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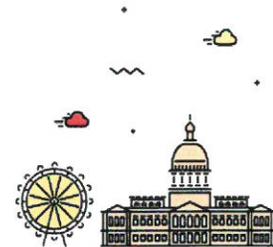
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2016 NACSA Leadership Conference: Sessions & Speakers



**STAND TOGETHER
TO FACE THE FUTURE**

ATLANTA | OCTOBER 24-27, 2016



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MONDAY PRE-SESSION: AUTHORIZING 101

Foundational Session (12:30 pm – 4:30 pm) | Chastain D

Advanced registration is required. [Register here](http://qualitycharters.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=866463) [\(http://qualitycharters.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=866463\)](http://qualitycharters.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=866463).

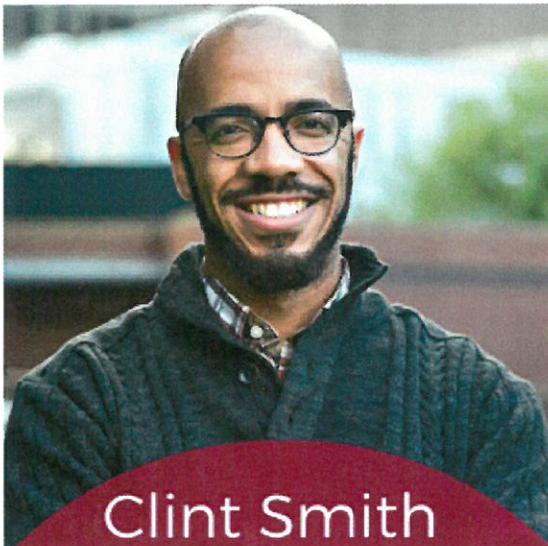
Whitney Spalding Spencer & Shannon Bauer (NACSA), Tess Stovall (Tennessee State Board of Education)

New to authorizing? Join us for “**So You’re an Authorizer...Now What?**,” a half-day interactive session where attendees can front-load their Conference experience by learning the basics of authorizing practice, as well as everything they’ll need to know to get the most out of the NACSA Leadership Conference.

Attendees will discuss essential practices of quality authorizing, get a baseline of information about the sector and what authorizing looks like in different contexts, and form a cohort with others who are new to authorizing.

TUESDAY FEATURED SPEAKER

Opening Plenary (9:00 am – 10:15 am) | Peachtree Ballroom



Clint Smith believes we all share a story, the human story.

Using his experience as an award-winning teacher and poet to share personal stories of justice, community, and education, he illuminates how we can all find the courage to create change, overcome challenges, and unite ourselves through the power of the collective voice.

Who better to help us **Stand Together to Face the Future?**

[Watch his TED Talks \(https://www.ted.com/speakers/clint_smith\)](https://www.ted.com/speakers/clint_smith)

RECOMMENDED TOPIC TRACKS

ANNUAL REPORT

- The Why and How of Using NACSA’s New Annual Report Template (*Tuesday Block 2*)
- Ask the Experts: How to Make Annual Reports Work for Your Office (*Tuesday Block 3*)

CLOSURE

- By the Numbers: What Do We Know About School Closure Around the Country? (*Tuesday Block 1*)
- If I Knew Then What I Know Now...Building a Closure Plan Focused on Kids (*Tuesday Block 2*)

CMOs/EMOs

- Quality Schools, Together: Authorizers and CMOs/EMOs (*Tuesday Block 2*)
- Advancing Financial Oversight Practices for CMOs/EMOs (*Wednesday Block 2*)

DIVERSITY

- The Authorizers Role in Charter Diversity: Passive or Proactive? (*Wednesday Super Session*)
- When Is a Public School Not a Public School? (*Wednesday Block 2*)
- What is the Authorizer's Role in Ensuring Equity in School Admissions (*Wednesday Block 3*)

FINANCE

- Back to School: Financial Management 101 (*Wednesday Block 1*)
- Advancing Financial Oversight Practices for CMOs/EMOs (*Wednesday Block 2*)

PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORKS

- Great Expectations: Effectively Establishing and Communicating Performance Measures (*Tuesday Block 2*)
- Back to School: Financial Management 101 (*Wednesday Block 1*)
- The ABCs of Academic Management (*Wednesday Block 2*)
- Protecting Students and the Public Interest: Organizational Performance, Done Right (*Wednesday Block 3*)

GENERAL SESSIONS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2016

Breakout Sessions 1 (10:45 am – 12:00 pm)

Topic	Title	Confirmed Speakers
Due Diligence	Do Your Homework: Strategies for Effective Due Diligence	Wendy Swanson-Choi (NEO) Jennifer Robison (Buckeye Community Hope Foundation) Gregg Stevens (State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia) Elisa Westapher (NACSA)

Building State Coalitions	Standing Together to Raise Our Voice: Building State Coalitions	Jose Cole-Gutierrez (Los Angeles Unified School District) Molly McGraw Healy (University of St. Thomas) Cindy Schumacher (The Gov. John Engler Center for Charter Schools at CMU)
Applications	Quality Out of the Gate: Critical Thinking About Your Application Process	Chris DeWitt (Denver Public Schools) Morgan Felts (State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia) Erin Reddy (NACSA)
ELL	Smarter Strategies for Serving English Language Learners	Renita Thukral (Civil Rights Solutions) Lauren Baum (Civil Rights Solutions)
Oversight	Implementing Differentiated Oversight Strategies When One Size Doesn't Fit All	Katie Piehl (moderator, NACSA) Rashida Tyler (DC Public Charter School Board) Nikki Brisson (Miami-Dade)
Data and Closure	By the Numbers: What Do We Know About School Closure Around the Country?	Sean Conlan (moderator) Harold Lee (iLearn Schools) Ryan Marks (Colorado Charter School Institute) Heather Mauze (Texas Education Agency)
Plenary Debrief/Hot Topics/Equity	Continuing the Conversation: Plenary Debrief	Moderated by Kristen Forbriger, NACSA

Breakout Sessions 2 (1:30 pm – 2:45 pm)

Topic	Title	Confirmed Speakers
Annual Report	The Why and How of Using NACSA's New Annual Report Template	Margaret Lin (Margaret Lin Consulting)
Performance Frameworks	Great Expectations: Effectively Establishing and Communicating Performance Measures	Colleston Morgan (Orleans Parish School Board) Paula Barney (Rhode Island Department of Education) Kristina Catani (Tennessee Achievement School District) Laura Stowell (DeKalb County School System)

CMOs/EMOs	Quality Schools, Together: Authorizers and CMOs/EMOs	Harold Lee (iLearn Schools) Elisa Westapher (NACSA) Dana Reed (South Carolina Public Charter School District) Richard Page (Charter Schools USA)
Revocation	The Revocation Power: When and How to Revoke a Charter	KristIn Hines (The Mind Trust) Janet Dinnen (Colorado Charter School Institute) Jen Nagourney (New York City Department of Education)
Closure	If I Knew Now What I Knew Then...Building a Closure Plan Focused on Kids	Gail Greely (moderator, Alameda County Office of Education – CARSNet) Adrienne Woods (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) Jason Moore (Buckeye Community Hope Foundation) Kristen Stolpa (The Gov. John Engler Center for Charter Schools at CMU) Jackie Gantzer (Indianapolis Mayor's Office of Education Innovation)
Choice	School Choice Without Borders: What Does School Choice Look Like Around the Globe?	William Haft (moderator, NACSA) Shweta Arora (The Education Alliance, Delhi, India) Amitav Virmani (The Education Alliance, Delhi, India)
School Leader as Authorizer	10 Things I Learned as a School Leader That Helps Me as an Authorizer	Silke Bradford (Oakland Unified School District) Denise Stouffer (Delaware State Board of Education) Liz Wynne (Student Achievement Minnesota)

