2026 NEVADA AFTERSCHOOL SHOWCASE and MCKINNEY-VENTO & FOSTER CARE SUMMIT

Whole Teams, Whole Hearts, Whole Communities: Together We Make the Magic Happen!

FRIDAY, February 27, 2026

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Tuscany Suites & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada

Time	Content Area	Session Information	Presenters
7:00-8:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast Breakfast will be served in ***Florentine D*** **Pastries, fresh fruit, eggs, coffee, tea, juice, water*		
8:00-9:00 AM		**Keynote *(Florentine D)*: The Power of Safe Spaces** Description: With over 25 years of experience working with youth and families, Brandis Stockman will share how caring adults can create safe, supportive environments where young people feel seen and valued. Blending personal story with practical strategies, this keynote affirms the vital role of youth development professionals and offers inspiration for building spaces of belonging and connection.	Brandis Stockman *Executive Director, OST Training That "Sticks"*
9:00-9:15 AM	**Transition to Breakout Session 4**		
9:15-10:15 AM	Program Management & Professional Development	***Florentine E: Decoding My Personality Type*** Personality types influence the dynamics of workplaces. This session empowers attendees to see things from different perspectives. Differences in personality bring distinct strengths and challenges - influencing how people communicate, approach projects, and engage with one another. Recognizing and embracing varied working styles allow for improvement of team performance.	Constance Tomaneng *The Children's Cabinet*
9:15-10:15 AM	Program Structure, Curriculum, & Activities	***Florentine F: Unlocking Creativity: Afterschool Programming for Teens*** This session explores how afterschool specialty programs can spark creativity, confidence, and problem-solving skills in middle school youth. Participants will learn practical strategies for designing engaging, equity-centered programming that meets teens where they are—whether they're brand-new to coding or have an interest in building a business. We'll share proven approaches for fostering a supportive learning environment, integrating creative tools, and connecting projects to real-world interests that keep students motivated. Attendees will walk away with adaptable lesson ideas, techniques for cultivating student leadership, and tips for building strong partnerships to sustain and grow afterschool tech initiatives. This session is ideal for educators, youth program staff, and anyone looking to empower teens through hands-on, imaginative programming.	Alexandrea Crocker & Kendal Hurst *City of Henderson*
9:15-10:15 AM	McKinney-Vento/Foster Care Program Management & Professional Development	***Florentine G: Meet the Navigator Website: A New Way to Support Nevada's McKinney-Vento & Foster Youth*** Nevada is launching a new Navigator website designed to make it easier for schools, afterschool programs, families, and youth to find the right services at the right time — from housing and transportation to school enrollment, vital documents, and afterschool supports. Join us for an interactive preview of this new, Nevada-specific resource hub, co-developed with NDE and statewide liaisons. Participants will receive practical tools, search tips, and outreach strategies to help ensure students experiencing homelessness or foster care are quickly connected to high-quality supports. This session will share evidence-informed design principles grounded in user feedback, equity, and accessibility (including rural access considerations). Attendees will leave with ready-to-use digital materials to support immediate implementation in their school or program.	Quay Dorsey & David Maduli *WestEd*

10:15-10:30 AM	**Transition to Breakout Session 5**		
10:30-11:30 AM	Youth Development & Social Emotional Learning	***Florentine E: Creating Safe Spaces in Afterschool Programs*** An interactive session that helps afterschool program staff use practical, trauma-informed strategies to guide positive behavior, creating emotionally safe, supportive environments where both youth and staff can thrive.	Brandis Stockman *OST Training That "Sticks"*
10:30-11:30 AM	STEM Program Structure, Curriculum, & Activities	***Florentine F: Place-Based Wildfire Curriculum Across Science Disciplines*** In this exploration of DRI's wildfire curriculum, you will participate in hands-on activities, including interactive modeling, gamified simulations, and kinesthetic movement. These activities were created in collaboration with DRI's environmental scientists to allow students to learn about the role of wildfire in Nevada's sagebrush steppe ecosystem. In the process, you will have the opportunity to consider the strengths and strategies for using place-based phenomena to make science concepts relevant to students. You will also consider how these topics can apply across science disciplines (earth, physical, and life sciences) and STEAM subjects.	Ileah Kirchoff *Desert Research Institute*
10:30-11:30 AM	McKinney-Vento/Foster Care Program Structure, Curriculum, & Activities	***Florentine G: Lighting the Way: Igniting Hope and Learning for Every Child Through Digital Discovery*** Discover how Discovery Education's digital tools can help afterschool staff create safe, engaging environments for students experiencing homelessness and foster care. Learn practical strategies to spark curiosity, build resilience, and foster a sense of belonging—making afterschool a beacon of hope and possibility.	Jennifer Hunter *Discovery Education*
11:30 AM-12:45 PM	**Lunch *(will be served as an Italian buffet)* & Exhibitor Hall in Florentine D** **Transition to Breakout Session 6**		
12:45-1:45 PM	Program Management & Professional Development	***Florentine E: Mission Communication: Navigating the Space of Conflict*** Conflict is a natural part of any workplace, but handling it effectively is essential for strong teams and mission-driven work. This session introduces evidence-based and evidence-informed strategies, including active listening, communication, and structured conflict resolution frameworks. Attendees will explore programs like creating quality conversations (evidence-informed) and Restorative Practices (evidence-based) and learn practical techniques to manage emotions, resolve disputes, and communicate with clarity. Participants will leave with actionable tools to navigate conflict constructively, strengthen collaboration, and maintain positive relationships in education and leadership settings.	Dr. Denise Sidney & Mary Regan *College Southern Nevada*
12:45-1:45 PM	Youth Voice Program Structure, Curriculum, & Activities	***Florentine F: The Lemonade Stand Business Plan: Teaching Youth Leadership and Entrepreneurship Through Teamwork and Self-Discovery*** This interactive session introduces The Lemonade Stand Business Plan, a youth entrepreneurship and leadership program that transforms simple business lessons into a journey of teamwork, creativity, and empowerment. Using storytelling, personality assessments, and social-emotional learning (SEL), participants explore how to build confidence, collaboration, and financial literacy in students. Attendees will learn practical methods to teach business planning, teamwork, and leadership through engaging activities adaptable to classrooms, afterschool programs, and community groups. The session aligns with the conference theme of "Whole Teams, Whole Hearts, Whole Communities" by equipping educators and youth leaders with tools to nurture the next generation of confident, purpose-driven leaders. Evidence-informed and proven effective through partnerships with Junior Achievement, Clark County School District, and UNLV.	Brandon Ward *The WE Mentality*

