

Sunday, February 17, 2019

7:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

POLS Gathering

With the *Salt and Light* focus of the LEA National Administrators Conference, it is a great time to gather principals of large schools to meet, share, and discuss topics impacting Lutheran schools today.

The Principals of Large Schools (POLS) gathering, facilitated by Bob Ziegler, Nebraska district education executive and hosted by LCMS School Ministry, is for administrators of schools **with an enrollment of 250 or more** and district education executives.

Enjoy the traditional POLS format with school administrators from the group presenting and sharing topics including rationale and resources pertinent to school leadership. Facilitated table talk will ensue with all discussion captured in Google docs. Whole group debriefing concludes each topic. (\$25.00 – breakfast included)

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Exhibits

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Conference opening with lunch; Jim Sanft, speaker (President and CEO of Concordia Plan Services)

“Rendering Unto Caesar and Rendering Unto God: Operating Church Benefit Plans as Citizens of Two Kingdoms”

\$4.5 billion of employee benefit assets and \$450 million of annual contributions to the Concordia Plans receive preferred tax treatment by the government of the United States. In exchange, the LCMS and our ministries (including your school) have agreed to operate under certain parameters. At the same time, our ministries enjoy the freedom of the free exercise of our faith as established in the First Amendment.

Jim Sanft will kick off our time in Washington, D.C. talking about recent and current challenges in operating the Concordia Plans in this complex and ever-changing political environment. He will share with you the ways in which CPS is serving as your advocate in D.C. and will also provide his insights as to what the next two years might bring under a newly seated Congress.

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Sectionals 1

“Beyond the Classroom” by Bill Unverfehrt

School and community get to “mix it up” when University Christian High School students spend one week of their school year in “Beyond the Classroom Week.” Last school year, students gave more than 4,702 hours in community service. They shared the love of Jesus through actions that made a difference in the lives of those whom they served and in their own lives. They took salt and light into the very neighborhoods where they live and attend school. In this workshop, participants will learn how this school is making a Gospel difference where they are to those who are around them. Participants will also experience the stories of transformation in the lives of the students.

“That Will Never Happen to Us!” by Stacey Hoeft

Have you ever thought, "We're just a small Lutheran school; that will never happen to us!"? Think again. Hear one Lutheran school principal's journey that led all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Learn what steps you can take to prepare yourself and your ministry for unpredictable situations.

“The Artist Within Me” by Bonnie Hughes

This workshop focuses on and emphasizes the benefits of process art. Learn art techniques appropriate for the different ages and stages of early childhood artistic development. Contemplate reasons for administrators to support process art.

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Education Fair

Hear from some of the organizations who specialize in providing resources and support for Lutheran schools and educators. Learn how you can benefit from their services and provide feedback about the best ways they can serve you. Each will offer a special gift for all attendees.

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Reception

Join your colleagues and exhibitors for fellowship and complimentary beverages and snacks.

6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Banquet – great food, recognition, and entertainment

8:30 p.m. LEA Hospitality

Monday, February 18, 2019

Monday's portion of the conference focus stresses a two-kingdom engagement strategy of our schools. With the cultural challenges facing the Christian Church and its schools, now is the time for a more intentional public engagement for the sake of its mission. Such a mindset, coupled with a growing political movement to free and decentralize education, means that now is the time for parochial education to see the missional opportunities of its schools anew, the missional opportunity to return to the urban centers of America, and the missional opportunity of being an educational influencer in the challenges of our culture and community, not merely powerless in the encounter.

Lutheran Education Association is pleased to partner with the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in providing some stimulating topics and speakers from morning to evening and a special experience at the Museum of the Bible.

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Breakfast and keynote by Gregory Seltz

“Two-Kingdom Mission Opportunities: Parental Choice, Urban renewal, and Christian Education” (Becoming a Public Servant in/for the Culture as God’s People.)

Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz serves as Executive Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Sectionals 2

“God’s Little Platoons: Why Cohesive Families = Thriving Schools” by Tim Goeglein

Serving as Vice-President of Government and External Relations at Focus on the Family in Washington, and a lifetime LCMS member, Mr. Goeglein will share remarks on how a rapidly secularizing public policy and cultural climate is placing downward pressure on Christian educators to fundamentally transform not only their curriculum but also the manner in which they do their vocations in urban, suburban, and rural communities nationwide. Goeglein will illustrate how any number of

public policy debates inside the Beltway in Washington -- human life, the definition of marriage, and a host of religious liberty and conscience debates -- have a direct impact and bearing on faith education.

“When ‘Shelter in Place’ Becomes Personal” by Stacey Crosson

When the two kingdoms collide in our classrooms, it is messy! The physical messiness can be more easily handled than what happens when we experience violence, pain, or death in the spiritual and emotional realms of our students, their families, and our staffs. This workshop will explore creating safe spaces for spiritual and emotional healing when the need to “shelter in place” becomes personal.