Breakout Sessions 3 (3:15 pm – 4:30 pm)

Topic	Title	Confirmed Speakers
Restart	Stakeholder Mapping to Navigate School Restart	Brenna Copeland (EdPlex) Tim Field (Public Impact, LLC)
Pre-Opening	Strong Start, Strong School	Kristin Hines (moderator, The Mind Trust) Sean Perkins (Orleans Parish School Board) Wendy Swanson-Choi (NEO)

Contracting	Putting the Charter Bargain Into Practice: Effective Contracting for Autonomy and Accountability	Robert Fortson (McGuireWoods Consulting) Gregg Stevens (State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia)
Annual Report	Peer-to-Peer: Making Annual Reports Work for Your Office	Margaret Lin (Margaret Lin Consulting) Jackie Gantzer (Indianapolis Mayor's Office of Education Innovation) Amy Van Atten-Densmore (The Gov. John Engler Center for Charter Schools at CMU)
Hiring Practices	Hiring for Fit: Best Practices for Mission, Vision, and Values-aligned Hiring	Lisa Diaz (Insignia Partners)
Book Talk	Charter Schools at the Crossroads	Robbyn Wahby (Missouri Charter Public School Commission) Butch Trusty (moderator, Education Cities) Brandon Wright (Thomas B. Fordham Institute) Kinnari Patel-Smyth (KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools)
Tribal/Rural Authorizing	On the Frontier 2.0: A Deeper Dive into Tribal and Rural Authorizing	Sam Duell (Oklahoma Public School Resource Center) Phil Glover (Tribal Education Departments National Assembly) Whitney Chapa (Arizona State Charter School Board) Gov. Edwina Butler-Wolfe (Absentee Shawnee Tribe)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2016

Breakout Sessions 4 (11:00 am – 12:15 pm)

Topic	Title	Confirmed Speakers
Legal	Lines in the Sand: How Do Authorizers Toe the Legal Line?	Lisa Scruggs (Duane Morris, LLP) Mindy McNichols (Miami-Dade County Public Schools) Gail Greely (Alameda County Office of Education)
Citywide Strategies	Learning From Our Neighbors: Community-Based Strategies for Education Transformation	Butch Trusty (moderator, Education Cities) Noah Devine (Kauffman Foundation) Gloria Lee (Educate78)

Finance 101	The Financial Basics Every Staffer Should Know....Even Non- Finance Folks!	Whitney Spalding Spencer (moderator, NACSA) Sarah Curfman (CLA) Brian Dickey (Indianapolis Mayor's Office)
Board Orientation/ICB Community	Orienting New Board Members to Quality Authorizing, Hosted by NACSA's ICB Community	Bonnie Holliday (State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia) Terry Croy Lewis (Colorado Charter School Institute)
Quality	Evaluating Quality	Nelson Smith (moderator, NACSA) Alison Bagg (Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) Ahmed Young (Indianapolis Mayor's Office of Education Innovation) David Greenberg (Audubon Center of the North Woods)
Mission	Selling Stakeholders on Your Mission for Quality	Jennifer Lambert (Utah State Board of Education) Larry Stanton (L.B. Stanton Consulting, Inc.)
Authorizers as Researchers	Authorizers as Researchers: Using Data to Understand Thorny Issues in Your Portfolio	Karega Rausch (NACSA) Lyria Boast (Public Impact) Sarah Yatsko (Center on Reinventing Public Education) Katie Mathney (Georgia State Charter School Commission)

Breakout Sessions 5 (1:45 pm – 3:00 pm)

Topic	Title	Confirmed Speakers
Organizational Performance	Protecting Students and the Public Interest: Organizational Performance, Done Right	Brenna Copeland (moderator, EdPlex) Natasha Howard (SUNY) Rashida Young (DC Public Charter School Board)
Equity	What is the Authorizer's Role in Ensuring Equity in School Admissions?	Karega Rausch (NACSA) Bryan Hassel (Public Impact) Carly Bolger (Walton Foundation)
Renewal	Standing Up to Scrutiny: Designing a Strong Charter Renewal Process	Barbara Zeile (The Gov. John Engler Center for Charter Schools at CMU) Kathryn Mullen Upton (Thomas B. Fordham Foundation)

