



**KnowledgeWorks Experience Conference  
February 27-28, 2017**

**Wyndham Lake Buena Vista  
Disney Springs Resort Area  
Orlando, FL**

**Sunday, February 26, 2017**

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4:00 – 6:00 PM Early Registration, *Horizons Ballroom Foyer*

**Monday, February 27, 2017**

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7:00 – 8:00 AM Registration and Buffet Breakfast

8:00 – 9:30 AM Opening Plenary Session, *Horizons Ballroom*

Welcome Remarks and Introduction of Speaker by Virgel Hammonds, Chief Learning Officer for KnowledgeWorks

**Keynote Presentation: “Jobs on the Move”** by Dr. James Johnson, Jr., Director, Urban Investment Strategies Center, Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, University of North Carolina

Research tells us about reinventing schools that ensure student success in the midst of these demographic and economic challenges. Dr. Johnson's presentation will also include research from University of North Carolina's K-8 Lab School and North Carolina's early college high schools.

Overview by Andrea Mulkey, National Director of Early College for KnowledgeWorks

9:30 – 9:45 AM Break

9:45 – 10:45 AM Concurrent Learning Sessions A: Keynote Conversations

This interactive learning session will give attendees an opportunity to engage in a dialogue about the content of Dr. Johnson's presentation and our current educational practices. How does what we know about the present impact our values and beliefs about all learners? As we work to engage our learning communities in a vision that has every child at the center of the learning,





# making dreams come true

what understandings from Dr. Johnson's keynote must we consider if we are to be successful?

Small Group Discussion Assignments:

Salon 7: Red Dots

Salon 9: Blue Dots

Salon 11: Green Dots

Rock Lake: Orange Dots

Spring Lake: Yellow Dots

Bay Lake: Black Dots

10:45 – 11:00 AM

Break

11:00 – 12:30 PM

Luncheon Plenary Session, *Horizons Ballroom*

Greetings and Introduction of Keynote Speaker by Judy Pepler, President & CEO of KnowledgeWorks

**Keynote Presentation: "A Global Perspective on Innovation for Equity and Redefining Student Success"** by Susan Patrick, President & CEO of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL)

Today's education innovators achieve equity and excellence by focusing their resources in ways that educate each and every student to the highest, world-class standards and provide the supports to ensure that success is the only option. Personalizing learning is increasingly prominent in discussions on the future of education. How are you ensuring that education in your community is meeting the needs of individuals and the community?

12:30 – 12:45 PM

Break

12:45 – 1:45 PM

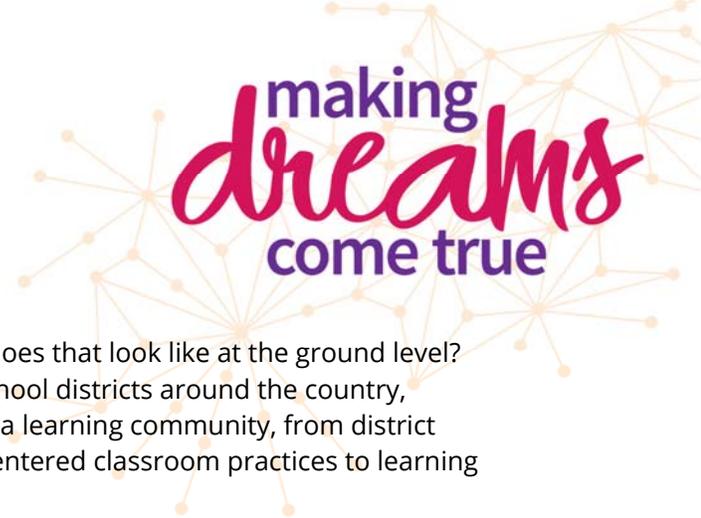
Concurrent Learning Sessions B

## **Essential Elements of Personalized Learning and Competency-Based Education**

Room: *Salon 7*

Presenters: Robin Kanaan, Director of Teaching and Learning, KnowledgeWorks; Lori Phillips, Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning, KnowledgeWorks; Laura Hilger, Teaching and Learning Senior Coach, KnowledgeWorks

Personalized learning and competency-based education are grounded in the belief that each and every child, provided the right supports and experiences,



can be a successful learner. What does that look like at the ground level? Learn about best practices from school districts around the country, including essential “must-haves” in a learning community, from district conditions for success to learner-centered classroom practices to learning progressions and competencies.

