

28th Regional Leadership Conference for Administrators on Minority Issues

“Diversity Matters: Implications for Policy and Practice”

Monday May 28, 2018

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm Registration Ballroom Lobby

Tuesday May 29, 2018

7:30 am – 5:30 pm Registration Ballroom Lobby

7:30 am – 8:30 am Continental Breakfast Ballroom Lobby

8:30 am–12:00 pm **OPENING SESSIONS** Cypress C

“National Anthem” Moss Point School District Choir, Graduating Senior
Moss Point, MS

Greetings & Welcome Dr. Ron Love, Professor, MS Valley State University
Itta Bena, MS

History of SMLC Mr. Sammie L. Welton, Jr., Retired, MDE/MVSU
Itta Bena, MS

Presiding: Dr. Donna Elam, Founder, Elam Leadership Institute
Palm Beach, FL

9:00 am-10:00 am *“Reflections and New Directions”*

Speaker: **Mr. Dennis Bega**, (Retired) U. S. Department Of Education
Atlanta, GA

10:00 am-11:00 am *“What you need to know” –Office of Educator Licensure
Program Update*

Speaker:
and **Dr. Cory Murphy**, Executive Director, Office of Teaching
Leading, MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

11:00 am-11:55 am ***“What you need to know”***

Speaker: **Mr. Quentin Ransburg**, Executive Director, Office of Federal Programs, MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

Description: This session will provide updates on the new Every Student Success Act (ESSA) requirements and how it affects Mississippi students

12:00 pm–1:15 pm **LUNCHEON** **Cypress B**

Presiding: Dr. Donna Elam, Elam Leadership Institute, Palm Beach, FL

Speaker: **Dr. Akil E. Ross**, National Principal of the Year, Principal, Chapin High School, Chapin, South Carolina

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm **PLENARY SESSION** **Cypress C**

“Connecting with Diverse Students: Beating the Odds!”

Presiding: Dr. Donna Elam, Elam Leadership Institute, Palm Beach, FL

Presenter: **Ms. Jaimee Hazel**, Adjunct Professor, Syracuse University, New York; Doctoral Candidate, Syracuse, NY

Description: This workshop will discuss some of the barriers to effective instruction and strategies to reach a diverse student body to seek excellence in achievement. Ms. Hazel will share instructional strategies used with her students who are achieving academically and are beating the odds of living in high poverty, from culturally diverse backgrounds, many are struggling learners, and others are students with English as a New Language (ENL). The workshop is hands-on with ideas to take back to your schools!

2:30 pm–3:30 pm **PLENARY SESSION** **Cypress C**

“Diversifying the Field: Increasing Faculty of Color”

Presiding: Mr. James Sardin, Retired, MS Department of Education; Jobs for Mississippi Graduates, Terry, MS

Presenter: **Ms. Paula M. Johnson**, Associate Director and Equity Specialist, IDRA EAC-South, San Antonio, TX

Description: Faced with a national teacher shortage, schools across the country are struggling to hire a workforce of qualified educators that reflects the racial diversity of their communities. While current conditions in many states have contributed to widespread shortages of teachers of all types, teachers of color encounter unique barriers to entering the profession and to continuing to teach for the long haul. Fortunately, a variety of programs, policies, and practices are holding promise in helping to bolster the pipeline of teachers of color recruited and retained in teaching. This session will examine the current state of teachers of color in the workforce, the factors that affect the recruitment, hiring, and retention of teachers of color, and opportunities for growing a stable workforce of teachers of color.

3:30 pm–5:30 pm GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

Salon C

“Writing Your Own Grants - How to Get Started”

Presiding: Priscilla McDonald, Retired, MS Department of Education, New Hebron, MS

Trainer: **Dr. Dorothy Prestwich**, Retired, Clarksdale Municipal School District, Clarksdale, MS

Description: This presentation will describe the steps toward writing an award winning grant and the pitfalls to avoid along the way.