Legal/Equity	When is a Public School Not a Public School?	Bill Bethke (Kutz & Bethke, LLC) Cristina de Jesus (Green Dot Public Schools) Ken Campbell (BAEO) Chris Stewart (Education Post, moderator)
Policy Overview	Charter School Policy Past, Present, and Future	Todd Ziebarth (National Alliance for Public Charter Schools) Alex Medler (NCSRC) Yamuna Menon (50CAN)
Human Capital	Getting Where You Need to Go: Building Staff Capacity	Rich Haglund (Illinois Network of Charter Schools) Bonnie Holiday (State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia) Mary Bradley (Office of Innovation and Incubation, Chicago Public Schools)
Superintendent	Building a Strong Relationship with New Leadership, Hosted by NACSA's District Authorizer Community	Sonia Esposito (Osceola County School District) Carol Swann (Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools) Laura Stowell (DeKalb County Schools)

Breakout Sessions 6 (3:30 pm – 4:45 pm)

Topic	Title	Confirmed Speakers
SpEd	Helping Kids and Staying Out of Authorizing Trouble: Getting Special Education Right	Paul O'Neill (National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools) Lauren Morando Rhim (National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools) Ellie Rounds Bloom (Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)
Discipline	Addressing School Discipline: A Range of Authorizer-Led Approaches	Karega Rausch (moderator) Rashida Young (DC Public Charter School Board) Ahmed Young (Indianapolis Mayor's Office) Adam Hawf (Grand Isle Group) Kathryn Mullen Upton (Thomas B. Fordham Foundation)
Intervention Case Study	We Need an Intervention: Intervening with Struggling Schools	William Haft (NACSA) Joshua Halsey (Washington State Charter School Commission)

Growth	Not Their First Time at the Rodeo...Now What?	Margo Roen (Tennessee Achievement School District) Jaideep Hebbar (Charter School Growth Fund) Jose Cole-Gutierrez (Los Angeles Unified School District)
CMO/EMO Finance	CMO & EMO Finance: Major Challenges and Lessons Learned	Jim Ford (Ford Research & Solutions, Inc.) Anand Kevasan (Charter School Growth Fund) James Betley (Indianapolis Charter School Board) Mikayla Lytton (DC Public Charter School Board)
Academic Management	The ABCs of Academic Management	Lyria Boast (Public Impact, LLC) Mary Bradley (Office of Innovation and Incubation, Chicago Public Schools) Stephanie Klupinski (Cleveland Metropolitan School District)
Virtual Schools	iVerify: Authorizing Practices in the Age of Virtual Schools	Nelson Smith (moderator, NACSA) Mukta Pandit (National Charter School Resource Center) Jennifer Robison (Buckeye Community Hope Foundation) Bonnie Holliday (State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia) Patrick Gavin (Nevada State Public Charter School Authority)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2016

Workshops (9:00 am – 11:30 am)

TOPIC	TITLE	SPEAKERS
ESSA/State Accountability Systems	The New World of ESSA: Maintaining Charter Accountability During a Transition in State Accountability Systems	TBD
<p><u>Preregister</u> <u>http://qualitycharters.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=863373</u></p>		

Mindful Leadership

Finding the Space to Lead, presented by the Institute for Mindful Leadership

Institute for Mindful Leadership

Space limited; Preregistration required (<http://qualitycharters.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=850233>)

Strategic Planning

This Isn't Rocket Science: Strategic Planning, From Ideas into Actions

Mary Bradley
Cindy Schumacher

Preregister (<http://qualitycharters.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=863420>)

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Atlanta, Georgia | October 24-27, 2016

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