### **Your Seniors Can't Write**

Room: *Salon 9*

Presenters: Regina H. Paul, President, Policy Studies in Education; Marie G. Segares, Executive Director, Policy Studies in Education

You can't really fix a high school senior's writing in the middle of trying to get their college application essays created, reviewed, and submitted on time. There is too much pressure then, and too little time. Learn about the problem facing our students, discover possible solutions, and engage in small-group discussions with your peers.

### **Building Consensus for Personalized and Competency-Based Learning**

Room: *Salon 11*

Presenter: Karla Phillips, Policy Director, Foundation for Excellence in Education

You wouldn't build a house on top of an unfinished foundation. So why do we push students to the next level of learning even when they haven't mastered the basics? Unlike traditional time-based education models, competency-based education ensures that students master key concepts and skills before advancing to the next level. Hear lessons learned from leaders around the country who are leading the effort to transition to more student-centered models, and the steps they have taken to build consensus among educators, families, and policyholders along the way. Engage in interactive activities to practice and hone successful messaging.

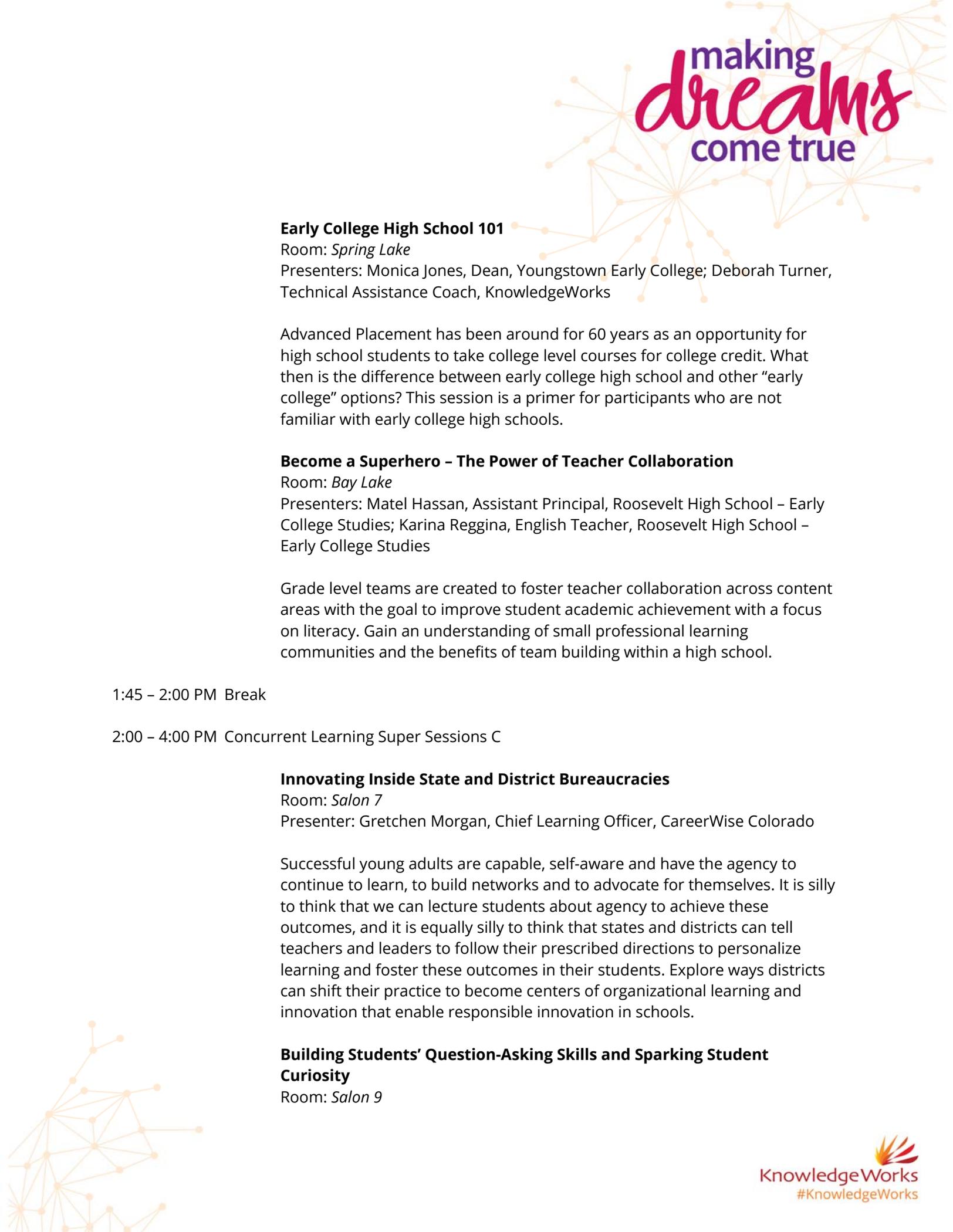
### **Are You Ready for My S.W.A.G. (Strong With Amazing Gifts)**