Wednesday May 30, 2018

7:30 am–5:30 pm Registration Ballroom Lobby

7:45 am-8:45 am Continental Breakfast

9:00 am-12:00 pm PLENARY SESSIONS Cypress C

P-I: 9:00 am-10:00 am “MDE School Board Update”

Presiding: Dr. Ron Love, Professor, MS Valley State University, Itta Bena, MS

Speaker: **Dr. John R. Kelly**, 2nd Supreme Court District Representative, MS Board of Education, and Chief Administrative Officer, City of Gulfport, Gulfport, MS

P-IIA: 10:00 am–10:45 am “Diversity in High School Career and Technical Education Programs”

Presiding: Mr. James Sardin, Retired MDE/Jobs for MS Graduates, Terry, MS

Speaker: *Mr. Mike Mulvihill*, Bureau Director for Career and Technical Education, MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

Description: This session will address how the State of Mississippi adds diversity into its Career and Technical Education Programs.

P-IIB: 10:45 am-11:30 am *“What Does a Successful Graduate Look Like and What Does This Individual Need to Know and Be Able to Do After Graduation?”*

Speaker: *Dr. Jean Massey*, Executive Director, Office of Secondary Education MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

Description: This session will address the changes in graduation requirements for incoming 9th graders of 2018-2019. We will look at the why behind the changes and what it means for students to be successful after high school.

P-III: 11:30 am-12:15 pm *“Compliance is Key: The Implications of Policies and Practices in Diverse Schools”*

Speaker: *Mr. Mark A. Dann*, Special Litigation Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Educational Opportunities Section, Washington, DC

Description: A discussion about the duties school districts have to comply with federal laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, disability, and sex, and the impact of districts' policies and practices, especially with respect to school desegregation.

12:15 pm-1:15 pm **LUNCHEON** **Cypress B**

“Believe: Turning Your Stumbling Blocks into Stepping Stones”

Presiding: Dr. Donna Elam, Elam Leadership Institute, Palm Beach, FL

Speaker: *Mr. William Daniels*, Public Affairs Office for Law Enforcement Coordination U.S. Attorney's Office, Middle District of Florida, Tampa, Florida

Description: This presentation will address the realistic challenges and imposed adversity to the realization of ultimate youth potential and minority community development. The audience will be exposed to brief examples of ancient and contemporary models to surmount those challenges and foster individual and group success.

1:30 pm–2:30 pm

PLENARY SESSION

Cypress C

P-I: “Raising 21st Century Educators: Educator Sustainability for 21st Century Learners in Rural Communities”

Presiding: Mr. Barnett Birch, Adult Basic Education Instructor, Piedmont Community College, Lithonia, GA

Panelists: *Dr. Malinda B. Butler*, Associate Professor and Associate Dean of the School

of Education and Psychology, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS

Dr. Chandar T. Lewis, Interim Director of Teacher Education, Center for Teacher Quality; Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Leadership within the College of Education and Human Development, Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

Dr. Kalanya Moore, Assistant Professor and Director of Field Experiences and Clinical Practices, Department of Teacher Education, Mississippi Valley State University, Itta Bena, MS

Description: From the University perspective, we are “Rethinking Teacher Recruitment and Teacher Preparation”. It’s time for a new approach to teacher recruitment and development. Far too many teachers enter the classroom without adequate skills and experience, and students are facing the long-term consequences.

The Teacher Education Department is preparing to realign and transform how our Educator Preparation Program develops aspiring teachers in rural communities. Collaborating with district Career and Technical Education Programs to promote education among high school students has been exciting. We must provide passionate young people with hands-on teaching experience, sustain their interest in the profession, and help them cultivate the skills they need to be successful educators.

The result is a pipeline of accomplished teachers who are positioned to make a lasting difference — not only in the lives of their students, but also in the field of teaching more broadly. Raising 21st century educators is a powerful way to help rural communities grow the next generation of well-prepared teachers.

