

Workshop Descriptions Day 1

Workshop 1: *AOS Update* .

Speaker(s): Marnie Carlisle, Assistant Chief Deputy Auditor, Auditor of State.

Description: To help community schools, management companies, and sponsors keep up to date with the latest AOS guidance (i.e., audit bulleting, accounting and auditing standards, etc.) and ensure compliance by understanding recent legislative changes included in the Auditor of State's Ohio Compliance Supplement.

Workshop 2: *Teacher Retention/ Growth of Charters/ Training School Leaders* .

Speaker(s): Mike Feinberg, KIPP.

Description: Beyond Z: Lessons learned from KIPP's 22 years of starting public charter schools and helping more underserved children climb the mountain to and through college.

Workshop 3: *Turning Academic Success into Public Support: Lessons Learned from Top Schools*.

Speaker(s): Chad Carr, Columbus Preparatory Academy, Andrew Boy, Founder and CEO, United Schools Network, John McBride, Model Education Leader, Breakthrough Schools, David Saygers, Artistic Director, Toledo Schools for the Arts

Moderator: John Mullaney

Description: This session will feature representatives from some of the top-performing charter schools in Ohio. Speakers will detail some of the best practices that have led to that academic success as well as the obstacles they continue to face. Panelists will also discuss ways to leverage academic success to inspire greater public support for charter schools. Finally, the session will address the challenges academic high-performers encounter as they try to grow, and what lessons they've learned along the way. This panel has a high emphasis on learning from practitioners on the front lines of the charter school movement.

Workshop 4: *Challenges and Opportunities in Facility Expansion* .

Speaker(s): Stuart Ellis, Charter School Capital; Meredith Flowe, Self Help Credit Union/Self-Help Ventures Fund; Tom Babb, Constellation Schools; John Zitzner, Friends of Breakthrough.

Description: One of the most pressing issues for charters is facility funding as a percentage of total expenditures. Due to short term investment horizons, facilities are often funded by front-loaded leases that use a high proportion of revenue in early years to retire debt over a short amortization. This disproportionate burden can be a hindrance to the school retaining teachers and can lead to other financial difficulties, before a school can get on its feet and produce results. This session will discuss some of the above challenges from experts in the area of school facility funding. Participants will also learn more about how high-performing schools have funded expansion.

Workshop 5: *Best Practices in Board Governance* .

Speaker(s): Sally Perz, Buckeye Charter School Boards; Susan Stagner, Connections Academy; Kathryn Upton, Thomas B. Fordham Institute.

Moderator: Senator Peggy Lehner.

Description: Panelists will pull from their combined experience in working with hundreds of charter school boards, giving participants shining examples of best practices as well as how the required changes in House Bill 2 are being implemented! Plenty of opportunity for participation; this is an excellent session for board members and those who work with boards.

Workshop 6: *Building Pipelines and Teacher Engagement in Charter Schools.*

Speaker(s): Dr. Darlene Chambers, National Charter Schools Institute; Tony Gatto, Arts and College Preparatory Academy; Lyman Millard, Breakthrough; Dave Taylor, Dayton Early College Academy.

Description: With the high competition in today's education market to identify, recruit and hire talented teachers, charter schools are often challenged to build pipelines that will consistently provide teaching talent. High turnover and high mobility in teaching staffs are dynamics that charter school leaders have to manage during a time when forecasts predict all schools will be competing aggressively for a shrinking pool of teachers. In this session, panelists will discuss strategies to attract educator talent, methods to create long-term partnerships with teaching programs to build staff pipelines, and recommendations to address turnover.

Workshop 7: *Best Practices on Record Keeping and Enrollment.*

Speaker(s): Marnie Carlisle, Assistant Chief Deputy Auditor, Auditor of State.

Description: We will highlight record keeping and enrollment compliance requirements with a focus on the best practices for community schools, management companies, and their sponsors to ensure compliance with these requirements and a successful audit.

Workshop 8: *Panel Discussion with Superintendents.*

Speaker(s): Superintendent Mary Ronan, Cincinnati Public Schools; Eric Gordon, Cleveland Metropolitan School District; Superintendent Dan Good, Columbus City Schools; Superintendent Romules Durant, Toledo Public Schools.

