



# **WSCA Conference 2025**

## **November 5-7, 2025**

**Kalahari Resort and Convention Center**  
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin



"I love WSCA and enjoy coming every year. My admin sees how valuable it is for me and also encourages me to go every year. I love that I come back with things to start using right away".

# WELCOME TO THE WSCA 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

Join fellow Wisconsin School Counselors at the WSCA Annual Conference where you'll create lasting connections and engage in quality learning

## WHY ATTEND?

The November 2025 WSCA Annual Conference will be filled with professional development and personal growth.

WSCA believes the value of attending the conference in person includes spending time together, networking, and empowering each other to be confident in our school counselor practice.



The 2024-2025 Conference had a **99% satisfaction rate!**



“

Such a wonderful conference - I'm SO SO very glad my colleagues and I (all from MN) made the trek across state lines. Thank you!!”



## #1 LASTING CONNECTIONS

At the WSCA conference, school counselors enjoy meeting in person, collaborating, networking, and feeling empowered by like-minded professionals!

✓ **100%** of attendees say they would recommend registering to a friend or colleague!



## #2 AFFORDABLE RATES

With two keynote speakers, 80+ breakout sessions, and so much included in the registration price, the WSCA conference is a great value compared to other professional development opportunities around the state.

✓ **96%** of attendees loved the Kalahari conference venue and accommodations!



## #3 QUALITY SPEAKERS

The WSCA Conference hosts nationally recognized speakers alongside top local professionals, all of whom leave attendees feeling energized, informed, and with resources to help the students they serve.

✓ **94%** of attendees were thrilled by the sectional offerings!



## #4 COMPREHENSIVE SESSIONS

The WSCA Conference is THE conference in the state devoted to school counselors' unique professional development needs.

✓ **99%** of attendees say they gained knowledge and resources to bring back to their school!



## LASTING CONNECTIONS

At the WSCA conference, school counselors enjoy meeting in person, collaborating, networking, and feeling empowered by like-minded professionals!

### WELCOME TO WSCA MIXER!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

If you plan to attend a preconference workshop or check into the hotel on Wednesday evening, consider kicking off your conference experience by joining us for the Welcome to WSCA Mixer! "Socialize at the cash bar and win prizes while playing the ever popular **Music Bingo** hosted by our conference favorite - **Fun Pros!**"

**Registration will be open during the mixer!**

### WSCA SOCIAL

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

**CHOOSE A THURSDAY NIGHT SOCIAL THAT SUITS YOUR TASTE!**

We are happy to announce that due to the high attendance levels at our Thursday night social, we will continue holding the event in two separate locations so that you can choose the venue based on your socializing preferences!



**The Volcano Lounge** is sure to please if you love an energetic and bustling social experience! Join friends for appetizers and connections, plus **COMPLIMENTARY** bowling and games courtesy of WSCA!



**Cinco Niños** could be more your speed if you enjoy conversation with a side of live music and fresh flavored drinks! **NEW!** We are excited to welcome live musician Dino Ante to our Cinco Ninos social this year to bring this second location to life.

### OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT AT CONFERENCE

- Meet New Counselors By Finding a Button Match To Win Prizes
- Plan a Team Meeting In the Collab Space
- Join WSCA Leaders to Share Your School Counseling Story
- Talk With Exhibitors to Learn About The Latest Updates & Products
- Play Exhibit And Conference Games to Win Prizes
- Take a Moment For Yourself In the Zen Den
- Engage In Counselor Topics In the Conference App
- Social Timeline
- Networking Events
  - Counselors Of Color Meetup
  - Grad Student Social
  - Past WSCA Leaders Social





## AFFORDABLE RATES

With two keynote speakers, 100+ breakout sessions, and so much included in the registration, the WSCA Conference offers quality professional development with unmatched value.

