Shifting from Crisis Management to Innovation: Leading for a Sustainable Future

Join school and district leaders from around the globe to share strategies for leading toward greener, healthier, and inspiring schools that engage students in meaningful experiences that drive achievement across the board. At this summit, learn from and connect with other leaders from school and school districts, exploring the lessons we have learned from this year of disruptions. Experts will share research and evaluation, and district and school leaders will share practical steps to continue to leverage sustainability in our efforts to innovate for 22nd century learning.

This educational summit is hosted by the Center for Green Schools and the Green Schools National Network.

Thursday, February 4th | 12:00 – 5:00 pm EST

Session One: Expanding Learning Environments Beyond the School Walls

Over the past year, we have learned the essential role that schools play in the social and economic fabric of our communities. In this session we will explore the unique ways that have emerged to expand face to face learning beyond the classroom.

12:00pm – 12:30pm: Session kick-off and attendee introductions
12:30pm – 1:10pm: Facilitated panel discussion
1:10pm – 1:40pm: Facilitated small group conversations
1:40pm – 2:00pm: Q&A with panelists

2:00pm – 2:15pm: Wellness break
Session Two: Bridging Justice, Equity, and Sustainability in K-12 Schools

COVID 19 has shined a light on the limited access to health services, technology, and resources in the schools and communities serving our black and brown students. In this session, we will explore how equity is at the core of creating a sustainable future and how educators can leverage that knowledge as they plan for meeting the needs of their communities.

2:15pm – 2:30pm: Welcome back and attendee connection moment
2:30pm – 3:10pm: Facilitated panel discussion
3:10pm – 3:40pm: Facilitated small group conversations
3:40pm – 4:00pm: Q&A with panelists

4:00pm – 5:00pm: Facilitated topical chats to be announced during the event

Friday, February 5th | 12:00 – 5:00 pm EST

Session Three: SEL, Empathic Distress, and Action Competence

School districts are increasingly implementing Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programs that may unintentionally contribute to students’ empathic distress, expressed as stress, anxiety, and depression. Action competence, developed through authentic problem-based learning related to sustainability and social justice, may very well serve as protective armor against empathic distress. In this session, learn more about the emerging research connecting SEL with empathic distress and the solutions offered by action competence. Practicing school leaders will share their experiences empowering teachers and students to notice and take responsibility for improving their schools, communities, and world.

12:00pm – 12:30pm: Session kick-off and attendee introductions
12:30pm – 1:10pm: Facilitated panel discussion
1:10pm – 1:40pm: Facilitated panel discussion
1:40pm – 2:00pm: Q&A with panelists

2:00pm – 2:15pm: Wellness break

Virtual Green School Tour – Whitefish Center for Sustainability & Entrepreneurship

The Center for Sustainability and Entrepreneurship is a “net-zero”, innovative educational center at Whitefish Schools, providing hands on learning experiences for K-12 students in sustainable energy, agriculture, forestry, natural resources, and entrepreneurship. The fundamental objective of the program is to prepare Whitefish students for college, career and citizenship by immersing them in interdependent, real-world programs.

2:15pm – 2:30pm: Welcome back and attendee introductions
2:30pm – 3:10pm: Virtual green school tour & presentation
3:10pm – 4:00pm: Facilitated conversation with school tour hosts

4:00pm – 5:00pm: Facilitated topical chats to be announced during the event