



2012 Annual Heads of School Conference
“Rethinking Strategy in the 21st Century”
Thursday, January 26 – Friday, January 27
Session Descriptions
(as of November 14, 2011)

Thursday, January 26
Kellogg Keynote Presentation * 9:30 am – 12:15 pm**

Beyond Strategic Planning: A Failure Tolerant Approach

Kevin Murnane & Brooke Vuckovic, Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management
Kevin Murnane, Adjunct Professor and Lecturer, Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management, is an executive coach, strategic facilitator and consultant helping people and organizations diagnose, create, and implement practical strategic change and development plans. Global marketing and leadership development are also specialties. Kevin will join with Brooke Vuckovic as our Thursday morning keynote. Brooke Vuckovic, MA and PhD from the University of Chicago, specializes in leadership and career development. She coaches in the Women’s Senior Leadership Program at Kellogg and teaches “Leadership Coaching” to MBA students.

In this workshop you will be taught a new approach to strategic planning—Failure Tolerant Strategy (FTS)—which streamlines the development of strategy and stresses the ability to change course in the implementation phase.

Thursday, January 26
Banquet Luncheon * 12:15 pm – 1:00 pm**

Thursday, January 26
Workshop Session I * 1:15 pm – 2:30 pm**

Back to School: Re-Considering Whitehead’s “Rhythm of Education”

Ward Ghory, former head (until last year) University School of Milwaukee
In his classic essay from 1929, “The Rhythm of Education,” Alfred North Whitehead questions the sequence and focus of the subjects children study in the college preparatory curriculum. He urges educators to consider a rhythm fundamental to lasting learning, suggesting that mental processing moves cyclically through three stages -- romance, precision, and generalization. In seminar format, we will respond to Whitehead’s 13-page essay, which will be distributed to registrants prior to the conference. Together we will consider Whitehead’s argument that “lack of attention to the rhythm and character of mental growth is a main source of wooden futility in education.”

Bench Strength: Building Your Team

Kevin Murnane, Kellogg School of Management
In this session you will learn a new strategy for leading and building your administrative team. To build a great team, you need to identify the skills, motivations, and tasks needed by current and future team members to achieve future goals. Leaders are developed via actual projects that drive outcomes (e.g., Action Learning). Based in part on the research by Dr. David McClelland and Daniel Pink, Kevin will demonstrate how leading with motivation fits into the history of leadership.

What Does Environmental Sustainability Look Like at Independent Schools Today?

Wynn Calder, Director, Sustainable Schools, LLC & Director, Association of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future

Independent schools throughout the U.S. are addressing sustainability in creative ways through administration, policy and planning; operations; curriculum; student life; and community outreach. What are some of the most innovative trends, initiatives and programs? Given funding restraints, what are the most cost effective and rewarding projects? This session will focus on challenges as well as successes. What are the strategies for success, and what are the lessons learned from less successful efforts?

As You Know, Good Thinking Matters! Improving Decision-Making Using Good Thinking Teams

Steve Helmich, President and Principal of Cathedral High School, and Richard Smith, educational consultant and the school's "thought partner." Richard Smith is a depth-educator who has worked in seven countries, where he designed and co-developed a year-long teacher renewal process. Learn how "Good Thinking Teams" of faculty and staff improved decision-making and thus affected school climate in this large Catholic high school in Indianapolis. Participants will leave with some seeds to can take back home to plant and nurture into their own version of a good thinking team.

Thursday, January 26
Workshop Session II * 2:45 pm – 4:00 pm**
(Sessions repeated from Workshop Session I)

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Thursday, January 26
Special Session * 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**

Progressive School Networking

Thomas Hoerr, New City School (OH) and John Delautre, St. Francis School (KY)

Michigan Heads of School Meeting

Pete Pullen, Eton Academy, Association of Independent Michigan Schools (AIMS)

Thursday, January 26
Quartino
6:15 pm – Reception * 7:00 pm – Dinner
Pre-registration required.
Roundtrip transportation provided (meet at 6:00 pm in the hotel lobby)

Friday, January 27
Continental Breakfast * 7:45 am – 9:15 am**

Friday, January 27
Visiting Team Workshops * 8:00 am – 9:30 am**
(Continental Breakfast)

Beginning Visiting Team Leader Training

Alice Munninghoff, Notre Dame de Sion (KS) and Chair of the ERC & Matthew Gould, Community School (MO)

Have you been a member of a visiting team, perhaps several times? Do you plan...would you like to lead a visiting team? Participating in the ISACS training session for visiting team leaders is your next step toward team leadership. Alice Munninghoff, Head of School, Notre Dame de Sion School (MO) and Chair of the Evaluation Review Committee and Matthew Gould, Head of School, Community School (MO) will lead a discussion of issues and effective practices in team leading. The session will include an important packet of information to help guide you for your first visiting team leadership experience.

Experienced Visiting Team Leaders – Filling a “Tool Box”

Kevin Rooney, ISACS, Lisa Lyle, MICDS (MO) & Peter Fayroian, Greenhills School (MI)

Are you an experienced team leader? Have you collected and do you enlist a number of successful practices that ensure smooth and efficient visiting team experiences? Kevin, Lisa and Peter will focus the conversation around your practical steps and practices that are tried and true. The goal of the session will be to share, to gather, and to expand procedures. As possible, materials will be collected and distributed to the group within a few weeks following the session.

Friday, January 27
Special Session * 8:30 am – 9:15 am**
(Continental Breakfast)

KAIS/ISACS Meeting - 2012 Annual Conference Planning, ISACS staff

Friday, January 27
Harvard Keynote Presentation * 9:30 am – 12:15 pm**

The Value Proposition: How to Measure and Communicate Your School’s Worth

James P. Honan, Harvard Graduate School of Education

James P. Honan is Senior Lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Educational Co-chair of the Institute for Educational Management (IEM) at Harvard. Honan’s teaching and research interests include financial management of nonprofit organizations, organizational performance measurement and management, and higher-education administration. This workshop will examine the ways by which independent schools measure and communicate their value proposition and impact to internal and external stakeholders. Tools and frameworks for assessing independent school outcomes and impact will be offered for discussion.

Friday, January 27
Banquet Luncheon * 12:15 – 1:00 pm**

Friday, January 27
Conclaves * 1:15 pm – 2:30 pm**

Heads of similar schools can learn from each other about topics of interest generated from the group. Heads can choose any group among these possibilities. Facilitators will be added. Select from the following:

- Schools over 500 with seniors
- Schools under 500 with seniors
- Schools over 300 with first graders
- Schools under 300 with first graders
- Boarding Schools
- Special Needs Schools
- Montessori Schools