## INCLUDED WITH CONFERENCE REGISTRATION!



WSCA Membership Included With Non-Member Conference Registration



Conference App With Access to Handouts and Resources that Can Be Accessed After Event



Largest School Counselor Exhibit Hall in the Midwest



Professional Headshots



Lots of Opportunities for Giveaways and Prizes

## REGISTRATION ALSO INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

### WEDNESDAY:

Lunch for All-Day Registration

### THURSDAY:

Light Continental Breakfast

Lunch

Nutrition Break

Social/Reception

### FRIDAY:

Brunch

## ACCOMMODATIONS: KALAHARI RESORT

Kalahari Resort rooms in the WSCA block start at \$135.

All accommodations details, including the booking link and cut-off date, can be found online at:

<https://www.wscaweb.org/conferences/2025-2026-annual-conference/accommodations/>

**Come for the conference, stay through the weekend!** Limited WSCA block rooms are available through the weekend. Be sure to book early for the special rate.

## THE HOTEL BLOCK IS NOW OPEN RESERVE YOUR ROOM TODAY!



Free Wi-Fi



Parking



Waterpark Passes



"Thank you!! As the only counselor serving a K-8 school, it is hard for me to justify being out of the building, but our State School Counselors Conference is always worth my time away! So appreciate everyone's efforts to make the Conference worth the cost and effort to attend."



## QUALITY SPEAKERS

The WSCA Conference hosts nationally recognized speakers alongside top local professionals, leaving attendees feeling energized, informed, and with resources to help the students they serve.



### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

#### **FAREEDAH SHAHEED | OPENING KEYNOTE** **Protecting Students in a Hyper-Connected World**

In a world where students' lives are shaped by their experiences online, school counselors stand at the intersection of mental health, digital safety, and real-world connection. Today's students are growing up with smartphones as an integral part of their daily lives—constantly connected to social media, online communities, and digital entertainment. Their friendships, identity, and self-worth are increasingly influenced by apps designed to keep them engaged, often at the cost of their well-being.

In this keynote, internet safety expert and Forbes 30 Under 30 honoree, Fareedah Shaheed, takes counselors on a deep dive into how students' phones shape their behavior, emotions, and risk-taking online. Through her personal journey and expertise, she reveals the hidden challenges students face—from algorithm-driven pressures to online predators—and how counselors can equip them with the critical thinking and digital resilience needed to navigate their world safely.

Students' online experiences are not one-size-fits-all. Access to technology, cultural backgrounds, and individual circumstances shape the way they engage with digital spaces. This opening keynote will provide counselors with practical strategies to meet students where they are, foster safer online environments, and build trust-based conversations that empower them to make informed decisions.



### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

#### **GERRY BROOKS | CLOSING KEYNOTE** **Personal Climate and Culture ... It's Up to You**

Gerry Brooks uses humor to shed light on the everyday challenges counselors face, making their experiences more relatable and fostering a sense of community. Gerry's career took off when he began creating laughably relatable video content about the trials and tribulations of everyday life that teachers, school counselors, and administrators faced, which he shared through social media. Now, fast forward, and with over 3.1 million followers and growing, he is one of the leading voices in the educational community, humorously inspiring educators across the nation. Apart from his activity on social media, Gerry also authored "Go See the Principal: True Tales from the School Trenches," a humorous but enlightening book about the life of an educator.

His keynote will demonstrate his deep appreciation and understanding of school counselors' roles within educational settings by acknowledging their essential contributions. Gerry will share policies he has incorporated that promote a healthy, respectful working relationship even when opinions differ. He will also share ideas that maximize opportunities to get to know staff members and create camaraderie, taking advantage of 15 seconds here and there throughout the day.

Gerry will bring humor, heart, and so much insight to the closing keynote, with counselors feeling valued and re-energized, ready to tackle challenges with renewed positivity and patience.



# COMPREHENSIVE SESSIONS: PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

The WSCA Conference is THE conference in the state devoted to school counselors' unique professional development needs.

Every year, our school counselors say they would like more time to learn about specific topics they encountered during the WSCA Conference. Based on the recommendations from YOU, the school counselors of Wisconsin, we have assembled a high-quality, diverse set of preconference workshops.

