

Georgia School Superintendents Association
Spring Bootstrap Conference
April 10-11, 2024
Marriott Savannah Riverfront
Savannah, GA

Building Trust

Tuesday, April 9

- 10:00 a.m. **Superintendent Induction Program - Plaza**
- 5:30 p.m. **GSSA Board of Directors Dinner – Academy**
- 6:30 p.m. **GSSA Board of Directors Meeting – Plaza**
- 7:30 p.m. **Platinum & Gold Welcome Reception – Atrium**

GSSA's Platinum and Gold sponsors are sponsoring this event that will start at 7:30 pm in the Atrium of the Savannah Marriott Riverfront to kick start the start the conference. In the past, many of our members have indicated the need for opportunities to network, collaborate, and socialize with colleagues. Having gone through the inevitable and varied experiences of the superintendency, opportunities to have dialog, problem-solving, and commiserate are typically highly valued by superintendents and educational leaders at every level. At this event, you will have the opportunity to meet with our new superintendents, other Georgia superintendents, GSSA staff, some of the speakers for our conference, and national educational leaders, in a relaxed and informal setting. We hope that you will plan to attend so you don't miss out on the refreshments, deserts, the music, and the fellowship with your colleagues.

Wednesday, April 10

- 8:00 a.m. **REGISTRATIONS OPENS**
- 8:00 a.m. **Heart of Georgia RESA – Pulaski**
- 8:30 a.m. **First District RESA - Plaza**
- 8:30 a.m. **West Georgia RESA – Forsyth**
- 8:30 a.m. **Pioneer RESA – Oglethorpe AB**

General session I: *Savannah Ballroom AB*

10:00 a.m. **Welcome**

GSSA President Jason Branch and Superintendent of Savannah-Chatham County Schools welcomes members and guests to the conference and recognizes sponsors and other special guests.

10:20 a.m. **KEYNOTE:**

Dr. Andrew Dolloff – Trust Imperative

Dr. Andrew Dolloff is in his fifteenth year as a Superintendent of Schools in greater Portland, Maine. Andrew is a 37-year veteran of Maine public schools, having taught chemistry and coached varsity basketball for eight years before making the move to school leadership in 1995. Andrew has led three National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence and at various points in his career has been named his state's Principal of the Year and Superintendent of the Year, along with being named a New England Outstanding Superintendent by the New England League of Middle Schools.

Andrew has served on the International Advisory Board for the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Principals' Center, the New England School Development Council, the University of Southern Maine's Educational Leadership advisory board, and the United Way of Greater Portland's Campaign Cabinet. He is a graduate instructor of Educational Leadership, School Finance, and Contemporary Issues in Education, and his first book, *The Trust Imperative: Practical approaches to effective school leadership*, was published by Rowman & Littlefield in summer, 2022. Andrew has spoken at conferences like ours from California to Minnesota, and from Alabama to New England, and has worked with district leadership teams around the country to fine-tune their practices and improve outcomes for students.

Andrew lives just outside of Portland, Maine with his wife, Brenda, also a teacher of more than 30 years. They have four grown children, each of whom were educated in Maine's public schools before completing successful undergraduate and graduate programs throughout New England – and you will hear more about some of their adventures during today's presentation.

11:15 a.m. **GSSA Awards**

GSSA President's Awards
GSSA Trailblazer Award
Recognition of New Superintendents
Awarding of Service Pins
Recognition of Retiring Superintendents

11:45 a.m. **Lunch – Atrium**

General Session II: – Savannah Ballroom AB

- 1:00 p.m. **GASROE Update - Murray Kogod & Danielle Rosa**
- 1:15 p.m. **Causes of Low Literacy – Data and Review**
Gary McGiboney - Executive Director of Governmental and Education Strategies, Sharecare
Arianne Weldon - Get Georgia Reading
- 2:00 p.m. **GEORGIA MATCH – Lynne Riley**, President of Georgia Student Finance Commission
- 2:15 p.m. **AIR: Actions Intended for Results - Learning Loss Recovery and Acceleration Initiative**
Dr. Anthony Smith – Clayton County Superintendent,
Dr. Timothy Guiney - Chief Academic Officer, Secondary Education
Dr. Charmine Johnson - Chief Academic Officer, Elementary Education
Mrs. Wynne Long-Learson - Program Manager
- 3:00p.m. **Safe, Connected, & Thriving Preventing the Unthinkable: Student Advocacy Specialist**
Dr. Jeff Bearden – Forsyth Superintendent, **Todd Shirley** - Chief Operations Officer,
Steve Honn – Director of Safety & Discipline
- 3:45 p.m. **Ga Department of Education - Literacy & Science of Reading Update –**
April Aldridge & Amy Denty
- 4:15 p.m. **K12 Cyber Security – Russell Paine - Ga Department of Education**
- 4:30 p.m. **President’s Reception – Atrium**
All conference attendees are invited to this reception honoring new superintendents and those who are retiring.

Thursday, April 11

- 7:30 a.m. **GSSA Breakfast – Savannah Ballroom C**
Conference attendees are invited to enjoy a buffet breakfast, network with colleagues, and participate in the Association’s business meeting.

General Session III – Savannah Ballroom AB

- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome and Inspiration**
GSSA president-elect Noris Price presides
- 9:00 a.m. **Vox – Bradwell Institute – Liberty County Schools – Student Performance**
- 9:15 a.m. **Ga Department of Education - News and Update**

General Session III (*continued*) – Savannah Ballroom AB

- 9:45 a.m. **2024 Georgia Teacher of the Year – Christy Todd, Fayette County Schools**
- 10:00 a.m. **Inspiration - 2024 Georgia Superintendent of the Year – Fred Williams, Dublin City Schools**
- 10:15 a.m. **SOY Final Four Superintendent Panel: Trust (Board, Community, Organization)**
Dr. Curits Jones - Facilitator
Mary Elizabeth Davis - Henry **Bubba Longgear – Candler**
Fred Williams – Dublin **Marc Feuerbach – Cartersville**
- 10:45 a.m. **GA TRS Update – Buster Evans**
- 11:00 a.m. **GSSA Legislative Update**
John Zauner – Executive Director of GSSA
Jody Barrow – Deputy Director of GSSA
Rob Brown – Government Relations
- 11:30 a.m. **Legal Update - Phil Hartley**
- 12:30 p.m. **Conference adjournment**
- 12:00 p.m. **GAEL Board Luncheon - Academy**
- 12:30 p.m. **GAEL Board of Directors Meeting – Plaza**