2:30 pm-3:30 pm

PLENARY SESSION

Cypress C

P-II: “Protecting the Educational Rights of Students with Disabilities in Schools”

Presiding: Ms. Priscilla McDonald, Retired, MS Department of Education,
New Hebron, MS

Presenter: Dr. Armerita Tell, Bureau Director, Parent Engagement and Support
Office of Special Education, MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

Description: This session will focus on: What is a disability? Why do schools have to provide services for students with disabilities? and The Role of Parents under IDEA.

3:30 pm-4:30 pm

PLENARY SESSION

Cypress C

P-III: “Guarding Your Retirement: MPREA and PERS of Mississippi”

Presiding: Dr. Evelyn Webb, Retired, Vice President, Generation Ready; Mississippi
Community College Board, Corinth, MS

Presenter: Ms. Emily Pote, Executive Director of MS Retired Public Employees’
Association, Jackson, MS

Description: Mississippi Retired Public Employees’ Association (MPREA) is a non-profit organization that serves to support and protect the existing defined benefit plan administered by the Public Employees’ Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS). Join us to discuss up-to-date details from PERS and the current legislative session. Also learn what you can do to help our mission.

6:30 pm – 10:30 pm

RECEPTION

Thursday May 31, 2018

8:00 am–5:00 pm	Registration	<i>Ballroom Lobby</i>
8:00 am–8:45 am	Continental Breakfast	<i>Ballroom Lobby</i>
9:00 am-12:00 pm	PLENARY SESSIONS	<i>Cypress C</i>

PI: 9:00 am–10:00 am *“The Impact of DACA on Student Education”*

Presiding: Mrs. Dorothea Walker, Retired, AL Department of Education,
Montgomery, AL

Speaker: ***Dr. Sulema Carreón-Sánchez***, Ph.D., IDRA Senior Education
Associate,
EAC-South, San Antonio, TX

Description: Session information is not available at this time.

PII: 10:00 am-11:00 am *“Accountability Grades: What do they really measure?”*

Presiding: Dr. Mae Henry, Chairperson, E. E. Rogers SDA School Board, Jackson,
MS

Speakers: ***Dr. Melvin Davis***, PhD/Executive Director, Mississippi Urban Research
Center (MURC); Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

Dr. Sam Mozee, PhD/Associate Director for Research; Mississippi Urban
Research Center (MURC); Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

Ms. Dawn Camel, Research Associate, Mississippi Urban Research
Center (MURC); Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

Description: This presentation will cover the major findings from research published at MURC, which shows that accountability grades in Mississippi may be biased against school districts with high levels of poverty and does not accurately measure academic performance. Additionally, the presentation will show attendees a new way to measure academic performance for school districts using a national database which displays growth rates using test score averages.

PIII: 11:00 am-12:00 pm “Title IX: Today and Tomorrow”

Presiding: Mrs. Francie Gilmore-Dunn, Retired MS Department of Education;
Department of Veteran Affairs, Tuscaloosa, AL

Speaker: **Ms. Tonya Gentry**, Consultant/Founder, Equality Experience, LLC,
Dallas, TX

Description:—A discussion about Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), including the interim guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Education’s Secretary, Betsy DeVos in September 2017; the Department’s anticipated policy changes of the near future; and, how the interim (and anticipated) guidance might impact how schools (colleges/universities, and elementary/secondary schools, alike) handle claims of sexual harassment/assault, particularly in light of the #MeToo movement and other current narratives surrounding Title IX enforcement. **This will be an interactive discussion, including hypotheticals for participants to evaluate.**

12:00 pm–1:15 pm

LUNCHEON

Cypress B

Presiding: Mr. Barnett Birch, Adult Basic Education Instructor, Piedmont
Community College, Lithonia, GA

Speaker: **Mr. Darryl Gaines**, PMP, EMBA, Assistant to the Center Director
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
Stennis Space Center (SSC), Bay St. Louis, MS

1:30 pm–2:30 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A: “Alternative Education”

Salon A

Presiding: Ms. Tequilla Jones, MS Department of Education, Gulfport, MS

Presenter: *Mr. Damian D. Thomas*, State Director of Alternative Education and High
School Equivalency Program (formerly GED Option), Office of Compulsory
School Attendance Enforcement, MS Department of Education, Jackson,
MS

Description: The alternative education program, as described in Section 37-13-92 of the Mississippi Code, requires local school districts to develop and maintain alternative school programs or behavior modification programs for students who may be facing lengthy suspensions, expulsion, severe behavioral problems or other serious circumstances. Alternative school programs provide students an opportunity to

continue their education in a more restrictive environment for a specified time period, until behavior requirements have been met.

