WISCONSIN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION
WSCA

HOPE HEROES

WSCA CONFERENCE 2026

NOVEMBER 4-6, 2026

KALAHARI RESORT AND CONVENTION CENTER

WISCONSIN DELLS, WISCONSIN

"It was just good to pour into myself again, I haven't done it for years. I had a great time and learned bits and pieces to take with me. Food was great, venue was great, and all the thoughtful details."

WELCOME TO THE WSCA 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

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

The November 2026 WSCA Annual Conference will be filled with professional development and personal growth. Attending the conference is an amazing way for counselors to grow as professionals, rejuvenate their work-life balance, stay current on counseling topics, and enjoy time being with their statewide school counseling team.



LASTING CONNECTIONS

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

AFFORDABLE RATES

98% of attendees loved the Kalahari conference venue and accommodations!





QUALITY SPEAKERS

95% of attendees were thrilled by the sectional offerings!

COMPREHENSIVE SESSIONS

98% of attendees say they gained knowledge and resources to bring back to their school!



THE 2025-2026 CONFERENCE HAD A 99% SATISFACTION RATE!

LASTING CONNECTIONS

Enjoy meeting in person, collaborating, networking, and feeling empowered by like-minded professionals!






WSCA HAPPY HOUR!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 • 4:00–7:00 pm

NEW EVENT

Kickoff your conference experience at the WSCA Happy Hour! Peruse the open **EXHIBIT HALL**, pick up your **REGISTRATION** materials, and **SOCIALIZE** at the cash bar as the perfect way to start conference on the right foot!

WSCA SOCIAL

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5 • 5:00–7:00 pm

VOLCANO LOUNGE & LANES

The Volcano Lounge is sure to please as the venue to enjoy the WSCA Social as a wrap to a busy day of learning! Join friends for **APPETIZERS** and **CONNECTIONS**, plus complimentary **BOWLING** and **GAMES** courtesy of WSCA!

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** with other counselors in the conference app social timeline
- **NETWORK** at the first time attendee welcome event, counselors of color meetup, grad student bowling, and past WSCA leaders social

DIRECT ADMIT WISCONSIN

UNIVERSITIES OF WISCONSIN

DIRECT ADMIT MEETING

Calling all current Direct Admit Wisconsin high school counselors – sign up now for our annual statewide meeting! This year, we are offering two meeting options: a 1-hour virtual presentation or an in-person presentation followed by a social reception before the WSCA conference. The content of the virtual and in-person sessions will be the same, highlighting successes and opportunities for growth. Join us to celebrate your hard work and get an overview of what we have planned for the upcoming year! **Registration for both options is available on the WSCA Conference webpage.**

VIRTUAL:
Wednesday, October 28
11:00AM–12:00PM
(held on Zoom)

IN-PERSON:
Wednesday, November 4
5:00-6:30 PM
Wisconsin Dells,
Kalahari Resort

Social reception from 5-5:30; finger foods and refreshments will be served

"Honestly, this felt like a special sweet spot for the conference. I left with something from each and every session I attended. The opportunities to connect and network were incredible. This year's conference was a huge hit and felt very special. I laughed, I learned, I cried: that's a good full couple of days."

"I love learning from my colleagues and need a yearly refresher on skills/techniques and how other school counselors operate day to day."

"This was a powerful year. There weren't really a lot of down moments. My team and I were truly buzzing. Every sectional I hit had a direct impact on my work and will have pieces of immediate introductions."

LEARN MORE!

AFFORDABLE RATES

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







ADVOCATE NOW – ATTEND IN THE FALL!

If your district has leftover funds, pay now to get a head start! Pay now or pay later, WSCA's flexible options make approval a breeze no matter your situation.

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 on the conference website.

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.

QUALITY SPEAKERS

Learn from nationally recognized speakers alongside top local professionals, which will leave you feeling energized, informed, and with resources to help your students.





PAUL HARRIS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026 • OPENING KEYNOTE

REIMAGINING SCHOOLS FOR NEURODIVERGENT LEARNERS

Schools are often designed with a narrow definition of what it means to learn, behave, and succeed. For neurodivergent students – those whose ways of thinking, processing, and engaging differ from dominant norms – this can result in environments that misunderstand, marginalize, or even unintentionally harm. In this keynote, Dr. Paul Harris invites school counselors to reimagine what is possible when schools shift from deficit-based models to strengths-centered, inclusive systems that affirm neurodiversity.

