO, Parker Education & Development, LLC
	Mirabella B	Overcoming Cultural Poverty, Disengaged Parents, and Apathetic Students Dr. Craig Boykin, 180 Group LLC
	Mirabella C	Peeling Back the Motivation Onion Dr. Keith Tobias, Daniel McKee Alternative School
	Mirabella D	Using a Restorative Justice Approach in Transitions Nancy Kelley, Counseling and Intervention Supervisor, Collierville Schools
	Mirabella G	Why should I get a MEd in Curriculum and Instruction? Kelly Sanders-Kelly, Faulkner University
5:30 – 7:30pm	Lobby	Manager's Reception for Hotel Guest

Wednesday, June 27		
Time	Location	Session Title
8:00 - 8:30 am	Mirabella A,B,C	Opening Remarks: TAEA Board
8:30 – 9:30 am	Mirabella A,B,C	Keynote Session: I Am Alternative!! Todd Parker, CEO, Parker Education & Development, LLC
9:30 – 9:40 am	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
9:40 – 10:40 am	Mirabella A	The 7 Keys to Success: Unleashing Teacher and Student Potential Cedric Threatt, Author, Ahava Publishing, LLC
	Mirabella B	Restorative Practices and Using Circles Effectively Janet Watkins, Director of Training, TN AWARE, TN Department of Education
	Mirabella C	My Classroom Economy: Classroom Behavioral Management System Bill Parker, Director, Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission
	Mirabella D	Using a Restorative Justice Approach in Transitions Nancy Kelley, Counseling and Intervention Supervisor, Collierville Schools
10:40 - 10:50 am	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
10:50 – 11:50pm	Mirabella A	Instruction Differentiated Sharla Reynolds, Consultant, Class not Chaos Consulting
	Mirabella B	Differentiation Fresh and New: How to MOTIVATE the UNMOTIVATED Cyndee Kawalek, Educational Trainer and Consultant, Cyndee's Teacher Training
	Mirabella C	New Drug Trends Among Youth and the Importance of Partnering with Community Coalitions Jermonde Bey, Coalition Director, Prevention Coalition for Success
	Mirabella D	English Language Learners in the Alternative School Environment Johnna Paraiso, Instructional Facilitator, Rutherford County Schools
11:50 – 12:00pm	Conference Hall	Break/Visit Exhibitors
12:00-1:30 pm	Mirabella A,B,C	Closing Keynote Workforce of the Future Burns Phillips III, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development Door Prizes – Must be present to win

Total of 13 hours of In-Service/TASL for this conference

Day 1

Breakout Session 1

Monday, June 25, 2018

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Mirabella A

School Safety Protocol ...Make Sure Your School is Safe

This session is highly relevant for educational leaders who need a comprehensive all-hands-on approach to make sure your school is safe and secure while improving your climate and culture.

With all of the school shootings and other acts of violence taking place in our schools today everyone is paying attention and a lot of our students and teachers are stressed and riddled with anxiety. Who is at-risk? Who may be victimized? Can this happen in my school or community? We will start with our school safety audit which will give you immediate feedback related to your school's DNA. Participants will also receive grant information, resources and proactive solutions to help you make sure your school is safe.

Dr. Robert Kirton, DNA Solutions, Adjunct Professor South Carolina State University

Dr. Robert L. Kirton has more than 3 decades of dedicated community, military and public education service. He served as a Chief Educational Officer, Executive Director of Schools, Principal, Coach and Teacher.

Dr. Kirton now serves as a Professor of Educational Leadership, School Climate Specialist, Author and Motivational Speaker. Dr. Kirton's documented success includes a cumulative graduation rate above 95%. He has been awarded and implemented more than \$100 Million Dollars in Grants and Resources. The public charter school he established and facilitated with his research graduated 100% of their Black Male Students. He also received the National FBI Directors Award for Community Leadership and Development.

Dr. Kirton is results driven and passionate about student achievement and success and is committed to supporting educational and community leaders.

Monday, June 25, 2018

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Mirabella B

Class not Chaos Consulting

Fostering creativity, imagination, and innovation in an equitable and supportive manner affecting all stakeholders is a daunting task. You can succeed! Planning, organization, excellent support staff, and a passion for education comprises a solid foundation. Learn what can be accomplished in just one minute for self-esteem, self-assessment, and how to teach that to others. Effective communication, positive mindset, and balance of life with work are also addressed.

Sharla Reynolds, Consultant, Class Not Chaos Consulting

Nationally Certified Education Consultant and over 30 years as a teacher, principal, and consultant.

Drowning In A Sea of Discipline Referrals? I've Got Your Life Vest!

Why waste precious instructional energy? Why send students to the Principal's office when we can refocus their energy back to the task at hand? You can solve problems without transferring your authority or losing your dignity. You will learn to analyze the severity of the disruption and give appropriate responses both verbally and non-verbally. Students who present severe problems can be redirected using techniques that correct the problem and systematically reintegrate them into the classroom. The beauty of this technique is that instruction continues with little interruption of precious instructional time. You WILL have time to teach and they WILL have the opportunity to learn.