B: "OORAH Leadership"

Salon B

Presiding: Ms. Priscilla McDonald, Retired, MS Department of Education, New Hebron, MS

Presenter: *Dr. Michael Steele*, Executive Principal of Stratford STEM Magnet School 5-12 in Nashville, TN

Description: *Not Available.*

C: "Equitably Growing and Expanding the Registered Apprenticeship Concept"

Salon C

Presiding: Mr. Bernard Rogers, Pascagoula School District, Pascagoula, MS

Presenter: *Mr. Deeneaus Polk*, Director, Business Apprenticeship Program MS Community College Board, Jackson, MS

Description: Registered Apprenticeship is a rapid workforce tool that helps develop both economies and communities. The Mississippi Apprenticeship Program has spent the past year growing Registered Apprenticeship programs throughout Mississippi. Part of MAP's work is centered around being intentional in connecting communities of color to these life changing opportunities. During this presentation, Mr. Polk will discuss the importance of including these communities and strategies around effectively doing so.

2:30 pm–3:30 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Salon A

A: "Emerging Technologies/Practical Classroom Applications"

Presiding: Dr. Leon Bracey, MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

Presenter: *Mr. Roscoe Henry*, Founder & CEO, ABOC LLC, Retired, MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

Description: The seminar will explore current technologies available to teachers to enhance their classroom experience.

B: “Crossroads”

Salon B

Presiding: Dr. Evelyn Webb, Retired, Vice President, Generation Ready; Mississippi Community College Board, Corinth, MS

Presenter: *Mr. Chuck Poer*, Vice President of Education Services for Bailey Education Group, President of PD Analytics, and Partner Relations Representative for Northwest Evaluation Association, Tupelo, MS.

Description: How do we help our underperforming minority students move from low achievers to high achievers, from unmotivated to motivated, from poverty to prosperity? Anchored to the work of Dr. Gilbert Singletary (crossroads-america.com), this session will focus on ownership and action steps for minority students living in poverty, and for the adults who can impact their futures. You will not want to miss this engaging and inspirational session.

C: “Academic Accountability”

Presiding: Ms. Tequilla Jones, MS Department of Education, Gulfport, MS

Presenter: *Mr. Ken Stamps*, Office of Accreditation, MS Department of Education Jackson, MS

Description: Session information is not available at this time.

Friday June 1, 2018

8:00 am–8:45 am Breakfast Cypress B

8:45 am–11:30 am PLENARY SESSIONS Cypress B

8:45 am–9:30 am “Legal Perspective”

Presiding: Mr. Floyd Chambers, Retired, MS Department of Education, Canton, MS

Speaker: *Dr. Raina Anderson*, Special Assistant Attorney General
MS Department of Education, Jackson, MS

Description: Session information is not available at this time.

**9:30 am–11:30am “The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events
(CRASE) Course”**

Speaker: *Mr. Ben Harper*, Special Agent for Training with the MS Gaming Commission, Jackson, MS

Description: The CRASE is designed and built on the Avoid, Deny, and Defend strategy developed by ALERRT in 2004. It provides strategies, guidance and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event. Topics include the history and prevalence of active shooter events, the role of professional guardians, civilian response options, medical issues, and drills.

11:30 am–12:00 pm Wrap Up/Door Prize Drawing and Closing Remarks

***Mr. Sammie L. Welton, Jr., Retired, MS Department of
Education/MVSU, Itta Bena, MS***