Description: This workshop will be an open discussion on the relationship between public schools and charter schools. Superintendents from some of the largest school districts will discuss the challenges they have encountered and the partnerships they have developed with charters. The superintendents will hit several discussion points including transportation management.

Workshop 9: *AOS Update.*

Speaker(s): Marnie Carlisle, Assistant Chief Deputy Auditor, Auditor of State.

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Workshop 10: *Sponsor Performance Review: Are We Measuring the Right Things?*

Speaker(s): Apryl Morin, Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West; Stephanie Klupinski, J.D., Cleveland Metropolitan School District; Peggy Young, M.A., Buckeye Community Hope Foundation.

Description: This panel will provide an overview of the three components associated with the new Sponsor Performance Review; discuss the implications and costs relative to sponsor/their associated school(s) practices, and converse about the overall implications from different sponsoring entities. Representation on the panel will include a District Sponsor, and Educational Service Center Sponsor, and a 501©(3) Sponsor.

Workshop 11: *EMIS Training Update.*

Speaker(s): David Ehle, Director, Office of Data Quality and Governance, Ohio Department of Education.

Description: We will discuss important EMIS changes affecting community schools, including a review of the relevant EMIS reports community schools should be familiar with for detecting and preventing reporting errors.

Workshop 12: *The Ohio eSchool Landscape: Practice, Policy and Technology.*

Speaker(s): John Watson, the Evergreen Education Group; Dr. Patricia Hoge, Curriculum and Instruction and Chief Academic Officer; Peter Robertson, School Operations; Susan Stagner, Connections Academy.

Description: Nearly 40,000 families in Ohio are choosing to send their children to eSchools for personal and diverse reasons. They join families across the U.S. who continue to voice their support for educational options that rely on technology, including full-time online schools. In Ohio and nationally, it is no longer a question of “if” virtuals should exist, it is a question of “how” they can apply best practices to serve students. In this session, local and national experts will discuss –using data to illustrate– best practices for achieving student engagement as well as areas of challenge. In addition, the panel will present ideas for next generation accountability models and the policies most likely to work in building teaching practices to ensure educational goals are met.

Workshop Descriptions Day 2

Workshop 13: *Funding Part 1: State Funding Model How other States Fund.*

Speaker(s): Larry Maloney, Aspire Consulting; Dr. Patrick Wolf, University of Arkansas.

Description: This workshop will describe briefly the core elements of the Ohio public charter school funding model and compare and contrast it with national norms and alternative models. Presenters will describe the implications of the Ohio model for school productivity and funding equity, concluding the workshop with concrete proposals for policy improvements.

Workshop 14: *City-Based Educational Change Initiatives.*

Speaker(s): Dr. Lillian Lowery, Future Ready Columbus; Brandon Brown, The Mind Trust; Patrick Herrel, Accelerate Great Schools.

Description: FutureReady Columbus, The Mind Trust in Indianapolis, and Accelerate Great Schools in Cincinnati will lead a discussion around city-based education nonprofits that are committed to expanding the number of excellent schools of all types in a region. The panel will focus on (1) the various approaches city-based nonprofits have taken to support educational change and innovation and (2) the ways in which charter schools and charter school sponsors can play an important role in increasing the number of high-performing schools available to all children.

Workshop 15: *Responding to the Accountability Challenge of Virtual Charter Schools.*

Speaker(s): Frank Stoy, Charter School Office, Ohio Department of Education; Patrick Gavin, Nevada State Public Charter School Authority; Jennifer Robison, Buckeye Community Hope Foundation.

Moderator: Nelson Smith, National Association of Charter School Authorizers.

Description: Virtual charter schools raise unique accountability challenges for states and authorizers. For the last 4 months, a working group of SEAs and virtual charter school authorizers—led by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) and the National Charter School Resource Center—has collaborated on developing a new resource for quality authorizing and school accountability for virtual charter schools. In this session, participants will hear from members of the working group on the key practices states and authorizers can employ now to foster greater accountability in the virtual charter school sector.

Workshop 16: *College Credit Plus and Blended Learning Model Review.*

Speaker(s): Aaron Rausch, Budget & School Funding Director, Ohio Department of Education; Diane Lease, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Department of Education; Department of Higher Education.