Cyndee Kawalek, Educational Trainer and Consultant, Cyndee's Teacher Training

Educational Trainer and Consultant –Cyndee’s Teacher Training. Training in the Time to Teach methods of Classroom Management and Differentiated Instruction/Student Engagement and Motivation. Trained through the Center for Teacher Effectiveness Illinois Public High School Teacher - 22 years Masters Degree in Social Work providing social services in the areas of: Addiction counseling Youth and family counseling Employee Assistance

Creating a Differentiated Classroom Without 20 Different Lesson Plans

“Engaging every student in reading and math activities at his or her own level.” Sounds like one of those idyllic dreams proposed by those who have never been in a classroom, doesn’t it? Find out how an average teacher differentiates everything from classroom management to curriculum in a rural elementary school classroom - without writing 20 different lesson plans a day. Be prepared to move around the room, get hands-on, and be rewarded for your work ethic. This is definitely NOT a traditional classroom. Find out about "Fun Fridays" and how they motivate students while teaching social-emotional skills.

Dana Cochran, Teacher, Stilwell Public Schools

Certified teacher with over 15 years experience in both classroom and corporate settings. Experienced curriculum developer and trainer.

Breakout Session 2

Positively Ridgedale!

The Middle School Alternative Program at Ridgedale School has changed its culture and climate over the past several years through the effective use of PBIS, Restorative Practices, Social Skills Instruction and lots of hard work. This session will review where we were, where we are and where we are going as we work towards our school mission of providing a safe, consistent environment with a structured plan for each student's personal success.

Diana Gossett, Ridgedale School

Principal, Ridegedale School for 7 years. Former Special Education Supervisor and Teacher.

Using Behavioral Types (DISC) For Classroom Management

This program provides innovated, interactive, realistic instruction for professional and personal development as well as classroom and student engagement. Attendees will gain knowledge and understanding of DISC; the leading personality behavioral assessment tool in the Country. Can you imagine how more effective your classroom could be if you as a pioneering teacher and educator knew how to (1) recognize these behavioral traits from the four main DISC personality types and (2) prepare lessons, engage, and speak in ways that was tailored to your students allow them to gain a greater and more relative understanding.

Dr. Tuesday Tate, Vision Focus Group

Certified Trainer, Professional Motivational Speaker, Certified Behavioral Analysis (DISC), Doctor of Theology, Certified Executive Coach.

Creating a Safe, Respectful, Calm, Productive Learning Environment

This presentation will allow the participants to explore research-based, effective classroom management strategies that will significantly reduce the amount of time teachers spend with misbehaviors and increase the amount of time dedicated to valuable instruction. The results of using these strategies will be a safe, calm, respectful and productive learning environment. The strategies include: 1) maintaining self-control when conflicts arise and deflating and overcoming conflicts, 2) learning the benefits of treating students with unconditional positive regard, 3) exploring classroom ecology and the best practices that promote and support positive behaviors in the physical classroom environment, 4) developing a specific behavior curriculum that allow students to know exactly what is expected of them in the classroom and in the school setting and how to behavior appropriately, and 5) providing a time for students to refocus and choose the appropriate behavior when they have “missed it.” Once these strategies are successfully implemented in the classroom, teacher will spend far less time on behavior issues and much more time on doing what they love to do – teach! It can dramatically and positively change a classroom environment and the relationship between teachers and students, invigorating and energizing both for long-term success.

Jeanette Gassaway, Adjunct Faculty, Southern State Community College

Jeanette Gassaway has a Ph.D. in Community Psychology and has been involved in research and practice in education, particularly early childhood education. She has worked and in schools for grades K-12. She is currently an education advocate and consultant.

The Kuleana Framework - Changing School Culture Through Place-Based Practices

In the Hawaiian language, Kuleana is translated as “responsibility”. However, it carries a deeper meaning, implying an individual taking shared ownership of collective vision and mission of the group. They don’t do it just to be compliant but because they have a shared interest in the outcome. The Kuleana Framework, while created out of Hawaiian cultural values, is universal in it’s basic tenet that change efforts must be homegrown and grounded in the “place” they are to be implemented in. This approach empowers student, faculty, leadership, and community and creates a climate where there is a shared commitment to success, because everyone understands the parameters and desired outcomes due to their collaborative engagement throughout the process.

Brad Bennett, Complex Area Superintendent, Hawaii Department of Education

Complex Area Superintendent - Hawaii Department of Education Principal - Hawaii Department of Education Master of Education - University of Hawaii Omidyar Fellow

Day 2

Keynote Session 1

The 100% School Climate Challenge: Staff & Students

The 100% School Climate Challenge is based on more than 3 decades of research and field experiences. The tools and resources shared will take participants on a personal journey to be the best they can be. The thought of always doing your best may sound obvious, but if you keep it 100 we all fall short. Motivating and engaging students is a challenge, each school year, each day presents new difficulties.

We need to refresh ourselves and recharge our energy so we can do our best and give our best. The 100% Challenge, helps you to develop an action plan for success building on your strengths and addressing your challenges as an individual and as an organization. A positive school climate is an important target for school reform and improving attendance, behavioral and academic, outcomes for struggling schools and students most at-risk. The 100% Challenge helps leadership to better connect with their team and keep it 100.