Room: *Rock Lake*

Presenter: Edwin Lou Javius, CEO & President, EDEquity Inc.

The instructional concept of SWAG (Strong With Amazing Gifts) helps to increase teacher efficacy and deepen learning. Find out how this was used to unleash the learning potential of black and brown boys in the Smart Scholars Early College Program in New York. Get key instructional approaches to actively engage these students and help deepen learning. Leave with a self-assessment social emotional survey for teachers to increase their mind-set, planning and instructional delivery.



A decorative background consisting of a network of orange dots connected by thin lines, forming a complex web-like structure. The text "making dreams come true" is overlaid on this network. "making" is in a blue sans-serif font, "dreams" is in a large, pink, cursive font, and "come true" is in a blue sans-serif font.

making  
dreams  
come true

### **Early College High School 101**

Room: *Spring Lake*

Presenters: Monica Jones, Dean, Youngstown Early College; Deborah Turner, Technical Assistance Coach, KnowledgeWorks

Advanced Placement has been around for 60 years as an opportunity for high school students to take college level courses for college credit. What then is the difference between early college high school and other “early college” options? This session is a primer for participants who are not familiar with early college high schools.

### **Become a Superhero – The Power of Teacher Collaboration**

Room: *Bay Lake*

Presenters: Matel Hassan, Assistant Principal, Roosevelt High School – Early College Studies; Karina Reggina, English Teacher, Roosevelt High School – Early College Studies

Grade level teams are created to foster teacher collaboration across content areas with the goal to improve student academic achievement with a focus on literacy. Gain an understanding of small professional learning communities and the benefits of team building within a high school.

