2024 MASS/ALLIANCE WINTER CONFERENCE Agenda January 21 – 24, 2024

Sunday, January 21, 2024

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Superintendents' Registration	Registration Desk
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting	Natchez
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Board of Directors' Meeting	Crown
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	GENERAL SESSION Welcome/Recognitions:	Diplomat I & II
	Dr. Phil Burchfield, Executive Director, MASS	

"Current Legal Issues"

Jim Keith, Attorney, Adams and Reese LLP

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Superintendents' Early Arrival Reception Sponsored by:

AMERICAN FIDELITY

Salon A & B

Monday, January 22, 2024

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Superintendents' Continental Breakfast Fitzgerald's

8:00 a.m. − 9:00 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session 1 (Yellow Dots) Diplomat I

"Effective Communication with Stakeholders and the Media"

Cory Uselton, Superintendent, DeSoto County School District

Concurrent Session 2 (Red Dots)

Diplomat II

"AI Usage in Your District"

Chris Chism, Superintendent, Pearl Public School District

Concurrent Session 3 (Blue Dots)

Amphitheater I

"The Nuts and Bolts of School Safety from a District Perspective"

Dr. Jamone Edwards, Assistant Superintendent,

South Panola School District

Shane Sanders, Deputy Superintendent,

Rankin County School District

Babette Duty, Superintendent, Covington County School District

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Exhibitor Registration** Registration Registration

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Break Salon C

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

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Chris Chism, Superintendent, Pearl Public School District

9:15 a.m. − 10:15 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session 3 (Red Dots)

Amphitheater I

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10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Break Salon C

10:30 a.m. – **11:30** a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

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Dr. Jamone Edwards, Assistant Superintendent,

South Panola School District

Shane Sanders, Deputy Superintendent,

Rankin County School District

Babette Duty, Superintendent,

Covington County School District

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Alliance Chairpersons' Meeting Natchez

11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Alliance Registration Open Registration Desk

11:30 a.m. − 1:30 p.m. **Deli Style Luncheon**

Sponsored by:

MUNIGROUP, LLC

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **GENERAL SESSION**

Salon A & B

Fitzgerald's

Welcome/Remarks/Recognitions/Introduction:

Dr. Phil Burchfield, Executive Director, MASS

Remarks/Introduction:

Dr. Todd English, President, MASS

Jason Dougal, Keynote Speaker

Sponsored by:

NATIONAL CENTER ON EDUCATION AND THE ECONOMY

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Salon C

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Alliance Sectional Meetings

Superintendents

Pearl

"What is Happening at Mississippi's Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)?"

Bonnie P. Granger, Young Law Group, PLLC, PERS Retiree

Micheal Larsen, PERS Retiree, Former Chief Administrative

Officer, MS Development Authority

Facilitator: Dr. Todd English, President, MASS

Assistant Superintendents / Curriculum Coordinators

Diplomat I

"Engaging Parents/Families and Community in District and School Partnerships to Increase Attendance and Student Achievement"

Chris Fleming, Superintendent, Senatobia Municipal School District

Facilitator: John Ferrell, Assistant Superintendent,

New Albany School District

Business Officials

Port Gibson

"Attendance and How it Affects State Funding and School Financial Services Updates"

Letitia Johnson, Bureau Director, Office of School Financial Services, MDE

Facilitator: Shelia Copeland, Business Officer,

Simpson County School District

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Alliance Sectional Meetings

Career and Technical Directors

Penthouse

"CTE MDE Updates"

Brett Robinson, CTE Director, MDE

Facilitator: Michael West, Career and Technical Director,

Wayne County School District

Elementary Principals

Crown

"Ensuring Success for English Learners"

Gwen King, Ed.S., English Learner Lead Specialist, Bailey Education Group, LLC

Facilitator: Dr. Michael Pope, Elementary Principal,

Clinton Public School District

Federal Programs Coordinators

Diplomat II

"Federal Programs/Grants Management Updates and ESSER Monitoring"

Dr. Judy Nelson, Executive Director of Federal Programs, MDE

Elisha Campbell, Executive Director of Grants Management, MDE

Facilitator: Eileen Dowsing, Federal Programs Coordinator,

Holly Springs School District

Public Information Officers

Natchez

"Crisis Communications: Keeping Constituents Informed Amid Crucial Situations"

Everett Chinn, Public Relations Specialist, Greenville Public School District

Facilitator: Gene Wright, Public Information Officer,

Madison County School District

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Alliance Sectional Meetings

Secondary/Middle Level Principals

Amphitheater II

"Arts and Achievement: A Winning Combination"