Dr. Robert Kirton, DNA Solutions, Adjunct Professor, South Carolina State University

Dr. Robert L. Kirton has more than 3 decades of dedicated community, military and public education service. He served as a Chief Educational Officer, Executive Director of Schools, Principal, Coach and Teacher.

Dr. Kirton now serves as a Professor of Educational Leadership, School Climate Specialist, Author and Motivational Speaker. Dr. Kirton’s documented success includes a cumulative graduation rate above 95%. He has been awarded and implemented more than \$100 Million Dollars in Grants and Resources. The public charter school he established and facilitated with his research graduated 100% of their Black Male Students. He also received the National FBI Directors Award for Community Leadership and Development.

Dr. Kirton is results driven and passionate about student achievement and success and is committed to supporting educational and community leaders.

Breakout Session 3

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

9:45 – 10:45 am

Mirabella A

Change Behavior, One Behavior At a Time

Educators in alternative settings face numerous disciplinary issues daily, so the need for effective strategies to deal with such issues is critical. Instead of reacting to student challenges from a perspective of emotion, teachers must use tools to operate from a perspective of reason. This includes distinguishing between “push-aside” situations and “walk-away” situations. Additionally, teaching behavior expectations through the use of a precise, direct-teach model will alleviate many of the questionable behaviors that too often drain a teacher’s energy, patience, and valuable instructional time. These techniques can be used immediately in the classroom and can easily be shared among colleagues. It’s a win for teachers; it’s a win for students; it’s a win for your campus!

Brenda Prestage, Educational Consultant

Retired High School Principal; Works as a consultant concerning classroom management and student behavior. Active presenter at educational conferences nation-wide.

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

9:45 – 10:45 am

Mirabella B

TN Volunteer Challenge Academy

Learn more about our 22 week Residential Program for "At Risk" Youth in TN. We focus on 8 Core Components but mainly education in Credit Recovery, HISET and even HS Diploma. We have a certified HS through DCS.

Leah Powell Blocker, RPM Coordinator, TN Volunteer Challenge Academy

I am from Springfield, TN and has lived in Robertson Co since I was 10 weeks old, with the exception of my wonderful experience at the University of Alabama! I worked for the Department of Human Services for 17 years under Vocational Rehabilitation at a Residential facility for Adults with disabilities. Since January of 2017 I have been working at the TN Volunteer Challenge Academy as the RPM Coordinator (Recruitment, Placement, and Mentoring). We work with at-risk youth ages 16-18. It has been an honor to watch our first 2 classes graduate and the progress they made during their time with us.

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

9:45 – 10:45 am

Mirabella C

Making the Classroom Connection

Looking for ways to connect with your students? Then join us for this hands-on, interactive session that will highlight free, classroom ready materials focusing on soft skills and personal finance. Participants will engage and learn about FREE collaborative activities, project-focused lessons, infographics and related activities, online interactives, videos, and many additional resources.

Jackie Morgan, Senior Economic and Financial Education Specialist, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta - Nashville Branch

Jackie Morgan is recognized as a state and national leader in personal financial education. She serves as board member and past 3-year president of the Tennessee Jump\$tart Coalition, which was recognized by National Jump\$tart as the State Coalition of the Year under her leadership. She is currently serving on the National Business Education Association Economics and Personal Finance Education Committee and the Task Force on Personal Finance Instruction as well as serving as the Past Chair for the Academies of Nashville Business, Marketing, and IT Partnership Council. Additionally, Ms. Morgan trains educators, develops curriculum, writes articles, and conducts outreach related to personal finance and economics. She

received the Nashville Emerging Leader Award for Education and was named a “Top 40 Under 40” leader by the Nashville Business Journal. Ms. Morgan has Bachelor’s Degrees in both Agricultural Business and Public Relations and a Master’s Degree in Business Education.

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

9:45 – 10:45 am

Mirabella D

Out of Desperation Comes Inspiration

Believing we could not survive another day was no way to live. Brainzones changed our thinking, teaching, and most importantly, changed our students learning, behavior, and self-worth! Learn Brainzones, is an approach to teaching and learning that utilizes an emotional brain model; making visible the impact emotions have on learning and behavior. Through Brainzones, develop insight to yourself and others, build knowledge and understanding of the emotional-brain and learn strategies for managing shifts that drive our thinking, actions, and learning. Central to learning and success, our data driven program draws upon decades of research and extensive inner-city experiences, including behavior disordered and alternative students; proven to reach the most disruptive and dysfunctional students, while also benefiting the teacher. As an integral part of the change process, Brainzones relies heavily on the implementation and daily practices of mindful awareness and proactive problem-solving. The breath, relaxing music, teacher modeling, positive visualization, and positive self-talk are some of the tools used for cultivating self-regulation, focus, resilience, insight, and social awareness. Learn Brainzones, proven to Adjust Attitudes, Balance Behavior, Create Confidence, Raise Results; with video testimonials demonstrating its life-long impact.