Dr. Paul C. Harris is an Associate Professor in the Counseling and Special Education Department in the School of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University. His work is shaped by his experience as a high school counselor, teacher, and administrator, and centers on student-athlete wellness—particularly among Black males—as well as the mental health of K–12 students, with an emphasis on underserved and neurodivergent populations. He also focuses on the preparation and development of school counselors, both in training and in practice.



CHRIS SCHEUFELE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026 • CLOSING KEYNOTE

WHAT MAKES PEOPLE TICK(ED)?

The only keynote presentation you've ever seen with a live, on-stage game show!

Why do people get mad? Why do people get offended? What makes a "Karen", a "Karen"? Why is it that some people "just can't even RN?" More importantly, how can we help students regulate their emotions, overcome their social emotional struggles, and build RESILIENCE? We don't need more awareness. Guess what, we're aware! It's time to talk (and laugh) about real solutions that anyone can use to help students of any age work past their demanding thoughts and find peace and resilience.

Chris Scheufele, better known as "Shoof", is one of the most sought-after youth speakers in the United States. He's a comedian with a license to teach, a #1 best-selling author, a certified cognitive behavioral therapy practitioner, and lover of tacos and sushi. With more than a decade in the classroom, Chris has developed clever interventions that resolve conflicts instantly and promote a culture of resilience. He makes resilience education fun! His entertaining and educational programs have been recognized by educators nationwide, and have earned him several awards including Teacher Of The Year.

COMPREHENSIVE SESSIONS: PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Have the chance to experience a conference built around content devoted specifically to school counselor' 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.

Attend a single morning or afternoon presentation, or mix and match two half-day workshops to create a Preconference day that provides the best learning opportunities for your professional development needs!

LEARN MORE!

MORNING 9:30 AM–12:30 PM

AI-POWERED PRODUCTIVITY: FREEING UP TIME FOR WHAT MATTERS MOST

Abby Fernan, CESA 4

K-12 Access/Opportunities

Feeling overwhelmed in your role as a school counselor? You're not alone, and you don't have to carry it all by yourself. This extended, hands-on session moves beyond an overview and into real-time application of beginner-friendly AI tools designed specifically for school counseling work. Participants will actively use AI to draft lesson plans, build small group materials, streamline documentation, craft family communication, and curate resources they can use immediately. We'll also explore AI literacy for both adults and youth- what it is, why it matters, and how counselors can help students build critical, ethical, and informed technology habits. Throughout the session, we'll emphasize responsible use, clear guardrails, and practical workflows so AI becomes a supportive tool rather than another source of stress. You'll leave with expanded AI knowledge, adaptable prompts, and concrete strategies to reduce workload, increase efficiency, and reclaim time for what matters most: supporting students.

CREATING HOPE HEROES THROUGH COMMUNITY, CAREER, AND LIFE READY RELATIONSHIPS

Nancy Larson, Ashland School District; Lexi Allen, Rhinelander School District

Middle, High Academic/Career

Participants will leave with an actionable framework to implement immediately in their school counseling programs. Using the sustainable speaker system model, counselors can create a structured calendar, outreach plan, and preparation process to recruit and host community professionals at the middle school level. The session provides a vertically aligned roadmap to expand career exposure into high school pathways, including Youth Apprenticeship and work-based learning, through partnerships with district colleagues and local community businesses. With an equity-focused lens, attendees will learn strategies to increase representation, remove barriers, and ensure all students have access to meaningful, career & life-ready connected experiences.

CULTURAL RESPONSIVE RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Carolyn Strong, Strong Conversations

K-12 Social/Emotional

This workshop, led by Dr. Carolyn Strong, offers a deep and actionable exploration of how to authentically integrate Restorative Practices (RP) within K-12 school settings while maintaining a robust Culturally Responsive (CR) lens. While RP inherently promotes community and dialogue, its implementation can inadvertently perpetuate systemic inequities if not approached with intentionality regarding culture, race, power dynamics, and historical context. Participants will move beyond the mechanics of circles and conferences to examine their own cultural lenses and biases, understand how conventional discipline impacts students from diverse backgrounds, and acquire practical strategies for facilitating restorative conversations and processes that honor and leverage students' cultural ways of communicating and resolving conflict. The goal is to ensure that RP efforts lead to genuine healing, reconciliation, and equity, rather than becoming another performative tool that causes further marginalization or harm.