Dr. Ben Burnett, President, WCU

Dr. Eddie Peasant, Assistant Dean of Education, WCU

Travis Coakley, Assistant Professor of Music, WCU

Zachary Harris, Instructor of Music, WCU

Cameron Jenkins, Doctor of Music Candidate, WCU

Facilitator: Tanya Pickering, Secondary/Middle Level Principal, Covington County School District

Special Education Directors

Cabana

"Special Education Legal Updates"

Jim Keith, Attorney, Adams and Reese LLP

Kashonda Day, Attorney, Adams and Reese LLP

Facilitator: Aletha Simpson, Special Education Director,

Grenada School District

Technology Directors

Vicksburg

"Cybersecurity Issues and Updates"

Adam Griffin, Shareholder, CIPP/US MAYNARDNEXSEN

Facilitator: Ross Randall, Technology Director,

Lamar County School District

5:30 p.m. Exhibit Hall Closes

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **Reception**

Salon A & B

Sponsored by:

CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS SPECIALISTS

EXCELLENCE GROUP

GREENE EDUCATION SERVICES, LLC

JBHM ARCHITECTURE

SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC

Synergetics DCS

TRANSAMERICA LIFE INSURANCE / CATCHINGS AGENCY

YOUNG LAW GROUP

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast Salon C 7:00 a.m. **Exhibit Hall Opens** 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions Concurrent Session 1** Amphitheater I "Reframing Family Engagement as an Instructional Strategy" - Understand the link between home school partnerships and student outcomes - Distinguish between Informing, Engaging and Empowering families and caregivers to support learning at home - Redesigning events and initiatives to increase impact and engagement Jenni Brasington, National Director of Family and Community **Engagement at Scholastic Education Concurrent Session 2** Amphitheater II "Understanding English Learners - A Guide for Administrators" - Understand the changing population of English learners in MS - Understand English learner proficiency test data and how it relates to classroom supports - Resources for administrators to better support English learners in schools and districts Sandra C. Elliott, English Learner and Intervention Support Specialist, MDE **Concurrent Session 3** Cabana "Putting the Pieces Together for School Success" - Student achievement, early childhood, and effective instruction are just part of school success - Who can help reach your goals? TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, BUS DRIVERS, ADMINISTRATORS TO NAME A FEW! - The Excellence Group can help you put the pieces together, join us to learn how Dr. Mina Ross Bryan Lightsey, The Excellence Group Dr. Leigh B. Mobley, The Excellence Group

> Arthur McMillan, The Excellence Group Alisa McMillan, The Excellence Group Dennis Penton, The Excellence Group Laurie Brewer, The Excellence Group

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session 4

Crown

"You Mean that's in the Accountability Model Business Rules???"

- Little known and fine points within the business rules that deserve attention for maximizing points.
- What's your system for continuous tracking and calculation in all accountability blocks throughout the year?
- Maximizing CCR and Acceleration opportunities for both students and schools / districts

Scott Cantrell, Performance Based Education

Dr. Lundy Brantley, Performance Based Education

Gina Morgigno, Pearl Public School District

Concurrent Session 5

Diplomat I

"Workforce Readiness 101: A K-12 Journey to Building Tomorrow's WorkForce Today"

- A strategic approach towards preparing students for challenges and opportunities of the future workforce
- Understanding the Context in the New Albany Schools
- Understanding how to bridge the gap between conventional education and the dynamics of the workforce

Dr. Lance Evans, Superintendent, New Albany School District

John Ferrell, Assistant Superintendent, New Albany School District

Beth Benson, Director of Workforce Development

Concurrent Session 6

Diplomat II

"Mining the Data: Gold and Platinum Results from Jumpstart Test Prep's ACT WorkKeys Prep"

- ACT WorkKeys offers students and schools newer and more attainable opportunities to succeed.
- Jumpstart's school partners have seen significant scores and improvements after implementing Jumsptart's WorkKeys Review.
- We will have a Q&A time for any questions from attendees.

Sha Walker, CEO and Co-founder of Jumpstart Test Prep

Rod Martin, Vice President of Curriculum at Jumpstart Test Prep

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session 7

Pearl

"Unlocking the Full Potential of UbD with Pathways to Proficiency"

- ELS uses UbD and Pathways for enhanced academic outcomes and individualized plans for students
- ELS uses assessment to foster deep understanding and critical thinking for college/career preparation
- Discussion highlights how these systems improve teacher effectiveness, leading to enhanced student outcomes

Paul Shelly, President, ELS

Dr. J.P. Beaudoin, Consultant, Columbia School District/AIM

Dr. Otha Belcther, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Columbia School District