Debbie Leonard, Consultant of Brainzones, Learn Brainzones LLC

Marcey Aronson, Co-Developer of Brainzones, Learn Brainzones LLC

Debbie Leonard and Marcey Aronson Akron Public Schools Teaching Experience: Severe Behavior Disordered Teachers - 7 years; Alternative Teachers (and curriculum developers) - 8 years; Instructional District Coaching - 7 years. Research and Development of Brainzones - 1992 to present. Presenters - ASCD multiple years, Multiple Ohio schools, Akron Public Schools Special Ed institute. Certification/Degrees - BS in education and special education, masters in literacy, Master Teacher Certification

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

9:45 – 10:45 am

Mirabella G

Project STAND at G. W. Carver College and Career Academy

Historic research indicates U. S. juvenile courts handle an estimated 1.6 million cases where youth have been charged with a delinquency offense. After the students have been arrested, they are either detained in a detention center or return home pending their court date. During this time, it is imperative intervention and strategies are provided at the school level to attack reducing the recidivism rates of at risk students and diverse learners. Shelby County Schools Department of Alternative Schools is participating in a 3-year grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of College and Careers through Career and Technical Education to support the Juvenile Reentry Education Program titled Project STAND (Student Transition Accelerations and NCRC (National Career Readiness Certificate) Demonstration). This presentation will discuss the effectiveness and outcomes of a career and college readiness program dedicated to specifically support at risk youth and those with diverse learning styles to become career and college ready. Session participants will be able to readily use provided strategies to improve the academic and behavior problems for at risk students by implementing ideas and practices from Project STAND. A detailed description of strategies will be shared of how student’s attendance, grades, behavior improved by being apart of this college and career readiness program. Project STAND uses a model of work based learning and academic intervention to prepare students to be successful.

Dr. James Suggs, Principal, G. W. Carver College and Career Academy

Dr. James Suggs, Principal - G. W. Carver College and Career Academy Tracy Gorea, Advisor- Project STAND

Breakout Session 4

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

11:00 – 12:00 am

Mirabella A

Change Behavior, One Behavior At a Time

Educators in alternative settings face numerous disciplinary issues daily, so the need for effective strategies to deal with such issues is critical. Instead of reacting to student challenges from a perspective of emotion, teachers must use tools to operate from a perspective of reason. This includes distinguishing between “push-aside” situations and “walk-away” situations. Additionally, teaching behavior expectations through the use of a precise, direct-teach model will alleviate many of the questionable behaviors that too often drain a teacher’s energy, patience, and valuable instructional time. These techniques can be used immediately in the classroom and can easily be shared among colleagues. It’s a win for teachers; it’s a win for students; it’s a win for your campus!

Brenda Prestage, Educational Consultant

Retired High School Principal; Works as a consultant concerning classroom management and student behavior. Active presenter at educational conferences nation-wide.

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

11:00 – 12:00 am

Mirabella B

Brain Child - Perfect practice makes perfect

No one would argue that practice and how we practice has an impact on what we do. Whether learning to drive, cook, engaged in a sporting event, or understanding moderns concepts in academic achievement, how we practice trains the body, mind, and spirit to make certain actions and decisions. In this session you will discover how to engage, modify, and improve each student’s personal learning experience with a strategic use of self-paced and guided instruction.

Joey Gamble, Regional Manager, Brainchild Company

A 30+ year veteran in the world of sales, service and leadership. As the Regional Manager of the Brainchild Company since 2002, Joey travels throughout the U.S. consulting and working with school districts, juvenile and adult correctional facilities, and a variety of alternative education programs to increase stakeholder interest and participation, improve student attitude and behavior toward learning, and increase program success rates through collaboration and technology. Joey is 60 years old, married, the father of 5 children, and 1 grandchild. His hobbies include horseback riding, landscaping, farming, family events, and a variety of ministries and volunteer work associated with his church and community.

The Kuleana Framework - Changing School Culture Through Place-Based Practices

In the Hawaiian language, Kuleana is translated as “responsibility”. However, it carries a deeper meaning, implying an individual taking shared ownership of collective vision and mission of the group. They don’t do it just to be compliant but because they have a shared interest in the outcome. The Kuleana Framework, while created out of Hawaiian cultural values, is universal in it’s basic tenet that change efforts must be homegrown and grounded in the “place” they are to be implemented in. This approach empowers student, faculty, leadership, and community and creates a climate where there is a shared commitment to success, because everyone understands the parameters and desired outcomes due to their collaborative engagement throughout the process.

Brad Bennett, Complex Area Superintendent, Hawaii Department of Education

Complex Area Superintendent - Hawaii Department of Education Principal - Hawaii Department of Education Master of Education - University of Hawaii Omidyar Fellow

The 7 Keys to Success: Unleashing Teacher and Student Potential

The Seven Keys to SUCCESS is a presentation based on a book by author, poet and success strategist, Cedric L. Threatt. This interactive and engaging presentation is designed to motivate and inspire educators by showing them seven basic principles they can use to make an impact on the lives of their students and help reduce the dropout rate. Using these seven keys will remind educators how special they are by letting them know they are appreciated and that what they do really does matter.

Cedric Threatt, Author, Ahava Publishing, LLC

Cedric L. Threatt has presented at several conferences across the southeast and has authored 17 books on a variety of subjects such as Bullying, Diversity, Teen Motivation, Childhood and adult Illiteracy, and Childhood Obesity

Question and Answer Session Exemplary Small Alternative School

Answer question about Jefferson Academy Exemplary Status with the State of Tennessee.