GETTING 504 RIGHT: FOUNDATIONS EVERY SCHOOL COUNSELOR NEEDS

Cara Wood, Counseling Department, Viterbo University; Max Moderski, North Crawford School District

K-12 Access/Opportunities

Section 504 plans are an essential but often misunderstood component of student support systems. This introductory workshop is designed for school counselors and student services staff who are new to the 504 process or seeking a clearer understanding of their role. Participants will build a strong foundation in the civil rights framework of Section 504, eligibility criteria, and the key differences between 504 plans and IEPs.

Through a blended format of direct instruction, guided discussion, and applied case analysis, attendees will walk through the 504 process step-by-step–from referral and evaluation to plan development and review. Emphasis will be placed on practical compliance requirements, documentation essentials, and common pitfalls that can lead to confusion or inconsistency across schools. Participants will leave with increased confidence, ready-to-use tools, and a clearer decision-making framework to support students while maintaining legal and ethical alignment in their schools. Best suited for: school counselors new to 504 coordination, newer practitioners, or teams seeking a refresher on core requirements.

INTEGRATING SENSORY BINS AND ACTIVITIES INTO CLASSROOM LESSONS AND SMALL GROUPS

Miriam Brown, Verona Area School District

Elementary Social/Emotional

With growing sensory needs and increasing academic demands, this workshop explores how to integrate sensory bins and activities into classroom lessons and groups to enhance learning and engagement. Ideas for how to connect the sensory activities to literacy standards and social-emotional learning standards will be shared, and participants will be able to try out all the activities. We will all be learning through play! The workshop explores how to design instruction by prioritizing central nervous system regulation to meet students' needs, while also teaching to standards. Teacher and student feedback, along with mistakes made, will also be shared!

LET'S TALK: HOW TO SPEAK SO YOU CAN BE HEARD

Dianne Acuña Andree, The DAA Experience

K-12 Social/Emotional

Being heard isn't about talking louder – it's about communicating smarter. In this dynamic, interactive workshop, participants uncover their communication style and learn how to adapt it so their message lands. Walk away with practical tools to reduce misunderstandings, handle tough conversations, and speak with clarity, confidence, and impact.

MAKING MTSS WORK: STRATEGIES FOR SECONDARY COUNSELORS

Beth Canfield, McFarland School District; Anne Garvey Shah and Jennifer Betters-Bubon, Counseling Department, UW-Whitewater

High Leadership/Advocacy

MTSS provides a powerful framework for school counselors to use data and evidence-based interventions to drive meaningful system change. What does this look like at the secondary level? How can school counselors lead the work while gaining building-wide buy-in? In this workshop, we will focus on how comprehensive school counseling programs can align with MTSS to create equitable, student-centered systems of support. Participants will learn how to use counseling data to inform Tier 1, 2, and 3 interventions, build staff capacity, and extend student support beyond the counseling office. You will leave with practical tools and strategies you can implement immediately to strengthen and sustain your school counseling and MTSS programs.

PEER POWER: HOW COUNSELORS CAN LEAD YOUTH-DRIVEN VAPE PREVENTION THAT WORKS

Scott Gerbert, Stanford School of Medicine - REACH Lab

Middle, High Social/Emotional

Students listen differently when the message comes from someone their own age. In this engaging workshop, school counselors will learn how to launch and sustain a peer-to-peer vape prevention initiative using Stanford REACH Lab's research-backed, evidence-based curriculum. Designed to be practical and scalable, this model empowers teens to teach younger students in developmentally appropriate, impactful ways while building leadership, connection, and school climate. Participants will receive a step-by-step roadmap, implementation tips, and strategies for recruiting, training, and supporting student leaders. Walk away ready to elevate student voice and strengthen prevention efforts in your school community.