“Visionary Leadership” by Michelle Swain-Clauberg

Two teachers called in sick today, and there are no subs available. A parent stopped by to discuss how their child is being treated in class. In the first hour, your office manager asked you 20 questions about a new initiative. Who has time to think about the vision of the school? Setting vision in a school can be daunting, and other things scream for your time and attention. Come to this session and learn how to set a vision.

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Sectionals 3

“Crisis Management From a First-Responder’s Perspective” by Jonathan Loesch

Discuss steps to take before a crisis in order to manage one.

“Protecting God’s Lambs” by John Schultz

Challenging situations happen at our schools. How can we protect our children from sexual predators by using positive resources available to us? How can we stay sharp during times when we are challenged by the world around us that would harm our children? This sectional will help create an awareness of harmful situations, provide useful ideas and materials to use with staff and students, and demonstrate collaboration with our community partners to create a positive environment for student safety.

“Developmentally Appropriate Leadership for Teachers” by Michelle Swain-Clauberg

Where are your school’s teachers in their own journey (new, seasoned, etc.), what are their temperaments, and how does this influence your leadership? Learn how to lead to teachers’ strengths and where they are in their development. This is a highly interactive session with lots of brainstorming and sharing opportunities.

12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Lunch, exhibits, and drawings

2:00 p.m. Buses depart for Museum of the Bible

2:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Free time at the museum

The Museum of the Bible’s goal is to educate the public on the history of the Bible, its many narrative forms, and its impact on societies around the world. The 430,000-square-foot museum is a wonder of design and architecture, the combined work of seven design firms. You will have time to explore at your own pace and experience many of the museum’s attractions.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Keynote by Lindsey Burke

“Parental Choice and the Possibilities for Parochial/Private Education”

Distinguished research scholar and leader in educational policy in Washington D.C., Lindsey Burke will bring her vast experience in the area of education and parental choice legislation to bear on a

discussion of the possible implications and opportunities for parochial and private education in today's America. Discussed will be the present state of affairs in parental choice legislation as well as potential trends in the future. All will be assessed as to its challenges and opportunities for parochial/private education in the 21st century.

Lindsey Burke serves as Director, Center for Education Policy, Institute for Family, Community, and Opportunity at The Heritage Foundation based in Washington D.C.

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Food, beverages, and fellowship

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Keynote by Armstrong Williams and Ben Carson

“Reawakening Virtues Through Education, and Education's Strategic Opportunity for Community Renewal”

Amidst a "culture war" of values and virtues in America, Dr. Ben Carson and Mr. Armstrong Williams, both noted authors, speakers, and thought leaders on Education and Cultural Change, will discuss education's role in cultural renewal, especially as it relates to the challenges in urban America. Each will bring their vast experience in public service, education, and community renewal to bear on the present challenges and opportunities that especially call the private and faith-based sectors of education to action for the sake of our neighborhoods.

Ben Carson, is an M.D., surgeon, former presidential candidate, author, philanthropist, and thought leader on education and cultural change. A nationally known speaker, Carson's life is an example of what opportunities remain possible when the blessings of faith, freedom, and education are available to all. Carson's breadth of knowledge and experience challenge leaders in parochial and private education to see their unique leadership opportunity to bless the students and the communities they serve.

Armstrong Williams is an American political commentator, entrepreneur, author of a nationally syndicated conservative newspaper column, and host of a daily radio show and a nationally syndicated TV program called The Armstrong Williams Show. Williams recently was the campaign manager of the presidential candidate, Ben Carson. He is also founder and CEO of the Graham Williams Group, an international marketing, advertising, and media public relations consulting firm, and is a political talk show host on TV and radio. He is principal in Howard Stirk Holdings, a media company affiliated with [Sinclair Broadcasting](#) that has made numerous television station purchases and hosts interns. It was one of only a few African American owned media companies.

8:00 p.m. Transportation to hotel

8:30 p.m. LEA Hospitality

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Buffet breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Sectionals 4

“Comprehensive School Marketing” by Bill Nau

No more is your school “the best kept secret.” Learn how to move out of the dark and into the light. Marketing has to do with everything there is about a school and its program. Bill and Theresa will discuss the facility, staffing, enrollment, communications, social media, and what it takes to become known as “the school of choice.”

“Ongoing Issues in Student Safety” by Bill Nickerson

Ensuring student safety is not only one of the most important topics in education today, it is also a rapidly changing conversation as administrators work to address new areas of concern in a culture where violence, anger, and sinfulness are changing the way people deal with pain and disappointment. New guidelines for student safety, transportation, building access, and teacher and volunteer credentialing are emerging. Church Mutual takes a look at this from both the need to insure programs and to provide resources to inform ministries that involve children.

“Way to Go!” by Mary Beth Gaertner

"Way to Go" is a strategy used to establish positive communication between parents and teachers. It's free! It works! It lifts up the value of communication, it lifts teachers to a new level of professionalism, and it lifts up your school in general!

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Closing worship with Communion (Rev. Llyod Gaines, preacher; host congregation is Our Savior Lutheran in Arlington)