

Session Topics Grid

Category	Definition	Examples
Advocacy and Community Engagement	Engaging all types of stakeholders, including leaders from local business and government, in district and school improvement efforts.	Legislative advocacy; marketing and messaging of public schools; partnership programs with community businesses; practices for engaging students; parents and other community members.
Accountability Systems, Strategic Planning, and Future-Ready Pathways	Practices and programs that provide information to the board and community about student learning, college and career pathways, goal setting at the district and campus level, as well as issues involving state or local accountability systems.	State or local accountability plans, assessment for learning, strategic goal setting, long-term improvement planning, board and community report outs, advanced academics and career and technical education programs, new school structures, digital learning and technology.
School Finance, Operations Leadership, and Facility Design	The financial and operational components of district executive leadership and board oversight, along with facility development and design.	Bonds; budgeting practices; managing growth; district culture; teacher recruitment and retention; energy issues; innovation in facility design.
District Culture and Governance Team Development	Growing the capacity of the governance team, including team building and relationships among governance leaders, to establish a focused and productive district leadership culture.	Team building; relationships among governance leaders (board, superintendent, cabinet-level administrators); collaboration of the board/superintendent team; leadership development; continuous improvement; and improved governance.
Policy and Legal	Legal and political issues and their implications for policy in districts.	School law; employment law; policy; ethics and transparency; legislative developments.
Student and Staff Safety and Wellness	All aspects of health and safety involving students, staff, facilities, and infrastructure.	Hardening school environments; student mental health initiatives; cybersecurity, wellness and health considerations, and social-emotional learning; policing in schools.
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Issues of social and educational equity; topics affecting students receiving services in special education, gifted, and English Language Learner programs; programs designed to deliver social services to at-risk populations.	Equity issues; cultural awareness and anti-racism, special education issues; English Language Learners; community outreach; serving at-risk populations, social services.