Concurrent Session 8

Penthouse

"Doing It the 'GES' Way"

- Learning Focused: providing customized professional learning and coaching
- Reflection Centered: creating a culture of continuous improvement through collaborative, inquiry-based professional development
- Analytics Driven: improving accountability Scores and student outcomes

Windell Greene, President of Greene Education Services

Dr. Freddrick Murray, Senior Vice President of Greene Education Services

Christie Hatten, Director of Research and Development for Greene **Education Services**

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Salon C

10:00 a.m. − 11:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session 1

Amphitheater I

"Recommendations for Turning the Science of Reading Research into Results"

- A research-based literacy instruction framework proven to increase organizational alignment and instructional equity
- Evidence-based drivers and practices that lead to long-term transformational
- Literacy initiatives that are making a difference and leaving a leadership legacy

Dr. Joyce Jamerson, Director of Academic Planning and Solution Development at Scholastic

10:00 a.m. − 11:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session 2

Amphitheater II

"Future Ready: Digital Citizenship, Data Modernization, and Artificial Intelligence"

- Digital Citizenship: Digital Learning and Student Readiness
- Data Modernization: MSIS 2.0 and Expanded Data Use
- Artificial Intelligence: MDE Perspective and Guidance

John Kraman, Chief Information Officer, MDE

Dr. Donna Boone, Chief Academic Officer, MDE

Melissa Banks, Director of Data Use and Professional Learning, MDE

Concurrent Session 3

Cabana

"Passing Bond Issues and Creative Alternatives for Financing District Construction Projects"

- Different avenues of funding come with many different sets of requirements
- Effective financial planning, creative options for financing projects, and investing properly require planning!
- Let Young Law Group and MuniGroup help you make the most of your financial resources

Jim Young, Young Law Group

Warren Greenlee, MuniGroup

Bonnie Granger, Young Law Group

Concurrent Session 4

Crown

"Avoiding Legal Landmines in Today's World"

- Personnel, Personnel!
- Dealing with Student Discipline!
- Social Media Issues Facing School Districts!

Elizabeth Maron, Adams and Reese LLP

KaShonda Day, Adams and Reese LLP

John Hooks, Adams and Reese LLP

Jim Keith, Adams and Reese LLP

Concurrent Session 5

Diplomat I

"Activating Accountability: Each Student, Each Point"

- Using ACT Standards to build proficiency in classrooms.
- ACT Crosswalk development to MSCCR standards to build teacher capacity.
- Embedding ACT practices in ALL classrooms.

CC Bradberry, Project Manager, ACT Content Lead, Bailey Education Group

Kelly Gates, Federal Programs Director, South Tippah School District

Brent Grisham, Teacher (ACT and US History), Blue Mountain Attendance Center, South Tippah School District

10:00 a.m. − 11:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session 6

Diplomat II

"Teaching to the Edges. Empowering School Leaders to Help All Students Reach Their Full Potential"

- In this interactive session, participants will explore and discuss strategies:
- To serve exceptional education, economically disadvantaged, and
- To serve English Language learners.
- Dr. Teresa Poole, Dean of Education, WCU
- Dr. Eddie Peasant, Assistant Dean of Education, WCU
- Dr. Kim Benton, Assistant Professor, WCU
- Dr. Mark Yeager, Chair, Exceptional Education, WCU
- Dr. Patti Permenter, Assistant Professor, WCU

Concurrent Session 7

Pearl

"Transforming your Schools Despite Bond Uncertainty"

- Establishing long term strategy while addressing short-term needs.
- Strategies to advance your vision even if bond fails or is not quite enough.
- Reshaping community perception of district impact throughout the journey.

Allie Harris, Mississippi Sales Market Leader, Schneider Electric

Dr. Lisa Bramuchi, Superintendent, Cleveland School District

Charles Johnson, Deputy Superintendent,

Cleveland School District

Concurrent Session 8

Penthouse

"D...All of the Above"

- How can your Design Team help in developing the creative vision for the District?
- What to expect when addressing a repair or replacement.
- Ask an Architect. Open question and answer session.

Kimberly Buford, AIA, NCARB, JBHM Architecture

Ryan Florreich, AIA, NCARB, JBHM Architecture

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Legislative Luncheon

Salon A & B

Remarks/Introductions:

Dr. Phil Burchfield, Executive Director, MASS

Remarks: Larry Holland, Senior Consultant, Scholastic, Inc.