Mix and match two half-day workshops, or attend a full-day workshop to focus more in-depth on a single topic. Create a preconference day that provides the best learning opportunities for your professional development needs!



Check out the [Preconference webpage](#) to learn more.

## NOVEMBER 5, 2025: PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOPS THEMES AND TRACKS

Use these tracks to help design the perfect professional development day with a focus on what matters most to YOU!

Social/Emotional	<b>Full Day</b>	
	Building Connections: Using Motivational Interviewing to Support Student Success through School Connectedness (Middle, High)	
	Supporting Students with a Suicide Prevention Framework and Best Practices (Elementary, Middle, High)	
	<b>Morning</b>	
	Counselors' Toolkit: Games for Teaching Character & Building an Inclusive School Culture (Elementary)	
	Mindfulness Across All Tiers (Elementary)	
	<b>Afternoon</b>	
	Alcohol, Vaping, and Cannabis... Oh My! Evidence-Based Prevention and Intervention Resources You Can Implement... Today! (Middle, High)	
	Taking it to the Next Level - Solution Focused Counseling Theory and Practice (Elementary, Middle, High)	
Leadership/Advocacy	<b>Morning</b>	
	Emerging Counselor Institute (Elementary, Middle, High)	
	Understanding 504: A School Counselor's Guide (Elementary, Middle, High)	
	<b>Afternoon</b>	
Counseling in Technicolor: Using Data to Evolve Traditions (Elementary, Middle)		
Academic/Career/Postsecondary	<b>Morning</b>	
	Get to Work: Using Employability Skills to Shape Behavior (Middle, High)	
	<b>Afternoon</b>	
	Executive Functioning: What's the Support? (Elementary)	
Leading the Way: Counselor-Led Career Readiness Professional Learning Communities (Elementary, Middle, High)		
Equity	<b>Morning</b>	
	High School MTMDSS: Every Tier, Every Domain, Every Student (High)	
	<b>Afternoon</b>	
Beyond Toughness: Helping Boys Build Healthier Connections (Middle, High)		
<i>**some topics may address more than one theme, please read the full description for more information**</i>		

**ALL DAY**  
**9:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

**Building Connections: Using Motivational Interviewing to Support Student Success through School Connectedness**  
(Middle, High)

*Dr. Emily Whitney, Professor, University of Wisconsin - La Crosse*

Loneliness, mental health, and AOTD problems are just some issues adolescents face today. Finding ways to engage youth in conversations to understand their perspectives and find solutions that work is a challenge. Motivational interviewing (MI) is a tool that helps create a supportive environment for effective conversations, fostering two-way communication channels that help students find solutions and commit to actions. This workshop will review MI core components (OARS) and include a deeper discussion and practice opportunities of the MI concepts of "change talk," "sustain talk," and "ambivalence" that support the transition into action plans for youth.

**Social/Emotional**

**Supporting Students with a Suicide Prevention Framework and Best Practices**

(K-12)

*Andrea Donegan, School Counseling Consultant, & Libby Strunz, School Mental Health Consultant, WI DPI*

Learn, discuss, and engage in an evidence-based suicide prevention framework built around four components: Connect: understanding the student's individual context and experience; Assess: developing person-specific plans and supports; Respond: implementing interventions like safety planning and referral; and Extend: supporting students beyond immediate crises. Attendees will practice key skills, learn best practices and approaches, and discuss effective applications within education settings. Participants will receive a free subscription to the SafeSide program, which includes an online

community of practice, a robust resource library, and monthly virtual office hours.

**Social/Emotional**

**MORNING**  
**9:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Counselor Toolkit: Games for Teaching Character & Building an Inclusive School Culture**  
(Elementary)

*Tim Mueller, K-8 Physical Education Teacher - Erin School District, Adjunct Professor - Concordia University*

Participants will explore engaging, movement-based activities that teach character education and promote inclusivity within school communities. This interactive workshop equips counselors with hands-on games that reinforce SEL concepts, strengthen student connections, and create a positive school culture. Counselors will learn techniques for recognizing and accommodating diverse student needs, ensuring every learner feels valued and included. Participants will leave with practical, ready-to-use strategies to make character development active, meaningful, and fun!

