This leadership series is designed to meet the professional learning needs of all levels of educational leaders. Please review the extensive offerings and select each workshop which addresses your professional needs and interests.

Click on the REGISTER NOW! button following each workshop title or go to cas.casciac.org and click on Event Registration at the top of the page. Workshops are listed separately in event date order.

Workshops will take place at the Connecticut Association of Schools, 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410 from 8:00am-11:30am except where noted that they are full day.

The Leadership Series offerings are FREE TO CAS MEMBERS with the exception of the 4 full-day workshops (8:30am-3:00pm) Oct 22, 24, 30 and Nov. 19. Check in begins at 8:00am.

Non-CAS members will be charged $50 per workshop.

Represents a Special Legal Series Session

$ Represents full day workshops $25 participant fee - Includes Lunch
Executive Functioning Skills are the specialized cognitive skills, primarily in the frontal lobe of the brain, which work together to regulate, recall, and plan a person’s actions. These skills help a child remember and follow multiple-step instructions; avoid distractions and impulsive responses; adjust when rules or instructions change; keep trying after an initial failure; organize and manage projects and long-term assignments. Executive Functioning skills are vital to each student’s success in school and life.

Intended Audience: PreK - Grade 3 Administrators and Teacher Teams
What Principals Need to Know About Preschool: The Principal’s Role in High Quality Preschool Environments

Julie Giaccone M.S. CCC-SLP, CREC Early Childhood Education, Coordinator

This session is for principals who have preschool classrooms in their buildings who want to further their understanding of early development and the indispensable components and practices of High Quality Early Childhood learning as well as the tools available from the CT State Department of Education and the CT Office of Early Childhood.

Intended Audience: Elementary Principals and Assistant Principals

Providing High-Quality Feedback to Your Teachers

Scott Nierendorf, Teaching & Learning Director, EASTCONN

Participants will explore collection strategies and how to craft effective feedback to promote teacher growth in this full-day workshop. This workshop is an extension of the basic teacher evaluation training received by CT administrators and is designed to add to administrators’ skills in helping their teachers to develop effective instructional practices.

Enrollment is limited to 25 participants.

Intended Audience: K-12 Administrators

Understanding and Developing the IEP that Leads to Educational Benefit for Students with Disabilities

Stephen Proffitt, Director, Special Education Programs & Instructional Design, SERC

School leaders are charged with leading schools so that all students, including those with disabilities, achieve college-and career-readiness standards. This workshop will provide school leaders and teams with essential knowledge and skills to enhance the IEP development process that will lead to greater educational outcomes for students with disabilities. Participants in this session will gain an understanding of the components of the Individualized Education Program, the Educational Benefit standard and the IEP Development process that lead to positive outcomes for students with disabilities.

Fully charged laptop/tablet is required.

Intended Audience: K-12 Administrators

Integrating School Climate Strategies

Jeff House, Consultant

In this session, we will explore the potential of integrating diverse programs and strategies to create a positive school climate where all students can feel safe and valued, thrive academically, and meet high expectations for behavior and character. There are various approaches and each of these models has support from talented and well-intentioned educators, but too often the debate centers around which is the “right” approach to school climate. This school climate workshop will advocate for a more flexible and pragmatic approach that is not focused on rigidly adhering to one particular model, but rather on considering the unique needs of an individual school and integrating useful elements of multiple models.

Intended Audience: K-12 Administrators

Build Your Schedule Around Your Program

Mark Branco, Asst. Superintendent; Chris Pollet, Principal; Tyngsborough Middle School, MA

Middle school students need to benefit from a schedule that optimizes program delivery. Following up on last year’s twice sold-out NELMS workshops in Massachusetts, this workshop is for attendees to help build a schedule that represents the program they are trying to implement in their schools. Participants should bring a list of all they want to accomplish in their upcoming year’s schedule and be prepared to commit to what is critically important in their school. Bring your school scheduling team and leave with a new schedule! Registration will be through NELMS@nelms.org or visit nelms.org.

Intended Audience: Middle School Administrators, Schedulers, Scheduling Teams

Teachers Law School

Area University Law Professors/American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)

This workshop, presented by area legal experts, will provide social studies teachers with an understanding of the legal issues surrounding key constitutional questions and the legal impact of current controversies in the news. Both case law and legal arguments will be discussed in an interactive format. There is no charge for this full day workshop.

Intended Audience: Middle and High School Social Studies Teachers
**DEC 5**
8:30-11:30AM

**Culturally Responsive Family Engagement Practices in the IEP Development & PPT Process**

Stephen Proffitt, Director, Special Education Programs & Instructional Design, SERC

Participants in this session will gain an understanding of the importance of supporting families as equal partners in the IEP development and PPT process and learn about a variety of practices and strategies to support teams. Fully charged laptop/tablet is required.  
*Intended Audience: K-12 Administrators*

**JAN 14**
8:30-11:30AM

**Successfully Working With Challenging Behaviors**

Dr. Scott Noyes

Scott Noyes believes that taking great care of children is possibly the most difficult endeavor known. With that in mind, he asks, “Are children with difficult behaviors spoiled? Manipulative? Stubborn? Obstinate?” The problem with the labels is that they imply that the behaviors are contemplated and intentional. Educators quickly find that the usual reward-and-punishment strategies do not work with these children and often feel frustrated, overwhelmed, and exhausted. So what should we do? This session looks closely at these children and works to develop systems that help them, support educators, assist their classmates and empower their parents.  
*Intended Audience: PreK-Grade 3 Administrators and School-Based Teams*

**JAN 22**
8:30-11:30AM

**Difficult Conversations: Keys to Effective Change**

Jeff House, Consultant

In this session participants will practice the “Crucial Accountability Conversations” that school leaders must lean into when members of their staff or the school community violate norms or fail to meet expectations. Often as leaders we want to insist on high standards of performance but hesitate to do so for fear of damaging relationships with the folks we manage. You will get to practice aspects of the Crucial Accountability approach in isolation and then apply the skills holistically by role-playing a conversation based on a real accountability issue with someone at your school. Our objective is for you to leave this session with increased skills and confidence for leaning into this particular kind of difficult conversation, and also with a blueprint for how to train other leaders in your school or district to lean into accountability conversations effectively. 
*Intended Audience: K-12 Administrators*

**FEB 3**
8:30-11:30AM

**Restorative Practices at the Elementary Level**

Dr. JoAnn Freiberg, Education Consultant, School Climate, Bullying & Character Education

Learn how to build physically, emotionally, and intellectually safe and respectful learning environments for your students and all those who work with them. Through the implementation of Restorative Practices you will be able to strengthen your school’s climate and culture. This workshop will focus on Restorative Practices at the elementary level. 
*Intended Audience: Elementary and Early Childhood Educators, Administrators, and Teams*

**FEB 5**
8:30-11:30AM

**Making a Difference Through Coaching**

Tim Barber, University of Hartford Magnet School

During this three-hour workshop, participants will have the opportunity to learn how to structure a week-long coaching cycle. Attendees will hear about this process through the unique perspectives of the administrator, classroom teacher, and literacy coach. The University of Hartford Magnet School is in its fifth year of successfully implementing coaching rounds as the primary model for providing professional development in the area of literacy. The participants of the workshop will begin by reflecting on the effectiveness of their existing practices for providing professional development. They will then learn about the preparation, challenges and impact of coaching rounds. In addition, attendees will examine the lasting impact coaching cycles have on professional growth and dialogue. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions throughout the workshop.  
*Intended Audience: K-12 Administrators*