Sponsored by:

SCHOLASTIC

Invited Guests:

Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker of the House, Chairmen of Appropriations and Education of Both **Chambers**

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Afternoon Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session 1

Amphitheater I

"Reframing Family Engagement as an Instructional Strategy"

- Understand the link between home school partnerships and student outcomes
- Distinguish between Informing, Engaging and Empowering families and caregivers to support learning at home
- Redesigning events and initiatives to increase impact and engagement

Jenni Brasington, National Director of Family and Community Engagement at Scholastic Education

Concurrent Session 2

Amphitheater II

"What's Knowledge Got To Do With It?"

- The magic and myths of reading comprehension
- Understand the more accurate and complex model of reading comprehension
- Understand the role of knowledge in building reading proficiency

Kristen Wynn, State Literacy Director, MDE

Kelli Crain, Assistant State Literacy Coordinator, MDE

Jill Hoda, Assistant State Literacy Coordinator, MDE

Concurrent Session 3

Cabana

"Current Issues and Developments for Financial Planning - Capital Improvements after ESSER"

- Spending ESSER funding wisely and how to operate and finance capital improvements after ESSER
- Current ESSER issues and developments: internal controls, construction and architect issues, and audits
- Maximizing revenues and other creative opportunities for financing notes, bonds, and leases for capital improvements

Jim Young, Young Law Group

Warren Greenlee, MuniGroup

Bonnie Granger, Young Law Group

Concurrent Session 4

Crown

"More Legal Landmines for School Districts!"

- Curriculum/Library Books, Transgender issues
- Medical Marijuana, Vaping
- CyberSecurity Issues, Title IX/Athletics, Booster Clubs

Elizabeth Maron, Adams and Reese LLP

KaShonda Day, Adams and Reese LLP

John Hooks, Adams and Reese LLP

Jim Keith, Adams and Reese LLP

1:30 p.m. − 3:00 p.m. **Afternoon Concurrent Sessions**

Diplomat I **Concurrent Session 5** "Engaging Your Tribe The Warrior Way" - Understanding Your Context Through Data from All Stakeholders - Engaging All Stakeholders to Find Solutions - Implementing your Plan for Engagement Chris Fleming, Superintendent, Senatobia Municipal School District Dr. April Scott, Assistant Superintendent, Senatobia Municipal School District Dr. Susan Muse Rucker, NCEE **Concurrent Session 6** Diplomat II "Doctoral Research Projects Conducted in Mississippi Schools" - Real research projects designed to improve aspects of Mississippi schools - Problems of Practice applied to Mississippi schools - Recent doctoral graduates share the results of their research conducted in their schools Dr. Myron Labat, Associate Professor, MSU Dr. Leigh Ann McMullan, Associate Clinical Professor, MSU Dr. Paula Tharp, Assistant Professor, MSU **Concurrent Session 7** Pearl "You've Been Hacked... Now What?" - Ransomware Mitigation - Backup and Recover Importance - Prevention after the attack Chris Hutchinson, Solutions Specialist, C Spire Salon C 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.Break – Visit with Exhibitors 3:30 p.m. − 5:00 p.m. **Afternoon Concurrent Sessions Concurrent Session 1** Amphitheater I "Recommendations for Turning the Science of Reading Research into Results" - A research-based literacy instruction framework proven to increase organizational alignment and instructional equity - Evidence-based drivers and practices that lead to long-term transformational outcomes - Literacy initiatives that are making a difference and leaving a leadership legacy Dr. Joyce Jamerson, Director of Academic Planning and Solution Development at Scholastic

3:30 p.m. − 5:00 p.m. **Afternoon Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session 2

Amphitheater II

"Maximizing Momentum: How Instructional Leaders Can Support Mathematics Proficiency"

- Enhancing Pedagogical Strategies
- Leveraging Data-Driven Insights
- Implementing Targeted Professional Development

Tommisha Johnson, State K-12 Mathematics Director, MDE

Wendy Clemons, Associate State Superintendent, MDE

Concurrent Session 3

Cabana

"Future Forward: Mississippi's Evolution in School Transportation"

- The Multifaceted Role of Transportation Director
- Technological Changes in the Transportation Landscape
- Preparing for the Future

Shasta Dodd, Director of Marketing, Waters Truck and Tractor, Waters International Trucks

Mike Adams, Electric Bus Specialist for IC Bus Corporation

Larry McIntyre, Regional Sales Manager for IC Bus Corporation

Concurrent Session 4

Crown

"Panel Discussion on Current Legal Issues"

- Elimination of Individual Income Tax
- MAEP Funding Accountability
- PERS Discussion

Adams and Reese LLP

Concurrent Session 5

Diplomat I

"Let's Get To Work!: Soft Skills, Personal Finance, and Workforce Education with Junior Achievement"

- Soft Skills: Engage JA It's My Job as a scalable program with mentoring.
- Personal Finance: Ready use semester and middle school course with simulations.
- Workforce Education: K-8th grades receive layered learning to excite children to join workforce.

