

Education and Leadership Development Conference
April 5 & 6, 2024
Blair County Convention Center, Altoona

ALL CENTRAL REGION PSEA MEMBERS ARE INVITED!!!

Please join us at our Central Region Education & Leadership Development Conference. You can gain Act 48 and Chapter 14 hours, interact with other educators and support staff, attend helpful and informative presentations and classes, and it's FREE!

The conference begins on the evening of Friday, April 5th with dinner and entertainment. Classes and presentations are scheduled for Saturday, April 6th.

Classes, entertainment, meals, and overnight accommodations are FREE to the first 100 people who sign up. If overnight accommodations are requested, your room will be free of charge as long as it is a double occupancy room with another current PSEA member attending the conference. If you choose a single room, there will be a charge of \$75.00. A charge of \$165.00 per person may apply after the first 100 members register. *Do not wait until the last minute to sign up!*

Agenda:

Friday, April 5, 2024

- Registration opens at 4:00 pm
- Social – 6:00 pm
- Dinner – 7:00 pm
- Entertainment and Networking – 8:00 pm

Saturday, April 6, 2024

- Registration opens at 7:00 am
- Breakfast and Legal Update – 8:30 am
- Session #1 – 9:45 am
- Lunch – 12:00
- Session #2 – 1:00 pm
- Session #3 – 2:45 pm
- Wrap-up – 4:15 pm

Choose from a variety of classes to attend See page 2, 3, and 4 regarding sessions, instructors, and schedules.

All attendees must register on-line. Registration will be open on Monday, February 5, 2024. Registration will close on Friday, March 1, 2024. Registration information and links are on our Region website (psea.org/central).

**If you have any questions, please contact Leslie or Michelle at the State College PSEA Office:
leisenhower@psea.org or mknepp@psea.org or 1-800-548-7732.**

Session Information

Group Legal Session

8:30 – 9:30 AM

“EA & ESP Legal Update” – Amy Marshall, PSEA Attorney

Session #1

9:45 – 11:45am

CHOICE OF ONE

Planning to Win: Preparing for Contract Negotiations – Doug Rosenberry & Connor Lewis

Participants will learn best practices to prepare their local to bargain a new contract. Session material will cover legal timelines, key principles for bargaining preparation, the suggested process for developing and finalizing bargaining proposals, and how to utilize organizing and membership engagement to strengthen your bargaining.

ESP Division Meeting and Training – Terrie Moore, Nate Greenawalt, & Anne Styborski

ALL ESP MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THIS SESSION

The Central Division Meeting and conflict resolution training:

The Good, The Bad, The Ugly of Conflict – Recognizing member-to-member conflict and why it exists.

This session will focus on recognizing conflict, conflict styles, understanding why it exists, and how to work towards a resolution. Conflict exists in every workplace. While it is difficult to eliminate conflict must be managed to help contain it among coworkers. We don't have to like everyone we work with or invite them to dinner, but we must be professional.

The Future is Happening as We Speak: Technology and AI in Education Today – Chris Clayton

The future is here and brings an onslaught of questions: How much screen time is too much? What does education look like when Artificial Intelligence can write essays, complete homework assignments, and write lesson plans? Explore how educators can begin to think about navigating the strengths and weaknesses of technology and AI to create meaningful educational experiences for students and work more efficiently for themselves. Join us to dive into these questions and more key strategies and guidance for educators serving today's students living in this new AI-infused world.

Home and School Communication – Stephanie Cramer

How do you communicate with parents effectively? This session gives assistance on interacting with parents from the beginning of the year and throughout to effectively communicate with home even when dealing with hostile parents. Sample communications included.

Session #2
1:00 – 2:30pm
CHOICE OF ONE

Grievance Training – Brian Landis

This session is designed to give new representatives and current grievance chairs an overview/refresher of the grievance writing process. The following topics will be addressed: Advocacy, Representation, Grievance Processing, Forms, and Act 195.