Garry Jett, Principal, Jefferson Academy

Principal of Jefferson Academy that has been awarded Exemplary Status.

Afternoon Keynote

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Mirabella A-C

Make Your Time Count

(GED to Ph.D.) is a stimulating account of Craig J. Boykin’s inspiring journey from a very challenging upbringing to motivating millions across America.

Dr. Craig Boykin, 180 Group LLC

Every now and then you come across an individual who lives a humble life. Yet, his very presence strikes a chord within you. Craig’s story is one that moves, touches and inspires audiences. It’s a story about determination and personal accountability. It’s a story about a young man who refused to accept his current situation. Although Craig has risen to high levels of success as an acclaimed author and professional speaker, it’s his down-to-earth personality that endears him to those that come across his path. His message is very simple... Change Is Possible!

When Craig speaks, he reaches the hearts of his audience to motivate change in themselves and their community. Craig has devoted his life to creating lasting change for those who desire it; Craig has risen to the national stage by delivering an inspirational message which tells people how to shake off mediocrity and live up to their greatness. It is a message that Craig has learned from his own life challenges and one he is helping others apply to their lives.

Breakout Session 5

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

2:15 – 3:15 pm

Mirabella A

School Based Dangers

This session will encourage open dialogue about the hidden challenges that exist within a school culture that often lead to common dangers of an alternative or regular ed environment. The presenters will also offer and demonstrate approaches that can alleviate some of these dangers. These approaches will include raising one’s cultural connectivity & acceptability rate, trauma sensitivity and conflict recovery practices.

Todd Parker, Chief Executive Officer, Parker Education & Development

As a veteran educator, coach, and CEO of Parker Education & Development, LLC, Todd Scott Parker distinguishes himself through his ability to deliver dynamic educational coaching and professional development training.

He is driven to inspire educators to invest in the cultural capital within their schools and organizations, as a part of their larger professional capital. As an author, poet, and energetic-inspirational speaker, he believes in the power one’s personality can have on influencing others toward success.

Mr. Parker is the co-author of, *Success Favors Well-Prepared Teachers: Developing Relationships and Routines to Improve School Culture*. He created Kuu-Bro, an initiative for young men and boys to find their natural leadership abilities. He also developed a peer-to-peer mentoring program— *A Better Citizen (ABC)* which has received local and national attention. His *Personality Package™*- a process to identify one’s characteristics and traits to determine how to interact genuinely with others, has been used with countless educators to assist them to build authentic relationships with students and others.

Connecting to the REAL World

Want to reach your students and make a REAL difference in education and academic achievement? Or see positive attitudes and behaviors? Smartphones, money, and advertising can connect to the academic core curriculum in a meaningful and engaging way that brings adventure and interest and creates the spark for learning—and success! Using an integrated and creative approach, these REAL-world topics connect to life skills, decision making skills, problem solving and lays the foundation for creating a classroom learning environment designed for success for all students. The textbook is a great resource, but the REAL-world offers the relevant scenario for application and can serve as a tremendous motivational factor and teaching tool. Attend this session for an adventure that explores the true measure of teaching and learning, and the power of the application to the REAL world. The session will showcase instructional methods and timely topics outside the textbook that include thought-provoking content and active learning strategies. Our success story can be documented with more than 4.5 million enrollments in our online courses and videos, nearly ½ million downloads of print resources, and more than ½ million students reached as a result of face-to-face programming with teachers. Learn how to access our nationally recognized FREE curriculum designed for K-12 educators and take away FREE classroom resources.

Jeannette Bennett, Senior Economic Education Specialist, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis-- Memphis Branch

Jeannette Bennett is a previous national award winner for the teaching of economics. As principal and instructional leader, seven of her teachers were also national award winners for the teaching of economics. She taught economic education at the college level and was honored as a Master Economics Teacher by the Arkansas Council on Economic Education. In this capacity, she served as a curriculum developer, consultant and coordinator of curriculum consultants in workshops and professional development programs sponsored by the Arkansas Council on Economic Education for more than twenty years. Additionally, Bennett designed, developed and presented curriculum materials for the Arkansas Department of Education—Child Nutrition, South Dakota State University, Arkansas Farm Bureau, and the American Farm Bureau Federation. Bennett began her career at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis—Memphis Branch, in 2004. Serving as Senior Economic Education Specialist, she continues to write curriculum and design, develop and present relevant resources in economics and personal finance workshops and conferences throughout the region. Bennett earned her degrees in education and educational leadership from Arkansas State University.

From Individualized Learning Plan to Individualized Learner

Join us as we discuss leveraging a digital platform to empower Individualized Learning through courses for credit, electives including CTE, college and career readiness, and intervention as they connect to your students Individual Learning Plans.

David Cicero, Educational Programs Consultant, Edmentum

David Cicero has over 10 years of experience in education and education technology consulting. Through his experience as a high school teacher, professional development consultant, and education consultant, David empowers schools to reach their educational goals through use of technology.