Leigh Mansberg, President, Junior Achievement

Kesha Cohran-Ivy, Chief Academic Officer, Junior Achievement

Suzy Bowman, Director of Mississippi Programming, Junior Achievement

3:30 p.m. − 5:00 p.m. **Afternoon Concurrent Sessions**

Concurrent Session 6

Diplomat II

"Top 10 Safety and Security Pitfalls"

- Review of free SchoolSafety.gov security management guidelines
- Common mistakes when allocating funding for safety and security
- Utilization of resources for district funding for security

Kevin Wren, Technical Committee, Partner Alliance for Safer Schools

Concurrent Session 7

Pearl

"The Power of the i-Ready Diagnostic"

- Using data to drive instruction
- Conducting data chats
- Developing school-wide data goals

Dr. Kiana N. Pendleton, Director of Implementation and Instruction, Curriculum Associates

5:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Closes

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. **Pre-Dinner Reception**

Salon A & B

Sponsored by:

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JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT
KELLY EDUCATION
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
PRYORMORROW
WATERS TRUCK

WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast Salon C

7:00 a.m. **Exhibit Hall Opens**

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Alliance Sectional Meetings**

Superintendents Salon B

"Business Session"

"Close the Gate the Superintendents are Getting Out"

Dr. Tommye Henderson, Superintendent Search Manager, Mississippi School Boards Association

Dr. Denotris Jackson, Executive Director, Mississippi School Boards Association

Facilitator: Dr. Todd English, President, MASS

Assistant Superintendents / Curriculum Coordinators

Diplomat I

"Developing Students for the Jobs of the Future Through an Effective CTE Program Using Innovation"

Dr. Tori Holloway, Superintendent, Vicksburg-Warren School District

Dr. Terrance James, CTE Director, Vicksburg-Warren School District

Facilitator: John Ferrell, Assistant Superintendent,

New Albany School District

Business Officials Port Gibson

"Top School District Questions to the State Auditor's Office"

Thomas S. Chain, Director, Technical Assistance, Office of State Auditors

Facilitator: Shelia Copeland, Business Officer,

Simpson County School District

Wednesday, January 24, 2024, continued

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Alliance Sectional Meetings**

Career and Technical Directors

Penthouse

"The Accountability Model: Leveraging CTE and Strategically Preparing for the Future"

Blaise King, Director of Career and Technical Education, Madison County School District

Facilitator: Michael West, Career and Technical Director,

Wayne County School District

Elementary Principals

Crown

"Empowering Minds: Releasing Potential in Intersessions!"

Ashley Harvey, Assistant Principal, Petal Upper Elementary School and Lead Administrator, Petal School District

Luke Daniels, Assistant Principal, Petal Elementary School and Administrator, Petal School District

Facilitator: Dr. Michael Pope, Elementary Principal,

Clinton Public School District

Federal Programs Coordinators

Diplomat II

"School Improvement Updates"

Dr. Sonja Robertson, Executive Director of School Improvement, MDE

Alan Burrows, Executive Director of District & School Performance, MDE

Deborah Dovovan, Director of Data Analysis & Reporting, MDE

Facilitator: Eileen Dowsing, Federal Programs Coordinator,

Holly Springs School District

Public Information Officers

Natchez

"Differentiated Communication"

Robert Chapman, Director of Communications, Clinton Public School District

Facilitator: Gene Wright, Public Information Officer,

Madison County School District

Wednesday, January 24, 2024, continued

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Alliance Sectional Meetings**

Secondary/Middle Level Principals

Amphitheater II

"A Different Look at Data - MAAP Item Analysis. What Exactly Does it Say?"

Felicia Johnson, Triumph Educational Consulting

Facilitator: Tanya Pickering, Secondary/Middle Level Principal, Covington County School District

Special Education Directors

Cabana

"MDE Special Education Updates"

Dr. Jennifer Boykin, Executive Director, Office of Special Education, MDE

Facilitator: Aletha Simpson, Special Education Director,

Grenada School District

Technology Directors

Vicksburg

"Technology Directors Roundtable"

Facilitator: Ross Randall, Technology Director,

Lamar County School District

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Break – Visit with Exhibitors

Salon C

Salon A & B

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **GENERAL SESSION**

Remarks/Introductions:

Dr. Todd English, President, MASS

Ryan Miller, Keynote Speaker

Sponsored by:

PERFORMANCE BASED EDUCATION COMPANY

12:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Closes

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. MASS Board of Directors & Alliance Chairpersons

Diplomat I & II