Description: This two-part workshop will detail how schools can better take advantage of the College Credit Plus program through the Department of Higher Education. Participants will learn how schools are using this program for college readiness and success. Additionally, Diane Lease, Chief Legal Counsel, ODE, will present a legal review of the statutes governing the blended learning model in Ohio.

Workshop 17: *VOICE: Empower a Positive Climate.*

Speaker(s): Anthony Gatto, Arts and College Preparatory Academy; Richard Albeit, Arts and College Preparatory Academy.

Description: The Arts and College Preparatory Academy (ACPA) has been nationally recognized for their success in fostering a positive and inclusive school environment. This session gives participants information with tangible advice and tools from ACPA as to what is needed from administrators and teachers to encourage an inclusive environment within the student body. If your school is facing challenges with issues of marginalization, bullying, or other school culture and climate concerns, this presentation is a must-see.

Workshop 18: *Funding Part 2: Examining the Funding Disparity in Ohio.*

Speaker(s): Ron Packard, Pansophic; Aaron Rausch, Ohio Department of Education; Clint Satow, Performance Academies.

Moderator: Sally Perz.

Description: These experienced experts in charter school funding will discuss national charter funding models, Ohio's funding for charters, its impact on the schools and students as well as some recommendations for "leveling the playing field" financially. Engage with the fiscal experts in a hot topic for all in the movement!

Workshop 19: *Implementing IDEA in the Community School Setting*

Speaker(s): Chrissy Cline, Office for Exceptional Children; John Magee, Office for Exceptional Children

Description: Implementing IDEA in the Community School Setting. The Ohio Department of Education, Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) will present best practices and laws related to compliance for charter schools serving students with disabilities. The session will focus on federal requirements set forth by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as well as Ohio's Operating Standards for the Education of Children with Disabilities. The presentation will also include information on common challenges experienced by charter schools and information on statewide resources and supports available to school districts.

Workshop 20: *Charters as Public/Private Hybrids: Do We Need A New Approach to Accountability?*

Speaker(s): Renita Thukral, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools; Jim Griffin, Momentum Strategy & Research, Douglas Harris, Professor of Economics and Schleider Foundation Chair in Public Education.

Description: Although deemed "public" under state laws, charter schools have certain characteristics that don't fit the traditional definition, such as independent boards and waivers from district rules. Where we place them on the public/private spectrum has big implications for their oversight and accountability. In this session, panelists will share their views on the proper classification of charter schools and what accountability looks like through these lenses.

Workshop 21: Community School Accountability and ODE Update.

Speaker(s): Chris Woolard, Center for Accountability and Continuous Improvement, Marianne Mottley, Office of Accountability.

Description: ODE accountability staff will share updates regarding community school report cards and academic performance measures together with other important ODE updates.

Workshop 22: *Unique Challenges Facing Charter Schools in the United States and Ohio.*

Speaker(s): Terry Ryan, Idaho Charter School Network; Jim Goenner, the National Charter Schools Institute.

Moderator: Chad Aldis, the Thomas B. Fordham Institute.

Description: Much has been learned over the last 25-years of the national charter school experience. This session will focus on what some of the most important lessons are from the charter experience at the school, community and state levels. Ryan and Goenner have worked as charter authorizers in Ohio and Michigan and as charter policy advocates at both the state and national levels. They will share what they see as the opportunities (innovation, new school models, and smart growth strategies) and challenges (talent, resources, and politics) are for Ohio's charter community in the months and years ahead.

Workshop 23: *Corporate Philanthropy.*

Speaker(s): Dale Heydlauff, Vice President, American Electric Power Foundation; Courtney Hodapp, National Strategy & Programs, Office of Nonprofit Engagement at JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Description: This session will detail best practices for seeking philanthropic funding for charter schools. Hear from individuals at major corporations who routinely examine these applications for their organizations, and some of the Do's and Don'ts of submitting an application. Aimee Kennedy, former principal and Chief Academic Officer of the Metro School, an Ohio STEM Learning Network platform school, and now VP of Education and STEM Learning at Battelle, will moderate this discussion of how to better seek philanthropic funding of charter schools.

Workshop 24: *Community School Accountability and ODE Update.*

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