**Social/Emotional**

**2025-2026 Emerging School Counselor Cohort**

(K-12)

*Erin Wood, Special Projects Coordinator, WSCA*

The Emerging School Counselor Cohort is the ultimate launchpad for early-career counselors ready to make an impact! Through a powerful mix of in-person and virtual sessions, participants gain real-world tools, expert insights, and a strong support network to navigate their first years with confidence. From the ASCA model to building mental health strategies, career programming, and advocacy skills, this cohort covers it all, along with connecting with a community that truly understands the journey. This workshop is restricted to members of the Emerging School

Counselor Cohort program, learn more and register at [www.wscaweb.org](http://www.wscaweb.org).

**Leadership/Advocacy**

**Get to Work: Using Employability Skills to Shape Behavior**  
(Middle, High)

*Cindy Bourget & Brooke Kaldor, School Counselors, Elk Mound Area School District*

Explore the transformative power of employability skills to improve student behavior and build a cohesive school culture. Discover how a universal discipline system based on employability skill development tied to the ASCA Student Standards unites staff with a consistent language for behavior expectations, discipline, and positive reinforcement, which creates natural consequences that students and families can easily understand. Learn how using employability skills as the basis for behavior expectations places an emphasis on Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions, so discipline is focused on skill development.

**Academic/Career**

**High School MTMDSS: Every Tier, Every Domain, Every Student**  
(High)

*Mindy Willard, Curriculum Director, Hatching Results*

This hands-on, collaborative workshop introduces Multi-Tiered, Multi-Domain Systems of Support and is full of ideas to implement today. Move from reactive to proactive, referral-driven to data-informed, and from presenting to teaching, all while delivering equitable, intentional, and impactful Tier 1 & 2 supports. Learn how to integrate ACP tools, templates, and best practices into a comprehensive, equity-centered program by elevating classroom instruction so every student benefits from engaging lessons, measuring impact through pre/post-tests, and developing data routines to proactively identify students for Tier 2, so access is based on demonstrated need, not referrals.

**Equity**

# COMPREHENSIVE SESSIONS: PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

## Mindfulness Across All Tiers

(Elementary)

*Victoria Claas, School Counselor,  
Columbus Elementary School*

Let's deep dive into mindfulness practices! Practicing mindfulness can help children increase patience, improve focus, decrease worries, and calm down strong emotions. This workshop will provide strategies and resources for facilitating and implementing Tier 1 classroom activities, Tier 2 small-group interventions, and offer mental health tools and support for Tier 3 individual meetings to help students manage their emotions, focus, and self-control. Participants will engage in mindfulness practices, model breathing and creative mindfulness practices, and become aware of trauma-sensitive approaches to mindfulness.

### Social/Emotional

## Understanding 504: A School Counselor's Guide

(K-12)

*Dr. Cara Wood, Assistant Professor  
- Viterbo University, Director of  
Student Services - North Crawford  
School District*

*Max Moderski, School Counselor,  
North Crawford Elementary School*

Responsible for 504s but have no formal training? Is the 504 eligibility process confusing? Uncertain how 504s are different from IEPs? This workshop will equip participants with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the 504 process confidently. Participants will gain a clear understanding of 504 eligibility, legal requirements, and effective implementation. Attendees will leave with sample documentation and strategies to collaborate with families and school staff, ensuring equitable access to education for all students.

### Leadership/Advocacy

## AFTERNOON 1:30 - 4:30 PM

## Alcohol, Vaping, and Cannabis...Oh My! Evidence-Based Resources You Can Implement...Today!

(Middle, High)

*Scott Gerbert, Director, Outreach  
& Strategic Partnerships, Stanford  
School of Medicine-REACH Lab*

Learn about free, evidence-based prevention and intervention toolkits and curriculum to prevent and reduce youth substance use. These resources teach drug facts, reveal deceptive marketing tactics, build refusal skills, and explain brain development, addiction, and health effects. Online self-paced lessons, small group resources, and one-on-one interventions, rooted in motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral therapy, and the stages of change, with a focus on keeping youth in school and reducing exclusionary discipline. A panel of community partners working collaboratively with schools will share efforts to address AODA prevention, as this challenge is not just for schools to support.

