

7:00 AM – 8:15 AM

REGISTRATION, BADGE PICK-UP, NETWORKING BREAKFAST

8:15 AM – 8:45 AM

SETTING THE STAGE FOR SUCCESS**KEYNOTE****Janet Pilcher***Managing Director & Executive Leader, Studer Education*

What is Evidence-Based LeadershipSM, how was it developed, and why are we gathered here? In this session, Dr. Pilcher sets the context for our time together by explaining the framework and principles of Evidence-Based LeadershipSM. We'll come to understand its importance to achieving excellence, managing change, and maximizing performance.

8:45 AM – 9:45 AM

OWN YOUR RESILIENCE**KEYNOTE****Kris Ann Piazza***Coach and National Speaker, Studer Group*

There's nothing more rewarding in the workplace than knowing the time, energy, and personal sacrifices you make are having a positive impact on others. Being a professional in education offers meaningful work, especially for those who are a part of an organization where they feel engaged and truly committed to the mission, vision and values of that organization. It can also be intensive, exhausting work that takes a toll on emotional and physical well-being. For that reason, it is important to be aware of what keeps you resilient as work demands continue to rise.

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM

INTERACTIVE TABLE ACTIVITY**PROCESSING THE LEARNING**

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

NETWORKING BREAK

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM

PROMISING PRACTICE**BUILDING AND SUSTAINING EFFECTIVE TEAMS***School District of Menomonee Falls - Menomonee Falls, WI*

As a system, the School District of Menomonee Falls is committed to continuous improvement and we recognize the importance of engaging every employee in the improvement process. This requires us to place a premium on collaborative groups as the core unit to implement improvements to reach our goals. We have noted recently, through reflecting on system data and talking with members of teams getting the greatest results, that productive collaboration is a common denominator in our success. Collaboration does not commonly happen by chance. It must be intentional, learned, practiced, and applied. This is the beginning of the journey for us.

11:15 AM – 11:30 AM

NETWORKING BREAK

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

10 MINUTES THAT COUNT**EFFECTIVE FEEDBACK TO MAXIMIZE PERFORMANCE***Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District - Chippewa Falls, WI*

As a partner organization entering their 4th year with Studer Education, the Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District leadership team embraces the value of performance conversations for improvement. Hear from Superintendent Heidi Taylor-Elioupoulos and Principal Sue Kern about the why, what, and how of some of the most important conversations around performance, and how effective interactions with leaders make a powerful difference.

STARTING OUR PERFORMANCE SCORECARDS*Belvidere Community Unit School District 100 - Belvidere, IL*

A new superintendent, a new continuous improvement process, a new Studer Education partner, and Belvidere Community Unit School District 100's first scorecard! Learn the secrets of going slow at first to go fast later, including starting with a pilot scorecard created in a transparent, open process with stakeholders and focusing clearly on a few important goals. Hear about the experience of Dr. Dan Woestman's first scorecard, how he achieved buy-in and shared ownership with cabinet leaders, and how they worked through the challenges of preparing to cascade the scorecard to all leaders.

RAISING GRATEFUL KIDS*Stoughton Area School District - Stoughton, WI*

At WRIE 2016, we heard from Giacomo Bono, author of *Making Grateful Kids* and a founder of The Youth Gratitude Project. Erin Conrad, principal of Kegonsa Elementary, Stoughton, Wisconsin, was in the audience and became interested in joining the Youth Gratitude Project. Listen to her story of learnings and wonderings.

12:15 PM – 1:30 PM

NETWORKING LUNCH

1:30 PM – 2:20 PM

PROMISING PRACTICE**THE "HOW" OF PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE: IMPROVING PROCESSES WITH STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK***Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District - Schertz, TX*

In the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City School District (TX), leaders have integrated the Baldrige Framework for Performance Excellence into their continuous improvement approach. As part of this work, key priorities of the school district include a "High-Performing, Engaged Workforce" and "Effective and Efficient Operations," in support of their number one priority, "High Achievement for All Students". To ensure that internal processes are working well for employees, leaders, families, and students, the district engages Studer Education and their local Top Workplaces organization to gather feedback via surveys; they apply the results to action planning, monitoring progress, and adjustments throughout the year. Dr. Damon Edwards, Deputy Superintendent; Paige Meloni, Executive Director of Finance, and Linda Cannon, Chief Human Resources Officer, will share specific actions they've taken to improve important processes and achieve performance excellence.