1:45 – 2:00 PM Break

2:00 – 4:00 PM Concurrent Learning Super Sessions C

### **Innovating Inside State and District Bureaucracies**

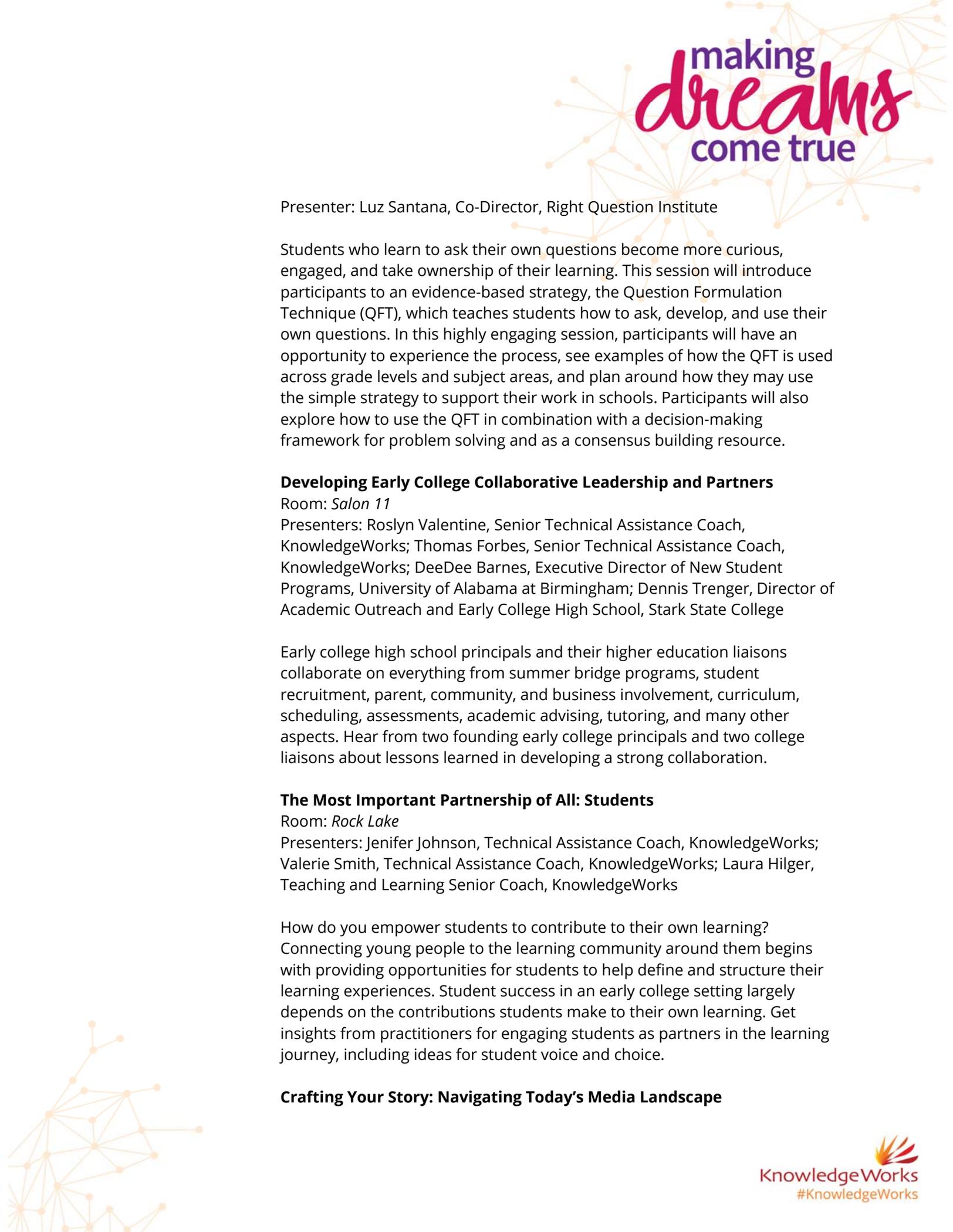
Room: *Salon 7*

Presenter: Gretchen Morgan, Chief Learning Officer, CareerWise Colorado

Successful young adults are capable, self-aware and have the agency to continue to learn, to build networks and to advocate for themselves. It is silly to think that we can lecture students about agency to achieve these outcomes, and it is equally silly to think that states and districts can tell teachers and leaders to follow their prescribed directions to personalize learning and foster these outcomes in their students. Explore ways districts can shift their practice to become centers of organizational learning and innovation that enable responsible innovation in schools.