TAKING IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL - SOLUTION FOCUSED COUNSELING THEORY AND PRACTICE

Mark Gillen, Solution Focused Counseling and Coaching

K-12 Social/Emotional

This session focuses on three areas directly related to applying solution focused counseling in your daily practice. (1) Resetting the foundational work that underlies all our counseling skills. (2) Revisiting foundational solution focused mindsets and techniques. (3) Providing case examples for counselors to work on collaboratively during the session with their peers, utilizing the mindset of Solution Focused Counseling. For those who have attended previous presentations, this builds on them while providing a forum to explore the use of SFC beliefs.

AFTERNOON 1:30–4:30 PM

A DEEP DIVE INTO SOLUTION FOCUSED COUNSELING THEORY AND PRACTICE

Mark Gillen, Solution Focused Counseling and Coaching

K-12 Social/Emotional

This session focuses on in-depth analysis, exploration of advanced thinking when applying solution focused counseling into your daily practice. If you have previously participated in solution focused counseling trainings and presentations, and want to go to the expert level, this is for you. You do NOT have to have taken the morning session. The session will briefly review foundational counseling skills, foundational solution focused mindsets and techniques before spending most of the time examining case examples.

ADVISING THAT STICKS: BUILDING MEANINGFUL, STUDENT-CENTERED CONVERSATIONS

Dr. Jennifer L. Bloom, Florida Atlantic University

High Academic/Career

Advising isn't just part of your role; it's one of the most powerful ways you shape students' futures. If you've ever felt like academic advising could be more intentional, more impactful, or better aligned with your school counseling program, this session is for you. Join us for an engaging workshop exploring Appreciative Advising, a proven, research-based framework used by colleges and universities worldwide, and learn how to bring it to life in your middle or high school setting. This isn't just theory. You'll practice applying this approach in real conversations, making advising more meaningful, student-centered, and effective. You'll leave with practical strategies you can use immediately to strengthen advising, build deeper student connections, and support academic and postsecondary planning. Come ready to think differently, and leave ready to elevate your advising.

BEYOND 504 BASICS: AVOIDING PITFALLS AND IMPROVING PRACTICE

Cara Wood and Carol Klose Smith, Counseling Department, Viterbo University; Max Moderski, North Crawford School District

K-12 Access/Opportunities

Even experienced school counselors encounter complex and ambiguous Section 504 situations that extend beyond basic compliance. This interactive workshop is designed for practitioners who already understand the fundamentals and want to strengthen their decision-making, documentation, and leadership practices in a collaborative space. Participants will engage in case-based problem solving focused on challenging eligibility determinations, writing appropriate accommodations, navigating disagreements with families and medical providers, and avoiding common pitfalls that lead to implementation concerns or complaints. Additional attention will be given to improving systems for monitoring fidelity and strengthening schoolwide 504 practices.

BUILDING WITH: RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR EQUITY-CENTERED SCHOOL COUNSELING

Paul Harris, Counseling Department, Virginia Commonwealth University

K-12 Leadership/Advocacy

This interactive preconference introduces restorative practices as a framework for strengthening relationships, fostering accountability, and advancing equity in schools. Grounded in the principle of building WITH students, participants will explore the engagement window, proactive and responsive strategies, and practical tools such as affective statements, restorative questions, and circles. Through reflection and application, school counselors will leave with concrete strategies to build more connected, inclusive school communities.

BURNOUT IS NOT A BADGE OF HONOR: RECOGNIZE THE SYMPTOMS TO PREVENT THE BLAZE

Dianne Acuña Andree, The DAA Experience

K-12 Social/Emotional

Busy may be celebrated – but burnout is a warning sign, not a badge of honor. In this engaging, interactive session, participants explore the true causes and symptoms of burnout, identify their personal early warning signs, and learn practical strategies to prevent the blaze. Along the way, the workshop fosters meaningful connections and reminds attendees that sustainable success is built together – not alone.

FROM DISCIPLINE TO PREVENTION: COUNSELOR-LED ALTERNATIVES TO SUSPENSION FOR STUDENT VAPING

Scott Gerbert, Stanford School of Medicine – REACH Lab

Middle, High Access/Opportunities

When a student is caught vaping, what happens next matters. School counselors are uniquely positioned to shift the response from punishment to prevention. This interactive session will equip counselors with practical, ready-to-implement alternatives to suspension for nicotine and cannabis use, grounded in restorative practices, motivational interviewing principles, and health-focused education. Participants will leave with concrete tools, sample policies, and intervention pathways that reduce recidivism, protect instructional time, and center student voice. If you're ready to replace exclusion with engagement and discipline with meaningful behavior change, this session is for you.