2:20 PM – 2:35 PM

NETWORKING BREAK

2:35 PM – 3:20 PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS**THE FIRST YEAR: BRINGING EVIDENCE-BASED LEADERSHIP TO LIFE IN OUR DISTRICT***Belvidere Community Unit School District 100 - Belvidere, IL**Consolidated School District of New Britain - New Britain, CT**Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District - Schertz, TX*

Each Studer Education partner organization begins the journey to excellence in an individualized way, aligned to the Nine Principles® and the core tenets of the Evidence-Based Leadership™ Flywheel: passion, purpose, and meaningful results. We will engage with Dr. Dan Woestman, Belvidere Superintendent; Nancy Sarra, New Britain Superintendent; and Dr. Greg Gibson, Superintendent of Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD, all of whom are just completing Year 1 in partnership with Studer Education. Their reflections on starting up, prioritizing initial work, and “lessons learned” will be valuable to non-partners, early partners, and all others as participants consider their own path forward toward organizational excellence.

SETTING THE STAGE FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE*Portage Public Schools - Portage, MI*

Portage Public Schools is on a journey to excellence by creating a continuously improving team of leaders to lead the way. They determined early in the journey that ALL employee groups should be part of the development of standards of excellence. The “Standards Team” truly became a cohesive unit over many sessions of working through standards development, reviewing stakeholder feedback, and completing multiple revisions. Learn how Mark Bielang (Superintendent) and Michelle Karpinski (communications) managed this process effectively and how they are planning for the BIG rollout to employees so that everyone in Portage Public Schools is soon “living it every day!”

3:20 PM – 3:30 PM

NETWORKING BREAK

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS**ROLLING OUT RESULTS FROM BOARD ROOM TO CLASSROOM***School District of Altoona - Altoona, WI*

The School District of Altoona embraces results rollout all the way from the board room to the classroom. Dr. Connie Biedron, Superintendent, and her team of leaders, including Dan Peggs, Middle School Principal, decided to share survey results with leaders, employees, and students. Learn how this team prepared a process for empowering teachers to be the leaders of the rollout process for student engagement results.

PLANNING AND PRACTICING AN EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE CONVERSATION*Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District - Chippewa Falls, WI*

Effective conversations are the most powerful way to maximize human performance and one of a leader's perennial learning opportunities. Bring your thoughts and worries about an upcoming performance conversation, then plan, practice, and reflect with support from Chippewa Falls leaders and the participants around you. Planning and practice can bring you closer to perfection, and ensure excellent results.

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM

NETWORKING BREAK

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM

WONDERINGS, LEARNINGS & POSTS

PROCESSING THE LEARNING

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

TEAM PLANNING TIME

NETWORKING WITH STUDER EDUCATION TEAM AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

NETWORKING RECEPTION AND CHICAGO SKYLINE TOUR AT NIGHT

HOSTED BY STUDER EDUCATION

WE'LL SEE YOU ON THE BOAT!

112 E. Wacker Drive

We invite you to be our guests on a relaxing, 90-minute evening cruise on a classic Chicago River cruising yacht, Chicago's Leading Lady! Take in the skyline views along Chicago's spectacular lakefront, enjoy hearty "dinner-worthy" appetizers, beverages and toe-tapping live music! Sit on the open air deck or enjoy the climate-controlled interior salon. The Leading Lady will depart at 7:30 PM from Chicago's River Walk, which is just minutes from the Sheraton Grand Chicago hotel. We'll escort you to the boat from the hotel lobby. More specific details will be provided at Tuesday's conference. ***For GPS purposes, use 112 E. Wacker Drive.***



7:00 AM – 8:00 AM **NETWORKING BREAKFAST**

8:00 AM – 8:40 AM **THEMES AND QUESTIONS: PAUSE IN THE JOURNEY**
KEYNOTE

Janet Pilcher

Managing Director & Executive Leader, Studer Education

Based on your questions and observations, Dr. Pilcher will synthesize key learnings from our first day together, with a focus on application: How do the pieces fit together? How do I apply and leverage my learning when I get back home?