### **Building Students' Question-Asking Skills and Sparking Student Curiosity**

Room: *Salon 9*

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# making dreams come true

Presenter: Luz Santana, Co-Director, Right Question Institute

Students who learn to ask their own questions become more curious, engaged, and take ownership of their learning. This session will introduce participants to an evidence-based strategy, the Question Formulation Technique (QFT), which teaches students how to ask, develop, and use their own questions. In this highly engaging session, participants will have an opportunity to experience the process, see examples of how the QFT is used across grade levels and subject areas, and plan around how they may use the simple strategy to support their work in schools. Participants will also explore how to use the QFT in combination with a decision-making framework for problem solving and as a consensus building resource.

## **Developing Early College Collaborative Leadership and Partners**

Room: *Salon 11*

Presenters: Roslyn Valentine, Senior Technical Assistance Coach, KnowledgeWorks; Thomas Forbes, Senior Technical Assistance Coach, KnowledgeWorks; DeeDee Barnes, Executive Director of New Student Programs, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Dennis Trenger, Director of Academic Outreach and Early College High School, Stark State College

Early college high school principals and their higher education liaisons collaborate on everything from summer bridge programs, student recruitment, parent, community, and business involvement, curriculum, scheduling, assessments, academic advising, tutoring, and many other aspects. Hear from two founding early college principals and two college liaisons about lessons learned in developing a strong collaboration.

## **The Most Important Partnership of All: Students**

Room: *Rock Lake*

Presenters: Jenifer Johnson, Technical Assistance Coach, KnowledgeWorks; Valerie Smith, Technical Assistance Coach, KnowledgeWorks; Laura Hilger, Teaching and Learning Senior Coach, KnowledgeWorks

How do you empower students to contribute to their own learning? Connecting young people to the learning community around them begins with providing opportunities for students to help define and structure their learning experiences. Student success in an early college setting largely depends on the contributions students make to their own learning. Get insights from practitioners for engaging students as partners in the learning journey, including ideas for student voice and choice.

## **Crafting Your Story: Navigating Today's Media Landscape**



Room: *Bay Lake*  
Presenter: Cris Charbonneau, Vice President, Communications,  
KnowledgeWorks

Public relations can be a powerful and effective marketing tool for your school district, but it's more than just sending out a press release. It is about crafting your story, creating the right narrative and being able to effectively share that story across multiple channels – even when a crisis hits. Examine different case studies and work in teams to match the media and the message with the audience and the situation. Discover practical strategies in navigating today's media landscape and building trust, engaging the community, and advocating for the district.

4:30 – 6:30 PM Reception, Pool Bar

6:30 PM Dinner On Your Own

## **Tuesday, February 28, 2017**

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8:00 – 9:30 AM Breakfast Plenary, *Horizons Ballroom*

Welcome and Keynote Introduction by Andrea Mulkey, National Director of Early College for KnowledgeWorks

**Keynote Presentation: “Combining Imagination and Intelligence for Creativity”** by Scott Barry Kaufman, Psychologist and Author of *Ungifted: Intelligence Redefined*

Spending his formative years in a special education classroom inspired him to study how we learn, and to debunk traditional methods of measuring intelligence. Kaufman will delve into the science of creativity, explaining that harnessing the full power of students' creative minds makes them better thinkers, problem-solvers and leaders. He will share tried and true methods for creating an ideal classroom environment that benefits everyone.

9:30 – 9:45 AM Break

10:00 – 11:00 AM Concurrent Learning Sessions D

**Cultural Intricacies of Rural and Urban Poverty and School Reform**

Room: *Salon 7*





Presenters: Amy Wood, Director of Educational Programs, Marion City Schools; Wendy Brannen, Senior Technical Assistance Coach, KnowledgeWorks

When students live in the conditions of rural or urban poverty, the barriers they face are not only economic, but social and cultural as well. Get a glimpse into the cultural intricacies that are both similar and unique for students living in rural and urban poverty and explore solutions that will impact their beliefs and instructional focus in their school or district.