### Social/Emotional

## Beyond Toughness: Helping Boys Build Healthier Connections

(Middle, High)

*Dr. Ryan McKelley, Licensed  
Psychologist & Professor of  
Psychology, University of Wisconsin  
- La Crosse*

This workshop challenges harmful stereotypes and highlights how most boys do not fit the narrow definitions often portrayed in media and culture. Participants will examine how boys' socialization processes intersect with other social identities to influence health outcomes, and will learn strategies to support healthier, more authentic connections. Participants will gain an understanding of the broader cultural forces at play and learn tools to promote emotional courage, resilience, and well-being in

adolescent boys. Leave with a deeper awareness of how to reclaim boys' health and humanity.

### Equity

## Counseling in Technicolor: Using Data to Evolve Traditions

(Elementary, Middle)

*Cindy Bourget, School Counselor,  
Elk Mound Area School District*

School traditions often come from positive intent; however, student success demands systems that create opportunities for all learners. This workshop explores how data-driven approaches can transform MTSS programming into a broader Tier 1 school improvement strategy, aligned with the ASCA Student Standards, and delivered by teachers. Learn how to build staff capacity, extend Tier 2 supports beyond the counseling office, and celebrate and share data to elevate the role of school counseling. Participants will engage in hands-on activities to analyze their data, explore Tier 1 & 2 strategies, and practice presenting outcomes.

### Leadership/Advocacy

## Executive Functioning: What's the Support?

(Elementary)

*Katie Berg, MA Ed., Statewide  
Coordinator, Supporting  
Neurodiverse Students Professional  
Learning System*

This workshop will explore how executive functioning impacts student success and learn strategies to provide meaningful support. Executive functioning refers to cognitive processes such as planning, prioritizing, initiating tasks, shifting between activities, and self-monitoring. Differences in these skills can create barriers to access, engagement, and progress. This workshop focuses on understanding how the brain works and how educators can adjust approaches to meet students where they are, emphasizing support rather than



"fixing" deficits. Attendees will leave with practical strategies to help students strengthen executive functioning skills and achieve their fullest potential.

**Academic/Career**

**Leading the Way: Counselor-Led Career Readiness Professional Learning Communities**

**(K-12)**

*Karin Smith, Dual Enrollment Education Consultant, WI DPI*

In this interactive workshop, K-12 school counselors will learn how to lead effective, school or district-wide professional learning communities (PLCs) using DPI's Wisconsin Career Readiness (WCRS) professional development modules. The workshop will focus on building the skills and strategies counselors need to facilitate collaborative learning among educators in order to support the implementation of the WCRS across grade levels and subject areas. Counselors will leave with ready-to-use materials, a practical implementation plan, and equity-focused strategies to ensure that career-connected learning benefits all students.

**Academic/Career**

**Taking it to the Next Level: Solution Focused Counseling Theory and Practice**

**(K-12)**

*Mark Gillen, Professor Emeritus, UW-River Falls*

This workshop will deepen participants' understanding and application of Solution Focused Counseling (SFC) in school counselors' daily practice. Participants will (1) revisit and reset the foundational skills critical to all counseling work, (2) strengthen key SFC mindsets and techniques, and (3) collaborate with peers on real-world case examples to apply SFC principles in practice. Emphasis will be placed on developmental and cultural considerations, centering client-driven equity as the guiding framework. Participants will reengage with the essential foundations that support meaningful, client-centered SFC work.