8:40 AM – 9:40 AM **PARTNER GALLERY WALK**
POSTER HANDOUTS LOCATED IN PROGRAM APPENDIX

LEADER ROUNDING FOR ENGAGEMENT

Edgerton School District - Edgerton, WI

LEADER NORMS FOR EFFECTIVE TEAMING

D.C. Everest Area School District - Weston, WI

ALIGNING EFFORT VIA SCORECARDS

Merrill Area Public Schools - Merrill, WI

ROUNDING BEYOND EMPLOYEES FOR AWESOME RESULTS

Northwestern Illinois Association - Sycamore, IL

ACCELERATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

School District of Janesville - Janesville, WI

DEPARTMENT ROUNDING BY CHILD STUDY TEAM ROUNDING LEADERS

Sparta Township Schools - Sparta, NJ

9:40 AM – 10:00 AM **DESIGNING YOUR POSTER**
PROCESSING THE LEARNING

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM **NETWORKING BREAK**

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM **SERVICE EXCELLENCE IS AS EASY AS P.I.E.**
KEYNOTE

Liz Jazwiec

National Speaker and Award-winning Author

Most of us work ourselves silly focusing on quality, demonstrated outcomes, and proven results. That's a good thing. Yet too often we stop short of the final step: zeroing in on how all our hard work comes across to the customers we serve - students, employees, and families. Why do we spend so much time making sure the ingredients are right...and so little time thinking about perception?

11:15 AM – 12:00 PM

PROMISING PRACTICE

REWARD AND RECOGNITION: A COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Tarrant City Schools - Tarrant, AL

As Tarrant City Schools (AL) embark on their 4th year working with Studer Education, we recognize their skillful application of tactics for reward and recognition, and the difference that conscious, targeted effort in this area has made for students, families, employees, leaders and the community. They wholeheartedly highlight “what right looks like” in action every day. Dr. Shelly Mize, Superintendent, will share her key learnings and promising practices, implemented across the school district, for meaningful celebrations and a culture of continuous improvement.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

NETWORKING LUNCH

1:00 PM – 1:15 PM

CONNECTING THE PIECES & EVALUATION PROCESSING THE LEARNING

1:15 PM – 1:30 PM

CLOSING REMARKS

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM

OPTIONAL TEAM TIME/NETWORKING WITH STUDER EDUCATION TEAM CONNECT WITH YOUR DISTRICT TEAM OR THE STUDER EDUCATION TEAM

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS: OPTIONAL

NEW LEADER ONBOARDING

In this 90-minute workshop, we welcome our partner-organization leaders who are new to their roles, the organization, and/or the work of Studer EducationSM. During this opportunity to “catch up” with their colleagues, we’ll provide a complimentary copy of *Maximize Performance: Creating a Culture of Educational Excellence* to each participant. Studer Education coaches will provide background information about our organization and highlight key tactics and principles that leaders may be expected to execute in their new leadership roles. Offered in response to requests from our partners, we strongly encourage partner superintendents to extend an invitation to this session to leaders who have just joined or are about to join the organization.

ALIGNING THE NINE PRINCIPLES® TO ACHIEVE PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE WITH THE BALDRIGE FRAMEWORK

In this workshop, Dr. JoAnn Sternke, former Superintendent of Schools of the 2013 Baldrige recipient Pewaukee School District, WI, will provide an overview of the Baldrige framework and share how the Studer EducationSM Nine Principles®, surveys, scorecards and other key tactics position districts to begin or advance a Baldrige journey. Participants will receive a copy of the Baldrige Excellence Builder, and a recently updated crosswalk between the Nine Principles and the Baldrige framework. We are offering this workshop to support our partner organizations who already use the Baldrige Excellence Framework as well as those who have expressed an interest in learning more about how the Baldrige Framework could strengthen continuous improvement efforts.

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

NETWORKING TIME WITH STUDER EDUCATION TEAM