From Credit Recovery to Personalized Learning

Today's classrooms need rigorous, engaging learning tools that support students' varied learning styles. Online learning curriculums are not just for credit recovery anymore! In this interactive session, participants will share where their district is with online learning today and what strategies are being employed to expand their credit recovery offering into a blended and personalized learning experience for all students.

Jody Burns, National Curriculum and Instruction Specialist, Edgenuity

Twelve years as Instructional Technology Specialist, with expertise in blended and adaptive learning in special populations.

The Navigator Way: Best Practices of an Exemplary Tennessee Alternative School

As an alternative school recently awarded Exemplary status in the state of Tennessee, we will share strategies and practices that we regularly implement with our staff and students that have led to student success. These include our behavior management level system, school-wide academic interventions, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) for all staff, our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) strategies, restorative interventions, services to aid in transitioning students back to their base schools, school-wide social skills curriculum, community partnerships, and more. You will leave with many tangible strategies that you can implement at your school.

April Baer, School Counselor, Richard Yoakley School

April Baer- School Counselor (6 years experience at Richard Yoakley School), Kim Maples- Lead Teacher (15 years experience at Richard Yoakley School), Jamie Eskow- Instructional Coach (4 years at Richard Yoakley School, 17 years total in education).

Breakout Session 6

Ships, Trips & Anchors: De-escalating the negativity while escalating the humanity

Learn how to utilize a proven de-escalation strategy that will secure, or “anchor,” any environment. D.E.P.T.H. Anchor offers techniques on: Disperse, Emotions, Proximity, Tone, Health. These techniques, when implemented and practiced properly, will provide adults with improved climate and culture management skills without deflating student's humanity. It is one of the Relationship Management System (RMS) strategies from the fast-selling book, “Success Favors Well-Prepared Teachers.”

Todd Parker, CEO, Parker Education & Development, LLC

Over 30 combined years of education experience including classroom, special education, ALE and leadership. The presenters have served in a capacity of district, college and state levels. They've been coaching and training for more than 10 years, written two books and are involved with international organizations that promote human connectivity.

Overcoming Cultural Poverty, Disengaged Parents, and Apathetic Students

Poverty is all too common in America's schools. What's rare, is an opportunity for educators to sit and absorb first-hand from a former at-risk student who dropped out of high school, endured a mother abusing drugs, absent father and learning disability. Ultimately, repeating two grades. In this engaging session participants will unlearn perceived fallacies about students from poverty as well as discover my 4 R's of education. Educators must be REAL with students and parents from poverty. Educators must understand that RESPECT is everything to today's youth (which is why when made to feel disrespected they go from calm to irate really quickly). Educators should make classroom material RELEVANT to the lives of the youth and Educators must form and nurture meaningful RELATIONSHIPS with each student. Craig's trademark slogan is "GED to PHD", which is a concrete paradigm that educators should never give up on any student.

Dr. Craig Boykin, 180 Group LLC

Every now and then you come across an individual who lives a humble life. Yet, his very presence strikes a chord within you. Craig's story is one that moves, touches and inspires audiences. It's a story about determination and personal accountability. It's a story about a young man who refused to accept his current situation. Although Craig has risen to high levels of success as an acclaimed author and professional speaker, it's his down-to-earth personality that endears him to those that come across his path. His message is very simple... Change Is Possible!

When Craig speaks, he reaches the hearts of his audience to motivate change in themselves and their community. Craig has devoted his life to creating lasting change for those who desire it; Craig has risen to the national stage by delivering an inspirational message which tells people how to shake off mediocrity and live up to their greatness. It is a message that Craig has learned from his own life challenges and one he is helping others apply to their lives.

Peeling Back the Motivation Onion

This presentation combines a model of personal decision making with tools to help students monitor their behavior and decision making.

Dr. Keith Tobias, Daniel McKee Alternative School

Dr. Keith Tobias, Ed.D. Curriculum and Instruction. Taught 6 years in an Alternative School, primarily high school math. Previous experience includes 30 years consulting to manufacturing companies in the southeast.

Using a Restorative Justice Approach in Transitions

When a student leaves an alternative setting, what have they gained from the experience? Have they seen what kind of an IMPACT their choice made on others and themselves and learned any life lessons from this choice? This presentation will describe how our alternative setting, the IMPACT program, seeks to use a restorative justice model in the transition of students back to their home school setting. We will share how our setting uses “Closure Meetings” to assist students, home school staff, and IMPACT staff in the transition of students back to their home school. Each student before leaving our setting must present a powerpoint presentation and have ownership of their offense in front of their caregivers, counselors, teachers, and home school administrators. This presentation will provide the structure for the closure meetings, share student powerpoint examples, transition plans, and provide video samples of presentations for audience members to gain a better understanding of our model.

Nancy Kelley, Counseling and Intervention Supervisor, Collierville Schools

Presenter has done state conferences for School Counseling and Tennessee Association of Pupil Transportation. Presenter does trainings for her district, other school districts, and teaches at the University of Memphis.

Why should I get a MEd in Curriculum and Instruction?