LEVEL UP YOUR TIER 1: MIDDLE SCHOOL SEL & CHARACTER EDUCATION

Sam Dusek, Gary Campbell, and Jordan Seifert, River Falls School District

Middle **Social/Emotional**

Level up your schoolwide Tier 1 supports to ensure every middle school student thrives socially and emotionally. In this session, you'll learn how to create consistent, schoolwide practices that increase student and staff engagement, strengthen relationships, and improve behavior. This session highlights practical strategies for direct SEL instruction, relationship and character building, universal screeners, and schoolwide activities that promote a positive school climate, student and staff wellbeing. There will be an opportunity to reflect and enhance your current SEL and Character Education programming. Walk away with a clear framework for aligning SEL and Character Education that supports a positive school culture.

PLAY, CREATE, CONNECT: ENGAGING STUDENTS THROUGH PLAY AND ART-BASED LEARNING IN CLASSROOMS AND SMALL GROUPS

Jeni Donath, Clayton School District; Jami Van Heuklom, Clear Lake School District

Elementary **Social/Emotional**

When learning feels like play, students are more engaged, motivated, and emotionally connected. This extended three-hour workshop invites participants to explore the power of play-based learning and art-based expression as tools for building regulation, creativity, confidence, and connection. Through hands-on activities, movement, games, and creative exploration, participants will experience how play can transform both learning and behavior. This session will provide a wide range of practical, easy-to-implement strategies for classrooms, counseling groups, and intervention settings. From expressive art projects to collaborative games and therapeutic play techniques, participants will walk away energized and equipped with engaging tools that promote student growth, emotional well-being, and meaningful engagement.

SPILL THE TEA ON ADHD: PRACTICAL, TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT ATTENTION, REGULATION, AND LEARNING

Judy Richardson-Mahre, Kaleidoscope Coaching & Counseling; Kathy Flaminio, Move-Mindfully

K-12 **Social/Emotional**

This interactive workshop explores Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) through a strengths-based, equity-informed lens. Participants will deepen their understanding of how ADHD impacts attention, executive functioning, emotional regulation, and behavior across the lifespan. Grounded in current neuroscience and inclusive practice, this session reframes movement not as disruption, but as a powerful regulation tool. We will explore how the nervous system drives behavior and how intentional mind–body strategies—such as breathwork, cross-lateral movement, grounding, and sensory integration—can increase focus, reduce overwhelm, and support self-regulation.

LEARN MORE!



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

PRECONFERENCE TIMELINE

WEDNESDAY

8:30 am
Registration Opens

9:30 am–4:30 pm
Workshops

4:00–7:00 pm
NEW WSCA Happy Hour
Exhibit Hall and
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 Social