### **Sustainable Systems for Student-Centered Education**

Room: *Salon 11*

Presenters: Alison Hramiec, Head of School, Boston Day and Evening Academy (BDEA); Arpi Karapetyan, Data and Communications Manager, BDEA; Latasha Furtado, School Climate and Family Engagement Coordinator, BDEA

Boston Day and Evening Academy (BDEA) runs a successful student-centered, competency-based high school for off-track students who are at least 2 years behind grade level. BDEA was founded 20 years ago, and continues to evolve its practice of CBE to include project and blended learning, and includes comprehensive student support services to prepare students for a productive and satisfying life beyond graduation. Learn about the systems helping BDEA be successful and learn about their design process, which keeps students' needs at the center.

### **Enhancing Dual / Concurrent Enrollment Quality Through NACEP's National Standards and Accreditation**

Room: *Rock Lake*

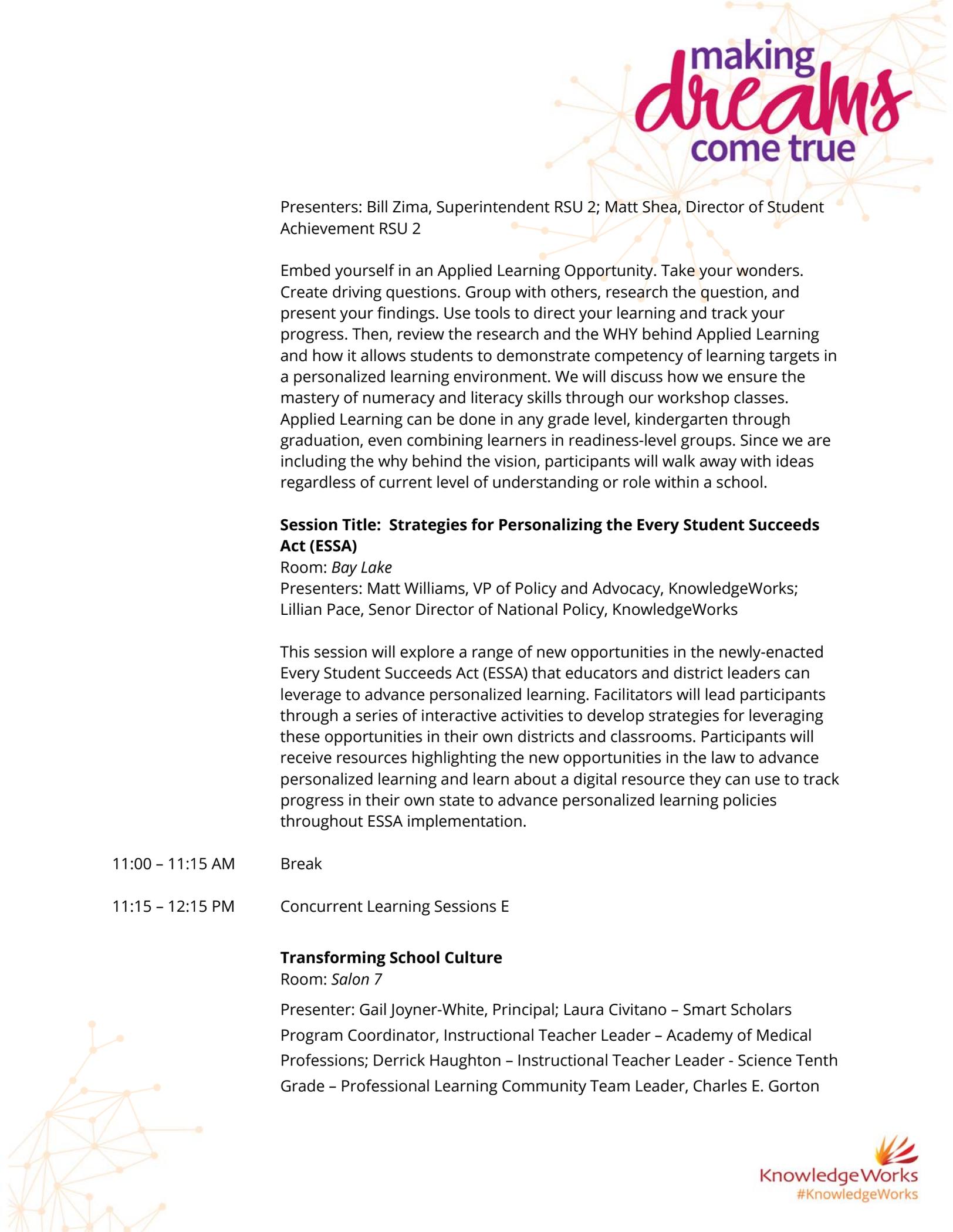
Presenters: Dr. Carla Mebane, Director, University Missouri- Kansas City (UMKC), Member, National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)

