

LYON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Staff Travel Report  
to  
School Board of Trustees*

Your recent request to travel has been approved. Within two weeks of the date of the conference, the following report is due in the office of the Deputy Superintendent via Margaret Heim.

**Please Download & TYPE the following information.**

Staff Member:	<u>Jim Gianotti</u>	School:	<u>District Office</u>
Conference:	<u>Learning Forward</u>	Staff Assignment	<u>Director of Educational Services</u>
Do not use acronyms			
Location of Conference:	<u>Denver Colorado</u>	Dates Attended:	<u>12/7 - 12/11</u>

*General Overview: Do not use acronyms*

At the Learning Forward conference in Denver Colorado, educational leaders gathered to share professional development expertise, focused on creating and sustaining excellence in teaching and learning every day. We were able to make connections with other leaders from across the country and brought home tools and strategies that will help us understand and implement effective professional learning in classrooms, schools and the Lyon CSD as a whole.

The conference's theme this year was to Reach New Heights for Students through evidence based professional learning, best practices and research-driven methodologies that empower classrooms, schools and districts.

In particular I focused on a District Leadership perspective with all of the sessions I selected.

- Continuous Improvement is Professional Learning
- Implementing Programs that Yield Positive, Predictive results
- Responsive and Differentiated Facilitation: Embedding Choice and Voice
- Data Practices that Reach New Heights for Students
- Elevating Excellence Districtwide Through Powerful Instruction and Leadership
- Developing the Principal Through Instructional Coherence

I would like to thank the Board for approving this travel and look forward to implementing the knowledge gained by the team!

*How will this impact student learning in a positive way?*

Each one of the sessions that I selected focused on impacts to student learning. Beginning the conference with Continuous Improvement is Professional Learning, we spent a good amount of time focusing on the Standards for Professional Learning and understanding them and how the standards were broken up. The instructors spent a good amount of time having us collaborate, participate in simulations and Vignette's, as well as focusing on the Plan, Do, Study, Act process. Ultimately structuring professional development around a problem of practice in order to better meet the needs of learners as well as address issues that are requiring a change was key.

The session that I found most impactful was "Developing the Principal Through Instructional Coherence". This session, facilitated by the leaders from the Knox County Schools in Tennessee. They were able to share the work they have done around Instructional Coherence and address some of the concerns that Lyon CSD has experienced, similar to the growing pains their district has had. Ultimately, sharing their resources and discussing their practices was, in a sense, a blueprint for success that we could share.

Ultimately, my interactions with district leadership from other states was a part of the conference that cannot be captured in workshop model and equally valuable.

*How will I implement what I learned and how will I share this information with my colleagues?*

One of the benefits of attending this conference was the ability to attend with the other members of the curriculum and instruction team. We all attended different sessions, but shared ideas and had discussions over dinner, lunch and at other times regarding what we were learning and ideas that can be implemented in our own district. It is my hope that I can share the work done in Knox County School District as well as the other work around data and professional development with the team as we move forward and implement some best practices with our schools in the district.

I have already shared the documents obtained and have had a number of discussions that I hope to further following the Holidays. Instructional coherence is something we are working towards with the implementation of new materials that the board has approved and we hope to see larger benefit as we work to ensure their implementation and provide more professional development around best practices.

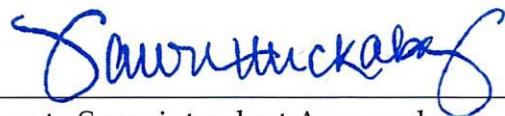
*Other Comments:*

I would like to thank the Lyon County Board of School Trustees for approving this travel and allowing us to learn collaboratively as we work to improve teaching and learning for all in Lyon County School District.

NA

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Site Principal/Supervisor Approval

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Superintendent Approval

12/24/2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date