LEAD Part 1 – Doug Rosenberry & Nate Moore

LEAD (Leadership Education & Advocate Development)

The goal of the LEAD program is to provide participants with a broad overview of union leadership skills and a solid foundation for Association work and future participation in the Association. The ideal participant is the member who has not had much involvement in union leadership, but those that have been involved are also welcome. *Participants are expected to attend both sessions of LEAD at the conference.*

Maintaining the Balance: Wellbeing, Safety, and Achievement – Gina Gullo

Today’s educators are often faced with navigating the precarious balance between wellbeing, safety, and achievement. How can educators use trauma-informed practices and maintain safe and healthy learning environments while also accelerating learning? What is secondary traumatic stress and how can educators maintain professionalism when it hits? Explore these ideas in an open and safe environment. The session will explore challenges, provide language to express needs, suggest strategies to support students, provide a toolkit of additional resources, and include time for member to member discussions of how this connects to their day to day professional challenges.

Technology in Education Today – Chris Clayton

Already on board with getting devices in classrooms? If so, then in this session we will explore the rapidly evolving and changing role that technology is playing in our daily lives and its connection to the field of education and the practice and craft of teaching. Included will be a discussion of the shift inherent in moving from “institutionally organized” to more “self-organized” educational practices and the integral role that technology has played and is playing in this monumental shift. From “BYOD” (Bring your own device) to “1 to 1” (one device for each student provided by the district) to “Blended Learning” and “Flipped Classrooms,” this session will focus on exploring these educational technology paradigms of instruction and will present attendees with information, strategies, and “take-away” tools and resources that educators can immediately actualize into their planning and instruction. Beginning with “why” technology should be used in the classroom with a myriad of web-based and app resources that teachers can use to effectively integrate devices into the classroom.

Session #3
2:45 – 4:15pm
CHOICE OF ONE

Better Communication and Engagement: Best Practices for Internal Communications and Organizing – Connor Lewis

Participants will learn best practices and tools to strengthen their local union. Session material will cover ways to assess and strengthen internal communication within your local, and how to use organizing and communications together to build an engaged membership.

LEAD Part 2 – Doug Rosenberry & Nate Moore

LEAD (Leadership Education & Advocate Development)

The goal of the L.E.A.D. program is to provide participants with a broad overview of union leadership skills and a solid foundation for Association work and future participation in the Association. The ideal participant is the member who has not had much involvement in union leadership, but those that have been involved are also welcome. *Participants are expected to attend both sessions of LEAD at the conference, you must be registered for LEAD Part 1 to attend LEAD Part 2.*

Courageous Conversations in the Classroom – Gina Gullo

The PA Department of Education’s Framework for Evaluation: Classroom Teacher notes that effective teachers “use a variety of questioning techniques to ensure students are actively engaged in learning with opportunities for all students to share content through varied discussion formats.” Sometimes these conversations can include tough topics such as race, gender, or social status. Glenn Singleton’s Courageous Conversations about Race provides a strategic discussion protocol that is widely used to support deep and sustained interracial dialogue. This session explores that protocol including the four agreements and six conditions of conversation and the compass for understanding ways of processing. Classroom teachers and support staff or educators in pupil services are the target audiences for this session, but all educators are welcome to attend.

De-escalation: A handy tool when confronted with challenging anxious or hostile behaviors – Judith Petruzzi

What is the most practical way to respond to students who are in a heightened state of agitation? Join us for this professional learning that explores the most effective ways to de-escalate/defuse behaviors of concern. Strategies will be shared in order to provide educators with evidence-based tools to limit extreme behavior.

**Register at:
www.psea.org/CRConference2024**

**Registration will begin on Monday, February 5th
Registration will close on Friday, March 1st**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- *Be sure to register early, hotel rooms are limited, overflow hotel accommodations will be .5 mile from the convention center.*
- *This event is casual, please dress to be comfortable, our conference theme is Summer Camp...wear your favorite T-shirt on Saturday!*
- *Certificates of Participation will be given to all who attend their scheduled sessions. These certificates can be turned into your district (given your district’s acceptance policy) for possible Act 48 and Chapter 14 hours.*
- *Any cancellations after March 22nd may be subject to a \$165.00 fee.*
- *All overnight hotel rooms are non-smoking, you will be responsible for any fee if this is violated.*