**Social/Emotional**



**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

**PRECONFERENCE TIMELINE**

**Wednesday**

- 8:30 am Registration Opens
- 9:30 am - 4:30 pm Workshops
- 4:00 - 6:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open
- 7:00 - 9:00 pm Welcome Social (Registration Open)

**CONFERENCE TIMELINE**

**Thursday**

- 7:00 am Registration & Exhibit Hall Opens
- 7:45 am Sectionals Begin
- 9:00 am Opening Keynote
- 10:30 am Sectionals Restart
- 5:00 - 7:00 pm WSCA Socials

**Friday**

- 7:30 am Registration & Exhibit Hall Opens
- 8:00 am Sectionals Begin
- 11:00 am Closing Keynote



"Learning is lifelong and exciting! It's great to hear from colleagues directly about their experiences. The importance of communication, collaboration, flexibility and self-care."

# COMPREHENSIVE SESSIONS: CONFERENCE SECTIONALS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025

Tracks: (A) Academic/Career, (E) Equity, (L) Leadership/Advocacy, (S) Social/Emotional

7:45 - 8:45 am Sectional 1	10:30 - 11:30 am Sectional 2 10:30 am - 12:00 pm 2i	11:40 am - 12:00 pm 20 min Sectionals	1:00 - 2:00 pm Sectional 3 12:45 - 2:15 pm 3i	2:30 - 3:30 pm Sectional 4 2:15 - 3:30 pm 4i	4:00 - 5:00 pm Sectional 5
Supporting Teachers In Building Strong Relationships With Students: The Role of School Counselors In The Classroom Leadership/Advocacy K-12	Taking the Next Step in Your Leadership Journey Leadership/Advocacy K-12	Wisconsin Standard 4 & ASCA Model 5.0 Leadership/Advocacy K-12	Navigating the Gray: WSCA Legal & Ethical Consultancy Leadership/Advocacy K-12	State of the State Leadership/Advocacy K-12	When Helping Hurts: Tools to Manage Secondary Traumatic Stress Leadership/Advocacy K-12
ASCA Model 5.0 & Haral Leadership/Advocacy K-12	We Have Needs Too! (Finding Our Courage Together) Social/Emotional K-12	Driven but with Doubt! Leadership/Advocacy K-12	Designing Something Out of Nothing: Establishing a Comprehensive District Wide Academic and Career Planning Curriculum Academic/Career K-12	All About AmeriCorps Academic/Career High	Conversations That Matter: Leading with Courage and Clarity Leadership/Advocacy K-12
	Supporting Military Children - They are in your school! Leadership/Advocacy K-12		Engagement through Youth Apprenticeship Academic/Career High	The Wisconsin Challenge Academy Academic/Career High	
	A Collaborative Approach to Social-Emotional Wellness for High Achieving Students Social/Emotional Middle   High		Operating Engineer: Pre-Apprenticeship Opportunities for High School Students Academic/Career High	Building Trust and Equity in Counseling: Supporting Every Student's Emotional Growth Leadership/Advocacy Middle   High	
Up to Me - The Art of Telling Your Story in a Stigmatizing Society Equity K-12	Self-Care through Cultural Lenses: Integrating Wellness in School Counseling Programs Leadership/Advocacy K-12	Using SEL Screeners to Identify the Gaps Between Student Self-Perception and Staff Student Perception Leadership/Advocacy Elementary   Middle	The Power of Peers: Youth Voice and Agency (Curriculum, Policies, & Procedures) Leadership/Advocacy K-12	Breaking Barriers: The Legacy of School Integration in Wisconsin and Its Lessons for Today Equity K-12	More than a Post-It Note- School Counselor's Role in Meeting the Needs of Marginalized Students Within Suburban Schools Equity K-12
Battling Inattention: Thread Tips and Information for Understanding Executive Functioning Social/Emotional Elementary	Developing Resilience: Empowering BIPOC Adolescents in the 21st Century Equity K-12	How the ROK Program for Girls Increased Their Sense of Belonging in School Social/Emotional Middle   High	From Exclusion to Empowerment: Implementing Trauma-Informed, Restorative, and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Practices in Schools Equity K-12	The Intersectionality of the LGBTQ+ Community and Mental Health Equity K-12	Children's Books Share Shop Social/Emotional Elementary