FRIDAY

7:30 am
Registration &
Exhibit Hall Opens

8:00 am
Sectionals Begin

11:00 am
Closing Keynote

COMPREHENSIVE SESSIONS: CONFERENCE SECTIONALS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

7:45–8:45am Sectional 1		10:30–11:30am Sectional 2 10:30am–12:00pm 2i	11:40am–12:00pm 20 min Sectionals	1:00–2:00pm Sectional 3 12:45–2:15pm 3i	2:30–3:30pm Sectional 4 2:15–3:30pm 4i	4:00–5:00pm Sectional 5
Empowering Student Leaders: Lessons from the JUSTIFY Summit **Leadership/Advocacy** High	Registration Opens 7:00am • Exhibits Open 7:00am–5:00pm • General Session & Keynote 9:00–10:15am	It Takes a Village: A Community Approach to Youth Mental Health in a Digital Age **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12	Introduction to Badger Boys State **Leadership/Advocacy** High	Hope Heroes in Action: Counselors Share Their WSCPAR Journey **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12	Beyond Optimism: Enacting Critical Hope in School Counseling **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12	State of the State **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12
Sharing Program Results **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12		Hot Tips: Save Time for Your Comprehensive Program by Saving Time **Access/Opportunities** High	Challenge Academy **Academic/Career** High	Cultural Responsive Restorative Practices **Access/Opportunities** K-12	Disrupting Identity Forclosure in Black Male Students **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12	504 Share Shop **Access/Opportunities** Elementary
Uniting Families and Schools through Book Club **Access/Opportunities** Elementary		Show What You Know using Arts Integrated Curriculum Design **Access/Opportunities** K-12	Operating Engineer Pre-Apprenticeship Opportunities for High School Students **Academic/Career** High	AI-Powered Productivity: Freeing Up Time for What Matters Most **Access/Opportunities** K-12	From Discipline to Prevention: Counselor-Led Alternatives to Suspension for Student Vaping **Access/Opportunities** Middle, High	Tiered & True: Leveling Up Your MLSS Data Game **Access/Opportunities** High
Senior Exit Interviews: Turning the Tassel with Confidence **Academic/Career** High		Beyond the Checklist: Elevating Post-Secondary Readiness Through Individual Connection **Academic/Career** High	All About AmeriCorps **Academic/Career** High	Supporting First-Generation Students' Educational Aspirations Through Practical Career Support **Academic/Career** High	Yes, You Can!! Ramping as an Only **Access/Opportunities** Elementary	The Work-Based Learning Blueprint: Simple Steps to Stronger Programs **Academic/Career** High
Building Confident Futures: Designing Equitable Math Courses and Experiences **Academic/Career** High		Designing Accessible Career Based Learning Experiences for All From the Start **Academic/Career** High	Building a Comprehensive Mental Health Programming MLSS **Social/Emotional** K-12	TURTLE-Y AWESOME! Community Through Advisory: Culture Building and Universal ACP/SEL in HS Homerooms **Academic/Career** High	Student Skills Workshop: A Program Designed with Students for Students **Academic/Career** High	Wiggle Wisdom: Tips and Tricks for Delivering Elementary Guidance Lessons **Academic/Career** Elementary
Middle School Spiraled ACP Lessons and 8th Grade Conferencing for All **Academic/Career** Middle		Using ACP to be Future Ready: Elementary Edition **Academic/Career** Elementary	Learning to Breathe: Using Data to Guide Small-Group Anxiety Interventions for High School Students **Social/Emotional** High	The Next Frontier for Academic and Career Planning in Wisconsin **Academic/Career** K-12	Appreciative Advising **Academic/Career** High	Get in the Xello Zone **Academic/Career** Middle
Science Meets Heart: Using Neuroscience to Support the Whole Student **Social/Emotional** Middle, High		Sextortion: Online Threats Facing Today's Youth **Social/Emotional** Middle, High	How the Trauma of Cancer Made Me a More Effective Counselor **Social/Emotional** K-12	Sustainable and Time-Smart Strategies for High-Frequency Student Visits **Social/Emotional** High	Growing Up Online: Headline Stress, Digital Exposure, and the Impact on Middle School Learning **Social/Emotional** Middle	Metaphors That Move Teens: ACT Strategies for Brief Therapy in Schools **Social/Emotional** High
Girls on the Run: A Life-Changing Program for Girls in Grades 3-8 that is so much more than Running **Social/Emotional** Elementary, Middle		Using the Dove Self-Esteem Project for Small Group and Classroom Lessons **Social/Emotional** Middle		From Surface Behavior to Root Cause: Practical FBA Strategies for Secondary Counselors **Social/Emotional** Middle, High	Maslow and the Power of Positive Connections **Social/Emotional** High	Children's Wisconsin Bullying Prevention Resources: Reduce Bullying and Improve School Climate **Social/Emotional** Elementary, Middle
Resilient Conversations: Empowering Children & Families to talk about Death and Grief **Social/Emotional** Elementary		Systems Save Sanity: Freeing Counselors to Do What They Do Best **Social/Emotional** Elementary		Building a Positive School Community **Social/Emotional** Middle	The Hope Effect: How School Counselors Lead Emotional Culture in Schools **Social/Emotional** Elementary	Calm Corners: Building Regulation, Resilience, and Readiness to Learn **Social/Emotional** Elementary
Four Legs Is Better Than Two: Proposing & Implementing a Successful School Therapy Dog Program **Social/Emotional** K-12		From Awareness to Action: Suicide Prevention at the Elementary Level **Social/Emotional** Elementary		The Courage to Reframe: Using Neuroscience and Executive Functioning to Move Beyond "Compliance" **Social/Emotional** Elementary	Reflecting on Your Counseling Ecosystem: A Gentle, Strengths-Based Audit **Social/Emotional** Elementary	Finding Your Happy Place: One School Counselor's Journey to Calm and Clarity on the Camino Frances **Social/Emotional** K-12
Pause with Purpose: Building a School-Based Wellness Center **Social/Emotional** K-12		The ART of Regulation **Social/Emotional** K-12		KEEP IT CRISP: Compassion, Resilience, Integrity, Self-Respect, and Persistence **Social/Emotional** Elementary	Spill the Tea on ADHD: Practical Tools & Knowledge **Social/Emotional** K-12	The Big, Bad "B" Word **Social/Emotional** K-12
Creative Counseling Curriculum: Engaging Students Through Innovative Content **Social/Emotional** K-12		Creating Connection: Building Adoption & Foster Friendly Schools **Social/Emotional** K-12		Enhancing Your Group Counseling Skills: Effectively Adding to Your Skill Set **Social/Emotional** K-12	School Counseling Greatest Hits, The 2 Disc Collection **Social/Emotional** K-12	Hopeful Schools: How Resilience Can Be Taught and Toughness Can Be Developed **Social/Emotional** K-12
Sponsor Sectional Placeholder		Sponsor Sectional Placeholder		It Is Wise To Take A Look At The Way Schools Do Things And How We Impact The Mental Health Of All **Social/Emotional** K-12	The Function You Serve: Your Role in Shaping Mathematics Pathways **Academic/Career** High	Sponsor Sectional Placeholder