Learn how implementing quality standards for course oversight and management can make dual and concurrent enrollment programs accountable and sustainable. The standards provide a roadmap for an institution to engage campus faculty in the oversight of the content, quality, and effectiveness of courses taught by high school instructors.

### **Applied Learning: The Why and How to Personalize Learning and Demonstrate Competency**

Room: *Spring Lake*





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come true

Presenters: Bill Zima, Superintendent RSU 2; Matt Shea, Director of Student Achievement RSU 2

Embed yourself in an Applied Learning Opportunity. Take your wonders. Create driving questions. Group with others, research the question, and present your findings. Use tools to direct your learning and track your progress. Then, review the research and the WHY behind Applied Learning and how it allows students to demonstrate competency of learning targets in a personalized learning environment. We will discuss how we ensure the mastery of numeracy and literacy skills through our workshop classes. Applied Learning can be done in any grade level, kindergarten through graduation, even combining learners in readiness-level groups. Since we are including the why behind the vision, participants will walk away with ideas regardless of current level of understanding or role within a school.

**Session Title: Strategies for Personalizing the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**

Room: *Bay Lake*

Presenters: Matt Williams, VP of Policy and Advocacy, KnowledgeWorks; Lillian Pace, Senior Director of National Policy, KnowledgeWorks

This session will explore a range of new opportunities in the newly-enacted Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that educators and district leaders can leverage to advance personalized learning. Facilitators will lead participants through a series of interactive activities to develop strategies for leveraging these opportunities in their own districts and classrooms. Participants will receive resources highlighting the new opportunities in the law to advance personalized learning and learn about a digital resource they can use to track progress in their own state to advance personalized learning policies throughout ESSA implementation.

11:00 – 11:15 AM

Break

11:15 – 12:15 PM

Concurrent Learning Sessions E

**Transforming School Culture**

Room: *Salon 7*

Presenter: Gail Joyner-White, Principal; Laura Civitano – Smart Scholars Program Coordinator, Instructional Teacher Leader – Academy of Medical Professions; Derrick Haughton – Instructional Teacher Leader - Science Tenth Grade – Professional Learning Community Team Leader, Charles E. Gorton



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High School

Participants of this session will examine an urban high school's journey to transform culture by building leadership and impacting its people, practices and perceptions.

Through small group collaboration and experiential learning the workshop will provide the steps on how Gorton changed its school culture and built leadership capacity by transforming the role of the traditional department chair to an instructional teacher leader to ensure teacher efficacy and impact outcomes for our Smart Scholars Early College students.

This workshop will address the steps Gorton High School took to transform its school culture to build leadership capacity by transforming the role of the traditional department chair to an instructional teacher leader to improve teacher efficacy and student outcomes.