12:45-1:45 PM	McKinney-Vento/Foster Care Program Management & Professional Development	***Florentine G: McKinney-Vento & Community Partnerships: How after-school programs create pathways to success for students in transition*** This presentation outlines a collaborative framework for community agencies, after-school providers, and the school district's McKinney-Vento (MKV) program to support students experiencing homelessness. While schools provide the education, community partners provide the essential stability and resources that make learning possible. Attendees will learn: 1) The Critical Gaps: How housing instability leads to chronic absenteeism and significant academic barriers (such as lack of quiet homework space and trauma). 2) The Role of After-School Care: Why after-school programs are the essential "oasis of normalcy," providing immediate academic, nutritional, and emotional support. 3) Targeted Calls to Action: Specific, barrier-free protocols for key partners, including Housing and Shelter providers (48-Hour Educational Triage), Health Clinics (MKV Priority Hours), and Libraries/Tech Centers (Homework Hubs), to create a truly seamless and dignified support system.	Meg Pike *Clark County School District*
1:45-2:00 PM	**Transition to Breakout Session 7**		
2:00-3:00 PM	Health, Safety, & Security of the Physical Environment	***Florentine E: Prepared Not Scared*** This presentation, Prepared Not Scared, explores the realities of school safety and emergency preparedness through the lens of human behavior and decision-making. It challenges fear-based approaches that rely on alarming statistics and instead promotes an all-hazards strategy focused on empowerment. Attendees will learn how stress impacts cognitive and motor functions during crises, why traditional “checklist” responses can fail, and how the OODA Loop (Observe, Orient, Decide, Act) provides a dynamic framework for rapid, effective action. The session emphasizes mental simulation, drills, and practical tools that enable staff to respond confidently and adaptively, ensuring preparedness without panic. The presentation uses evidence-informed practice drawing from research, expert consensus, and proven models rather than strict evidence-based clinical guidelines.	Roy Anderson *Washoe County School District*
2:00-3:00 PM	Youth Voice Program Management & Professional Development	***Florentine F: YVAL (Youth Voice at Agency Level)*** The Youth Voice at Agency Level (YVAL) training is designed for providers in youth-serving systems who want to center youth voice and foster authentic youth engagement. This interactive workshop introduces the YVAL tool to help agencies assess and strengthen how they involve youth in shaping the programs and policies that impact their lives, while also emphasizing the importance of youth voice in building stronger, more effective systems.	Brenna Hardtner & Carley Murray *Nevada PEP/Youth MOVE Nevada*
2:00-3:00 PM	McKinney-Vento/Foster Care Program Structure, Curriculum, & Activities	***Florentine G: Supporting Youth Beyond the School Day*** This presentation focuses on how educators, partners, and community programs can support youth by expanding meaningful career exposure opportunities beyond the school day. It introduces the Nevada Department of Education’s CRALEO team and outlines how their work connects students to pathways that build skills, confidence, and long-term success. Participants explore why career awareness matters, the barriers many students face, and how small, practical actions; such as guest speakers, career videos, and pathway-aligned clubs, can make a significant difference. The session highlights strategies for bringing Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways to life, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring equitable access, particularly for rural and tribal communities. Through guided table talks and collaborative planning, attendees identify ways to support student-centered learning and create a 30-day action plan. The goal is to empower teams with tools, ideas, and partnerships that expand opportunity and help every student envision their future.	Victor Willert & Rick Espejo *Career and Technical Education Educational Programs & Adult Learning, N.D.E.*
3:00-3:30 PM	**Networking & Exhibitor Hall**		