What does a Curriculum and Instruction degree do for me and for the students in my classroom? My coworkers? My district? Faulkner University offers a 13 month, 100% online, Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with Concentrations in Elementary Education or Secondary Education (History, ELA, Math, or Biology). Teachers today are struggling to make ends meet and often take on additional jobs to be able to provide for their families. Allow Faulkner University to help you reach your goal of becoming a master teacher and get to the finish line faster with no out of state tuition. We will discuss the job possibilities and advantages to a degree in C&I and have time for questions and answers.

Kelly Sanders-Kelly, Faulkner University

Kelly Sanders-Kelley has spent 15 years in Higher education. She has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Master of Education and an Executive Master of Business Administration.

Day 3

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

8:00 – 8:30 am

Mirabella A- C

Opening Remarks: TAEA Board

Keynote Session

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

8:30 – 9:30 am

Mirabella A- C

I Am Alternative!!

Get ready for a very engaging and interactive experience as we explore the connotations, and denotations, of the common alternative learning environment. As education becomes more contemporary, many school cultures still subscribe to an antiquated notion of disengagement. This allows the effective and successful alternative environment to lead the way when it comes to being innovative, creative and impactful. Adults and students alike can embrace genuine relationship building skills with the Personality Mining Process demonstrated during this keynote presentation.

Todd Parker, CEO, Parker Education & Development, LLC

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He is driven to inspire educators to invest in the cultural capital within their schools and organizations, as a part of their larger professional capital. As an author, poet, and energetic-inspirational speaker, he believes in the power one's personality can have on influencing others toward success.

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Breakout Session 7

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

9:40 – 10:40 am

Mirabella A

The 7 Keys to Success: Unleashing Teacher and Student Potential

The Seven Keys to SUCCESS is a presentation based on a book by author, poet and success strategist, Cedric L. Threath. This interactive and engaging presentation is designed to motivate and inspire educators by showing them seven basic principles they can use to make an impact on the lives of their students and help reduce the dropout rate. Using these seven keys will remind educators how special they are by letting them know they are appreciated and that what they do really does matter.

Cedric Threatt, Author, Ahava Publishing, LLC

Cedric L. Threatt has presented at several conferences across the southeast and has authored 17 books on a variety of subjects such as Bullying, Diversity, Teen Motivation, Childhood and adult Illiteracy, and Childhood Obesity

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

9:40 – 10:40 am

Mirabella B

Restorative Practices and Using Circles Effectively

How do you manage misbehavior while improving the climate for learning? Join us for an overview of Introduction to Restorative Practices and Using Circles Effectively. Restorative practices have been proven effective in reducing misbehavior, bullying, violence, and crime among students while improving the overall climate for learning. Introduction to Restorative Practices is a training that covers the basics of restorative practices to aid in restoring relationships and repairing harm. The framework is strengths-based, solutions focused and all about relationship building. It's not about adding more to one's workload and is more about how one goes about their work. This training will give participants tools to help them be more restorative in their work and life. Using circles creates a cooperative atmosphere in which students respond because they feel respected.

Janet Watkins, Director of Training, TN AWARE, TN Department of Education

Janet Watkins serves as Director of Training for Tennessee Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education (AWARE) for the Tennessee Department of Education. She works to increase competence to recognize signs of behavioral health disorders and appropriately connect youth to behavioral health resources by delivering and coordinating mental health first aid training to youth serving adults through Youth Mental Health First Aid. She currently has a cadre of 85 trainers she can send out to conduct Youth Mental Health First Aid across Tennessee She is currently certified to provide training in Youth Mental Health First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, and Mental Health First Aid for Law Enforcement, Corrections and Public Safety, Building Strong Brains-Strategies for Educators, and Restorative Practices. She also works to disseminate information to school districts to assist schools in advancing and maturing the response and recovery portion of their emergency management plan through Tennessee Schools Prepare, a crisis postvention tool. Janet previously worked as a School Counselor for 22 years and has also taught Special Education and 1st grade. Janet holds a Masters of Education in Elementary School Guidance and Counseling and a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education/Special Education.

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

9:40 – 10:40 am

Mirabella C

My Classroom Economy: Classroom Behavioral Management System

Attendees will be introduced to a FREE classroom behavioral management program that enables ANY classroom educator, regardless of subject matter, to teach children financial responsibility through fun, experiential learning. This uniquely innovative classroom behavioral management program is designed to instill basic financial responsibility and teach the value of delayed gratification. Teachers enjoy the inherent behavioral/motivational impact of the program, while students will be forever grateful for the real-life financial understanding and capability gleaned through this experiential-based program.

Bill Parker, Director, Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission

Bill Parker serves as the Director of the Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization administratively attached to the Tennessee Department of Treasury. Under Bill's leadership, the Commission provides meaningful financial learning opportunities to Tennesseans of all ages. The Commission's core focus is in cultivating the next generation of Tennesseans by providing educators with the critical resources and training needed to incorporate financial literacy in the classroom. Bill also serves as the Vice President of the Tennessee Jump\$tart Coalition. Prior to his current role, Bill served as the

Founder and Program Director of the Financial Wellness Center at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. While completing his Master's degree in Personal and Family Financial Planning at the University of Florida, Bill developed a passion for impacting lives through financial education and outreach. He is determined to help Tennessee become a leader in measures related personal financial well-being.