A School Wide Approach to SEL and Character Education in Middle School Social/Emotional Middle	Planning A School Year of Social Emotional Learning: Using Themes to Focus Developmental Guidance Social/Emotional Elementary	When is virtual the best fit? Social/Emotional K-12	Enhancing Progress with Play: Interactive Classroom and Small Group Activities Social/Emotional Elementary	Feelings: Not Just for Hallmark Movies Anymore! Social/Emotional Elementary	Exploring Self-Regulation Through Conscious Discipline and Positive Psychology: Tools for School Counselors, Educators, and Students Social/Emotional Elementary   Middle
The Cup: An Engaging Conversation Starter To Help Students Take Control Of Their Happiness Social/Emotional Middle   High	Children's Wit: Creating Caring and Calm Classrooms-Supporting kids' emotional and mental health with mindfulness resources Social/Emotional Elementary   Middle		The "Greatest Hits" School Counseling and Integrated Behavioral Health Strategies Social/Emotional Elementary   Middle	Uniting Families and Schools through Book Clubs Social/Emotional Elementary/Middle	Stress Reimagined Social/Emotional Middle   High
Leveling Up Social Skills: Using Role-Playing Games in School Counseling Social/Emotional K-12	Zone Defense: A Proactive Way to Implement Zones of Regulation in Middle School Social/Emotional Middle		Innovative Groups in Schools: Navigating the Challenges Social/Emotional Middle	Best Practices Solutions for Youth Vaping Prevention and Intervention Social/Emotional Middle   High	Innovative Programs for Supporting Youth Mental Health Social/Emotional K-12
Empowering Students for Success by Teaching Life Skills Social/Emotional K-12	Human Sex Trafficking Awareness Training Social/Emotional Middle   High		Notice, Name, Nest, Nurture: A Framework for Supporting Students Through Grief, Trauma, and Everyday Challenges Social/Emotional Middle   High	Fostering Student Success in a K-12 Online Synchronous Platform Social/Emotional K-12	Less Drama, More Inclusion: Simple Strategies that Enhance School Culture and Increase Attendance Social/Emotional K-12
The Real Deal: Creating Authentic ACP opportunities for your Staff and Students. Academic/Career High	Wellness Days in Schools: Fostering Self-Care and Mental Health Strategies Through Community Collaboration Social/Emotional K-12		School Counselors' Use of the Five Stages in the Roadmap for School Mental Health Social/Emotional K-12	What NOW? Transformative Trauma-Responsive Counseling: Bridging Knowledge to Action Social/Emotional K-12	Roots, Tools, and SEL: Connecting with ALL Students as a Rural K-12 School Counselor Social/Emotional K-12
Creating a Career Ready Wisconsin: Leveraging Inspire Wisconsin and Money Path for Student Success Academic/Career High	Effectively Integrating Solution Focused Counseling into your School Counseling Work Social/Emotional K-12		Grief 101: How grief impacts children and teens, and how to support them in a school setting. Social/Emotional K-12	AI-Powered Productivity: Freeing Up Time for What Matters Most Social/Emotional K-12	Elementary Alphabet Soup - ACP to E4E to SPO to Kollo (with a Sprinkling of Collaboration, Family Engagement, and Marketing Tools) Academic/Career Elementary
Internships and Youth Apprenticeships: Keeping it simple Academic/Career High	What does a model ACP/E4E Plan look like? A showcase from six districts. Academic/Career K-12		Enhancing School Counseling with AI & Technology Academic/Career Elementary   Middle	Exploring Careers Through the Lens of the Seven Habits Academic/Career Elementary	Exploring STEM Horizons: Career Directions to Your Future Academic/Career Middle   High
Direct Admit Wisconsin Academic/Career High	Blueprint for Success: Navigating Apprenticeships and Trades Careers with Your Students Academic/Career High		Developing Partnerships and Relationship Building: Re-engaging Students towards Graduation and Postsecondary Success Academic/Career High	Guiding Juniors to Success: Effective Junior Meeting Seminars Academic/Career Middle   High	Lost: Students Who Fall Out of School and What We Can Do Academic/Career High

Registration Opens 7:00 am | Exhibits Open 7:00 am - 5:00 pm | General Session & Keynote 9:00 - 10:15 am

Sectionals are not final and are subject to change.

