

CENTER FOR
DIGITAL
EDUCATION

converge

Overview

Large school districts face unique challenges as they integrate technology. This gathering affords an opportunity for attendees to hear from peers, learn from industry participants and discover best practices to share and implement in their own districts. Hosted by the Center for Digital Education and CoSN, CIOs, CTOs and

directors of academic/instructional computing from the nation's largest K-12 school districts are invited to spend one and a half days together discussing topics suggested by participants in advance of the event. The agenda includes meals and ample time to network.

Agenda

Wednesday, May 10

8:00 am Breakfast / Registration

Use this time to network and meet attendees around you.

9:00 am Welcome and Introductions

Kecia Ray, Executive Director, Center for Digital Education

9:45 am Hot Topics Roundtable

As technology leaders of large districts, you are faced with unique opportunities and issues. This portion of the agenda will present possible opportunities and issues you may face and give you the chance to have a conversation with your large district peers, as well as industry partners about topics presented.

Moderator: Kecia Ray, Executive Director, Center for Digital Education

11:15 am Lunch

12:15 pm Hot Topics Roundtable

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1:45 pm Digital Districts Panel

Conducted in partnership with the National School Boards Association, the Digital School Districts Survey examines how information technology is applied to improve service delivery and quality of education to public schools. This panel is comprised of 2015-2016 winners and will encourage attendees as they think of their own technology plans moving forward.

Moderator: Kecia Ray, Executive Director, Center for Digital Education

Richard Miller, Board Member, Rowan Salisbury School District, NC

Aaron Spence, Superintendent, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, VA

Dan Wray, Chief Technology Officer, Clark County School District, NV

2:15 pm Rapid Cycle Technology Evaluation Coach, USDOE, Mathematica and SRI Project Tool

3:15 pm Wrap-Up

3:30 pm Break until Dinner

4:45 pm Meet in Lobby

Leave for dinner. The restaurant is a short walk from The Westin.

5:00 pm Dinner

Jaleo Crystal City

Crystal City Shops

2250 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202

Thursday, May 11

7:30 am Breakfast

8:00 am Welcome

8:15 am ESSA and EdTech: What You Need to Know and Why

Thanks to the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, there are more opportunities to use technology in the classroom than ever before. During this presentation, attendees will learn about the specifics of the bill, and why strong leadership is critical for effective implementation of the new law.

Jon Bernstein, Founder and President, Bernstein Strategy Group

Susan Gentz, Deputy Executive Director for Content, Center for Digital Education

Reg Leichty, Founder and Partner, Foresight Law and Policy

9:00 am E-Rate Update

A new presidential administration brings forth a new chair of the Federal Communications Commission. This update will provide attendees with an overview of what happened in 2016 regarding E-Rate and a look forward to potential changes in 2017.

Jon Bernstein, Founder and President, Bernstein Strategy Group

Susan Gentz, Deputy Executive Director for Content, Center for Digital Education

Reg Leichty, Founder and Partner, Foresight Law and Policy

9:30 am Overall Funding Opportunities: What You Need to Know About ESSA Grant Opportunities

ESSA shakes up the structure of funding. ESSA once consisted of more specific funding streams, but have been condensed down into a new format – consisting largely of one block grant area under Title IV in ESSA. This presentation will help attendees understand the new structure and opportunities for the grants.

Jon Bernstein, Founder and President, Bernstein Strategy Group

Susan Gentz, Deputy Executive Director for Content, Center for Digital Education

Reg Leichty, Founder and Partner, Foresight Law and Policy

**10:00
am**

Break

**10:15
am**

Issues on the Hill: A Conversation with CoSN and ISTE

The Consortium of School Networking and the International Society for Technology in Education have long been involved in advocacy for education technology. This conversation will share the insights of CoSN and ISTE lobbyists during this time of change in D.C. They will share the issues they feel are most pressing on the hill today.

Moderator: Kecia Ray, Executive Director, Center for Digital Education

Jon Bernstein, Founder and President, Bernstein Strategy Group

Susan Gentz, Deputy Executive Director for Content, Center for Digital Education

Reg Leichty, Founder and Partner, Foresight Law and Policy

**10:45
am**

Putting It All Together: What Needs and Wants Do You Have in This New Climate?

This roundtable conversation will enable participants to discuss challenges and opportunities given the current accountability landscape, as well as trials with federal and state budgets.

Kecia Ray, Executive Director, Center for Digital Education

**11:15
am**

Learning to Tell YOUR Story: Educating Your Community on Needs and Wants for EdTech

Community engagement is a key piece of the puzzle for true education transformation. District leaders must be able to communicate effectively and clearly on their vision, processes and, most importantly, the “why” of incorporating technology into schools. This portion of the event will provide attendees with the opportunity to create an outline for presenting ideas and reasons to their communities.

Moderator: Kecia Ray, Executive Director, Center for Digital Education

Ally Bernstein, Federal and State Legislative Counsel, Bernstein Strategy Group

Jon Bernstein, Founder and President, Bernstein Strategy Group

Reg Leichty, Founder and Partner, Foresight Law and Policy

**12:00
pm**

Adjourn / Box Lunch

Conference times, agenda and speakers are subject to change.