

10/17/2024

VIRGINIA EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE CONFERENCE

Strengthening Our Workforce and Economic Future Through Innovative Partnerships



OCTOBER 23, 2024
GREATER RICHMOND CONVENTION CENTER



AGENDA

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	NETWORKING & REGISTRATION <i>Student teams from Virginia public schools will be exhibiting and providing demonstrations for conference attendees</i>
9:00 AM – 9:20 AM	WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS Barry DuVal , President & CEO, Virginia Chamber of Commerce Robert Duvall , President & CEO, Virginia Natural Gas and Chair, Virginia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Scott Fleming , Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
9:20 AM – 9:25 AM	SPEAKER INTRODUCTION Tina Pfalzgraf , Chief Human Resources Officer, The Branch Group Co-Chair, Blueprint Virginia Workforce and Education Executive Committee
9:25 AM – 9:35 AM	TED TALK: SUCCESSFUL EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIPS Mac Beaton , Director of CTE and Workforce Development, Henrico County Public Schools
9:35 AM – 9:40 AM	SPEAKER INTRODUCTION Anthony Jones , Vice President of External Affairs, CareFirst
9:40 AM – 9:45 AM	SPECIAL REMARKS AND PANEL INTRODUCTION Dr. Keith Perrigan , Superintendent, Washington County Public Schools President, Virginia Association of School Superintendents
9:45 AM – 10:25 AM	PANEL DISCUSSION: SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS-EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TALENT PIPELINES

An engaging panel discussion that delves into the vital role of business-education partnerships in fostering economic development and building robust talent pipelines. In today's rapidly evolving economy, collaboration between businesses and educational institutions is essential for ensuring that students are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the workforce. This panel will highlight successful examples of partnerships between businesses and educational organizations, showcasing innovative strategies and best practices for driving economic growth and preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Moderator: **Maria Tedesco**, President & COO, Atlantic Union Bank

Panelists:

- **Shawn Avery**, President and CEO, Hampton Roads Workforce Council
- **Dr. Tony Brads**, Superintendent, Culpeper County Public Schools
- **Dr. Sara Lockett**, Director of Technical and Career Education, Virginia Beach City Schools
- **Dr. Tammy Mann**, President and CEO, Campagna Center

10:25 AM – 10:30 AM **SPECIAL REMARKS AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTION**

10:30 AM – 10:40 AM **TED TALK: LITTLE LIONS LEARNING LAB**
Doug Straley, Superintendent, Louisa County Public Schools
Kenny Bouwens, Director of CTE/STEAM and Innovation, Louisa County Public Schools

10:40 AM – 11:10 AM **NETWORKING BREAK IN PRE-FUNCTION AREA**
Student teams from Virginia public schools will be exhibiting and providing demonstrations for conference attendees

11:10 AM – 11:15 AM **SPECIAL REMARKS AND PANEL INTRODUCTION**
Matt McQueen, Chief Communications & Engagement Officer, Peraton

11:15 AM – 11:55 AM **PANEL DISCUSSION: COLLABORATIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS**
This dynamic panel explores the power of partnerships between higher education institutions, workforce training programs, and employers. Highlighting best practices, panelists will discuss how these collaborations bridge skill gaps, enhance employability, and drive innovation. Attendees will gain insights into the innovative approaches and real-world impacts of successful partnerships that prepare students for the ever-evolving job market.

Moderator: The Honorable Aimee Guidera, Virginia Secretary of Education

Panelists:

- **Dr. Tracy Fitzsimmons**, President, Shenandoah University
- **Dr. Corey McCray**, President, Paul D. Camp Community College

- **Wendy Shields**, Senior Manager of Corporate Citizenship, Altria
- **Dr. Gregory Washington**, President, George Mason University

11:55 AM – 12:00 PM **KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION**
Patrick Murray, Vice President of Government Affairs, KinderCare Learning Companies

12:00 PM – 12:20 PM **KEYNOTE REMARKS**
Tom Barkin, President, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

12:20 PM – 12:30 PM **NETWORKING BREAK IN PRE-FUNCTION AREA**

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM **LUNCHEON PROGRAM**

SPECIAL REMARKS

The Honorable Kirk Cox, President, Virginia Business Higher Education Council

SPECIAL REMARKS AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTION

Jen Tutak, Senior Manager, Deloitte Consulting

KEYNOTE: HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE “PLAY BOOK”

The Honorable Bryan Slater, Virginia Secretary of Labor

Dr. William Hazel, Jr., CEO, Claude Moore Opportunities

Chesterfield County’s Clover Hill High School Jazz Ensemble will play for conference attendees during lunch