# CONFERENCE SECTIONALS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2025



## LOOKING FOR FUNDING TO ATTEND WSCA?

- Volunteer to be a Conference Champion and have your conference fees reimbursed! (limited availability) <https://www.wscaweb.org/conferences/2025-2026-annual-conference/conference-champion/>

- WSCA and ECU have teamed up to offer a special Conference Scholarship! \*Learn more at <https://www.wscaweb.org/conferences/2025-2026-annual-conference/conference-scholarship/>

• Other potential funding sources:

- Title I: Schoolwide Programs & Targeted Assistance Programs
- Title II, Part A: Preparing, Training, and Recruiting Licensed Teachers, Principals, and Other School Leaders Grant
- Title IVA: Student Support and Academic Enrichment
- Perkins V (high school only)
- Perkins Reserve Grant
- IDEA Coordinated Early Intervening Services (limited)
- DPI Get Kids Ahead Grant
- DPI Stronger Connections Grant
- DPI Federal School Based Mental Health Grant
- DPI Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grant
- DPI Gifted and Talented Grant
- School-Based Mental Health Services State Funding
- College Board AP Test Rebate (\$9/test)

Do you need help justifying this conference to your Supervisor? We have created a letter you can customize to support your efforts to attend! See our conference webpage for more details.



7:30-8:15 am	8:30 - 9:30 am Sectional 6 8:00 - 9:30 am 6i	10:00 - 11:00 am Sectional 7
WSCA Townhall	Gerry Brooks Sectional Leadership/Advocacy K-12	NCBT - The School Counselor Track Leadership/Advocacy K-12
	I Don't Have Any Data, and Other Lies We Tell Ourselves Leadership/Advocacy K-12	MTSS in Action: Secondary School Counseling Strategies Leadership/Advocacy Middle   High
	Bridging Gaps: Navigating Mental Health, Trauma, and Special Education in Rural Schools Leadership/Advocacy Middle   High	Healthy Futures: Effective Alternatives to Suspension for Nicotine and Cannabis Smoking/Vaping Equally Middle   High
	Digging Deeper: Unpacking the Realities of School Counseling - Challenges, Advocacy, and Culturally Responsive Solutions Equity K-12	"Good to See You" - Attendance Matters! Social/Emotional Elementary
	Integrating Sensory Bins and Activities in Classroom Lessons and Small Groups Social/Emotional Elementary	Universal Wellness Education Social/Emotional Middle
	Mind-Body Movement for the Anxious ADHD Brain Social/Emotional Middle   High	Wellness Lab: A Wellness Program to Support Student Stress Management and Wellbeing Social/Emotional Middle   High
	Getting Your Entire School Community Thinking About Wellness and Mental Health Social/Emotional K-12	Owning Who We Are! Social/Emotional Middle
	From Trauma to Resilience: Supporting Student Mental Health in Schools Social/Emotional K-12	Facilitating Team Building Activities Through a Neurodivergent Lens Social/Emotional K-12
	From URL to URL: Overcoming School Anxiety and Refusal in a Post-Remote Learning World Social/Emotional K-12	Techniques and Strategies for Children and Adolescents with Externalizing Behaviors Related to Mental Health Social/Emotional K-12
	Financial Aid Opportunities for Students at Wisconsin's Private Colleges Academic/Career High	What's YA Secret? Academic/Career High
	Become a Career-Connected Learning Leader Academic/Career K-12	Exploring Engineering Pathways: A Tech Ed On-Ramp Academic/Career Middle   High
	FAFSA and Financial Aid Updates Academic/Career High	Navigating Wisconsin's ACP Requirements with Xello: Best Practices for Success Academic/Career K-12

Brunch & Keynote 11:00 am | Exhibits Open 7:30 - 11:00 am | Registration Opens 7:30 am

Sectionals are not final and are subject to change.

**WSCA**  
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## **WSCA Conference 2025**

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