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

9:40 – 10:40 am

Mirabella D

Using a Restorative Justice Approach in Transitions

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Nancy Kelley, Counseling and Intervention Supervisor, Collierville Schools

Presenter has done state conferences for School Counseling and Tennessee Association of Pupil Transportation. Presenter does trainings for her district, other school districts, and teaches at the University of Memphis. Resume upon request.

Breakout Session 8

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

10:50 – 11:50 am

Mirabella A

Instruction Differentiated

With the diverse characteristics of students, the basic need to learn remains unchanged. Therefore, educators must diversify how learning occurs. Educators learn to differentiate instruction in patterns that reach the largest number of students. Educators also learn to assess academic achievement with differentiated instruction and influence student engagement and motivation.

Sharla Reynolds, Consultant, Class not Chaos Consulting

Nationally Certified Education Consultant Over 30 years as a teacher, principal, and consultant

Differentiation Fresh and New: How to MOTIVATE the UNMOTIVATED

Educators have become experts at Differentiated Instruction and spend countless hours on developing the best lessons. However, all their work on these wonderful lessons are remaining undelivered. Why? Because many students are not engaged and motivated to learn. This breakout session will include multiple strategies, techniques and learning activities to engage and motivate your student in learning, participation and inquiry. Learn how to effectively use brainstorming, randomness and questioning. Learn the power of using “STORYTELLING” to draw in your students and connect them with the content. Storytelling is meant to capture the senses, mind and heart. In this participatory breakout session you will learn how to tell a story using visual, auditory, kinesthetic and emotional anchors which will engage your students to the fullest.

Cyndee Kawalek, Educational Trainer and Consultant, Cyndee's Teacher Training

Educational Trainer and Consultant –Cyndee’s Teacher Training. Training in the Time to Teach methods of Classroom Management and Differentiated Instruction/Student Engagement and Motivation. Trained through the Center for Teacher Effectiveness Illinois Public High School Teacher - 22 years Masters Degree in Social Work providing social services in the areas of: Addiction counseling Youth and family counseling Employee Assistance.

New Drug Trends Among Youth and the Importance of Partnering with Community Coalitions

A presentation on drug prevention and education, surrounding the “Opioid Epidemic” and various new drug trends among youth. Also, information will be presented on the importance of partnering with your local prevention coalitions.

Jermonde Bey, Coalition Director, Prevention Coalition for Success

Jermonde Bey is a native of the Rutherford County area and is known for his willingness to serve his community. He is currently the Coalition Director for the Prevention Coalition for Success, formerly known as the Community Anti-Drug Coalition of Rutherford County (CADCOR). He is a Certified Prevention Specialist I as well as a Moral Reconnection Therapy (MRT) instructor. Jermonde has worked with inner-city youth for over 15 years and was a 2013 NAACP Jerry Anderson Humanitarian Award winner. Jermonde is a father which adds to his drive and devotion to empower youth and his community. Jermonde’s hope is to continue to inspire and contribute positive change in the lives of youth and adults.

English Language Learners in the Alternative School Environment

English learners are an increasingly growing population in the state of Tennessee. When these students come to us in alternative education, what are best practices? How can we include strong instruction when their English is limited? How can we include families of English learners?

Johnna Paraiso, Instructional Facilitator, Rutherford County Schools

I hold B.S., M.Ed., Ed.S., and EdD. Degrees in various areas of education, including English language learners. I have 35 years as an educator at all levels. My most recent experiences include teaching English learners in alternative school environments.

Closing Session

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

12:00 – 1:30 pm

Mirabella A-C

Workforce of the Future

How does technology, artificial intelligence, robotics and virtual reality affect the jobs and skills needed in the workplace? Today's technology plays a major role in transforming the workforce of the future. Come learn how education, technology and the platform economy could potentially shape the jobs of the future.

Burns Phillips III, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Governor Bill Haslam appointed Burns Phillips commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development in June 2013. Phillips had been named acting commissioner in March 2013.

A primary responsibility of the department is the administration and oversight of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (W.I.O.A.) distributing \$50-80 million annually for training and employment services to Tennesseans needing retraining or upskilling to obtain or retain employment.

Previously, Phillips had worked in state government in the Budget Office of the Department of Finance and Administration for seven years before entering the private sector in 1981 where he engaged in the sale and marketing of surgical and general medical products. In 1991 he founded a surgical instrument company that conducted business in the United States, Canada, Mexico and 28 countries throughout Europe, South America and the Pacific Rim.

Prior to coming to Labor and Workforce Development, he had returned to state government in 2009 to serve as Administrative Director of the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Central Services Division, and in 2012 served as managing director in the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), overseeing customer-focused government initiatives administration-wide.

Commissioner Phillips received his bachelor's Degree from Middle Tennessee State University. After returning from military service he earned a master's degree in public administration from Middle Tennessee State University and later earned a law degree from Nashville Night Law School.

Exhibitor Listing

Tonya Brack

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2018 Tennessee Alternative Education Association



Building a Foundation for Success

This certificate certifies that

has fulfilled the requirements and has earned full professional development credit of 13 hours on June 25-27, 2018.

Lee Farris

Lee Farris, President
Tennessee Alternative Education Association



Major Shelton

Major Shelton, Treasurer
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