

Thought Leader Session  
Thursday March 2, 2017; 9 AM-10AM  
Convention Center, Room 207

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**Redesigning Professional Development Systems – Leadership, Feedback and Impact**

Participate in this interactive Thought Leader session with four of the country's leading superintendents on how to enhance, improve, and redesign teacher and principal professional development systems. How can leaders prepare faculty for leadership roles? How do you measure the effectiveness of PD? What strategies are making an impact? This panel will showcase superintendent leadership as a driver to more effectively deploy resources (time, money, personnel) and to create effective systems and supportive policies for high-quality professional development.

**Presenters:**



**Robert Avossa**, Superintendent, School District of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach, FL;



**Beverly Emory**, Superintendent, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, Winston-Salem, NC;



**Shawn Joseph**, Superintendent, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, Nashville, TN;



**Sybil Knight-Burney**, Superintendent, Harrisburg Public Schools, Harrisburg, PA



**Community Schools: Cultivating Opportunity, Equity and Agency**

School district all across the country face concrete challenges. In the midst of these challenges, many school district leaders are seeing positive changes both in the classroom and in the community, because they have embraced the notion that schools alone cannot deal with the myriad issues their students face. Achieving successful outcomes for all of our children requires schools to tap community assets and embrace a partnerships approach that seeks a set of shared results. In this session, three superintendents will discuss their experiences and the changes they are seeing within their districts, families and communities by embracing the community school strategy. Together, they are transforming student trajectories, closing opportunity gaps, and getting more graduates across the finish line that are prepared for college and careers. They are cultivating hope and opportunity, increasing equity, and building agency in families and children.

**Moderator:**



**Martin Blank**, President, Institute for Educational Leadership, and Director, Coalition for Community Schools, Washington, DC

**Presenters:**



**Steven Webb**, Superintendent, Vancouver Public Schools, Vancouver, WA;



**Teresa Weatherall Neal**, Superintendent, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids, MI;



**Paul Cruz**, Superintendent, Austin Independent School District, Austin, TX;



**Alton Frailey**, President, AASA and Retired Superintendent, Katy, TX

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March 2 to 4, 2017 in New Orleans