

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.

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

Staff Member:	<u>Hannah Swindlehurst</u>	School:	<u>CES</u>
Conference:	<u>National Elementary and Secondary Education Act Conference</u>	Staff Assignment	<u>Teacher</u>
Do not use acronyms			
Location of Conference:	<u>Denver, Colorado</u>	Dates Attended:	<u>2/9/26-2/12/26</u>

General Overview: Do not use acronyms

The National Elementary and Secondary Education Act Conference in Denver, Colorado offered a variety of interesting breakout sessions for us to choose from and I appreciate being able to represent our School District at these impactful events! At every single event, symposium, and speaking engagement that I attended, our school district was at, or above, par with the districts that were presenting. One that stuck out to me was called, "Turning Chaos into Calm." This session was about identifying recurring behaviors, when they happen most often, and creating strategies that support staff and students. I feel as though our school does a great job with deescalation techniques as well as self-regulation! We came back with ideas to further support what our school already has in place. I also chose categories of instruction, leadership, and policy. I chose these sessions because they have a direct impact upon our school. They provide amazing keynote speakers each day that were engaging and exciting! They spoke on the topics of letting students write their own stories, doing what is best for students, and building mental resilience while cultivating communities for student success. We were very proud of our school and district for the progress we have made and continue to make towards these policies and practices. We also attended sessions aimed at improving instruction through observation and feedback cycles. This conference offered sessions specifically designed to enhance the professional development of educators as well as effective teaching strategies, classroom management, and the integration of Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports. We collaborated how to weave together what we have learned with our Tiered instruction, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, and Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports. It was validating to see the practices we already have in place and we are eager to build on with the new information we have learned. Thank you again for the opportunity to learn!

How will this impact student learning in a positive way?

The sessions that we attended will affect student learning in several ways. One of the sessions I attended was called, "Starting with the Heart." This session was about teachers taking the time to check in with themselves, move their bodies, and strategies to regulate stress. With the increase in teacher burnout, I found this session to be very beneficial and something I will bring back to my staff. The moves and strategies were very simple but made a huge impact on my outlook, attitude, and how my body felt. This session focused on breathing, movement, and rest. All of the strategies we learned were ones I will use with my students. Another one of the major focuses was building relationships with students and staff as people. It is very important to be aware of what is going on in the lives of others outside of school because that can have a major effect on what happens in the classroom. It also builds a sense of belonging. We also attended sessions aimed at turning confrontations into cooperation. The idea was to give the students a set of choices so that they had the power to make better decisions. You give students two choices, allow them the time to decide their choice, and walk away. By doing this, you reduce the confrontation and put the responsibility on the student. We also attended a session on the science of reading that taught us to look beyond the scope and sequence of introducing sounds to also introduce sounds when it makes sense to do so. This could improve student learning in phonics and early reading strategies. We were able to watch keynote speakers that presented amazing success stories along with motivational speeches that really remind you of the "why"! We were able to learn about new research, methodologies, and participate in panel discussions. This conference offered many sessions specifically designed to enhance leadership and coaching practices. This sessions included what coaching opportunities would look like throughout the day as well as skills to facilitate collaboration amongst all stakeholders. Attending this conference was inspiring and motivating! We are eager to get different program opportunities up and running within our school site!

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

Together, we will create a detailed action plan based on how we will incorporate these new ideas and how we will deliver these ideas to our staff. We will share these strategies and ideas that we learned during Professional Development trainings on Fridays, during Data Team meetings with our grade levels, and with new teachers looking for ideas. We will organize Professional Development sessions or workshops for our colleagues to share what we learned at the conference and highlight the most helpful strategies and examples. We will be working with the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support team as well as the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports team to discuss how these teams will coexist. We brought back materials from several of the sessions that included ideas for team building and interventions for students who do not respond to normal restorative practices. Once we have delivered the professional development and information, we will encourage collaboration among our colleagues to digest and implement these ideas within their classrooms and a school. We have created a plan for a room within our school that will be called, "The Nest." This will be a "Restorative Center" where students can come throughout the day to work on self-regulation, perseverance/grit, communication skills with emotions, basic academic skills, and attention span/listening skills. Our hope is to have the room "manned" at all times with scheduled appointments for students to attend and work on lessons. This will be a work in progress but we hope to have some version of it up and running next year! We will share this with our staff through professional development. We will discuss the purpose, the referral process, the location, and the staff support for the restorative center. We will give them an idea of what it will look like and what responsibilities the staff will have when we roll it out. We will share the websites and resources with the staff so they can get a glimpse of what we experienced in the sessions.

Other Comments:

We really appreciated the opportunity to experience a national conference of this size. It was amazing to meet with other teachers and administrators from throughout the country to share ideas about improving our schools. We look forward to bringing these ideas and strategies to our staff and continuous improvement within our school! We gained new ideas we can use with both peers and students!



Site Principal/Supervisor Approval



Deputy Superintendent Approval

3/2/26

Date

3/2/26

Date