The following objectives will be discussed:

Key approaches to shift adults' mind-sets toward low income and students of color and their academic potential.

Identify sustainable practices to build leadership capacity with teacher leaders to improve professional learning communities (PLCs).

Implementation of an instructional coaching walk-through protocol to empower teachers to improve instruction and academic literacy strategies.

Each attendee will be provided instructional and coaching tools to address the transformation process for immediate implementation.

### **Assessing and Attaining Cultural Competency**

Room: *Salon 9*

Presenter: Whayne Herriford, Director of Talent Management, KnowledgeWorks

Take a personal assessment of cultural competency as it relates to primary dimensions of diversity (e.g. race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identification, age and physical ability) and then learn about a model that can help identify gaps in cultural competency as well as steps to take to increase understanding and ability.



### **Early Intervention, Early Learning, Early College: A Roadmap to Success**

Room: *Salon 11*

Presenters: Dr. Tene Davis, Associate Director, Early College Program, Georgia State University; Cedrick Dortch, Graduate Research Assistant, Early College Program, Georgia State University; David Gordon, Lead Study Coach, Early College Program, Georgia State University; Shakayla Barrow, Media and Programming Specialist, Early College Program, Georgia State University

As the longest running early college program in the state of Georgia, Georgia State University (GSU) is an example and symbol of success within the state. Discuss the best practices of the GSU early college program. Through a panel session, gain practices that can be seamlessly implemented into other early college programs.

### **Hired or Fired? Soft Skills Make All the Difference**

Room: *Rock Lake*

Presenters: Nathan Lewis, Principal, Jackson Central-Merry Early College High; Dr. Janice Epperson, Instructional Leadership Director, Jackson-Madison County School District

Are we training students for future success in college and/or career or are we training them for failure? The Jackson Central-Merry Early College High program does not have lockers, bells, or referrals. Learn the reason why the school is structured in this way and how it has led to student success.

### **Structures and Strategies to Support Personalized Learning with an Early College Focus**

Room: *Spring Lake*

Presenters: Diane Mankins, Superintendent, Marysville Exempted Village School District; Ashley Thompson, Marysville Exempted Village School District; Kathy McKinness, Principal, Marysville STEM Early College High School; Heather MacLaughlin, Teacher, Marysville Exempted Village School District; Robin Kanaan, Director of Teaching and Learning, KnowledgeWorks; Lori Phillips, Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning, KnowledgeWorks; Brenda Neel, Senior Technical Assistance Coach, KnowledgeWorks

How does a district implement a systemic shift from a traditional system to a personalized learning, competency-based model with a focus on early college? Join a lively conversation as one learning community shares its strategies and structures around the design and intent of personalized learning.





### **Exploring and Surfacing New Roles in a Rebundled System**

Room: *Bay Lake*

Presenter: Jason Swanson, Director of Strategic Foresight, KnowledgeWorks

Education is changing and students have more opportunity to learn throughout the day in school, in the community and on the web. As education continues to change, educator roles will need to adapt to expanding learning environments in which students learn in new ways. Explore the potential for educators and others to shape new roles that enable diverse approaches to learning, and allow adults to specialize in ways that are not possible in our current education system.

12:15 – 12:30 PM

Break

12:30 – 2:00 PM

Luncheon Plenary Session, *Horizons Ballroom*

Introduction of Keynote Speaker by Cris Charbonneau, Vice President, Communications, KnowledgeWorks

Keynote Presentation by Steve Perry, Ed.D., Founder of Capital Preparatory Magnet School

Dr. Perry is the founder and former principal of Capital Preparatory Magnet School in Hartford, Connecticut. He led his school to send 100% of its high school graduates—predominantly students of color from low-income backgrounds—to four-year colleges every year since its first class graduated in 2006. Hear more from Dr. Perry about this successful model.

Closing by Virgel Hammonds, Chief Learning Officer, KnowledgeWorks