CONFERENCE SECTIONALS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026

8:30–9:30am Sectional 6 8:00–9:30am 6i	10:00–11:00am Sectional 7
Yes, You Can Lead Too! Inside WSCA Leadership **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12	Clock It. Claim It. Change It.: Elevate Your Impact with the 5-Day Use of Time Calculator **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12
Did They Learn What We Wanted, and How Will We Know? **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12	Beyond the Office Door: Synchronizing Leadership for Student Success **Leadership/Advocacy** High
2026 Finanical Aid Update **Access/Opportunities** High	Ethics - Placeholder **Leadership/Advocacy** K-12
Empowering Graduation: High School Competency-Based Diploma Programs **Academic/Career** High	Engage, Support, and Celebrate Your Students **Academic/Career** High
Igniting Hope, Inspiring Futures: Transforming Advisory with Community Partnerships & ACP/SEL Lessons **Academic/Career** Middle	Care Starts Here: A Free, Career-Ready Pathway into Healthcare for High School Students **Academic/Career** High
The Long Game: Vertical Alignment Strategies for K-12 Academic and Career Planning **Academic/Career** K-12	Beyond Plows and Cows: Unlocking Agriculture, Food and Natural Resource Careers for Every Student **Academic/Career** Middle
From Suspension to Support: Equitable Approaches to Adolescent Nicotine Use **Social/Emotional** High	Understanding Queer Students **Social/Emotional** High
Students in the Algorithmic Age: Social Media, Identity Development, Cyberbullying, & Self-Harm. **Social/Emotional** Middle, High	Brain-Based by Design: Integrating NME, CPS, Trauma-Sensitive Practices, and SEL in Elementary Counseling **Social/Emotional** Elementary
Play, Create, Connect: Engaging Students Through Play and Art-Based Learning in Classrooms and Small **Social/Emotional** Elementary	From Surface Behavior to Root Cause: Practical FBA Strategies for Elementary School Counselors **Social/Emotional** Elementary
A Creative Spin on SEL Night **Social/Emotional** Elementary	Get Your Group On: Using Small Groups to Reach More Students **Social/Emotional** Elementary, Middle
This parent is ANGRY! **Social/Emotional** K-12	Big Feelings to Calm Minds: Play Strategies for Elementary Counselors **Social/Emotional** Elementary
Be Their Hero: Trauma-Informed Care **Social/Emotional** K-12	From Avoidance to Action: Practical Tools for Supporting Student Anxiety **Social/Emotional** K-12

11:00am Brunch & Keynote • Exhibits Open 7:30–11:00am • Registration Opens 7:30am

SECTIONALS ARE NOT FINAL AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

LOOKING FOR FUNDING TO ATTEND WSCA?

VOLUNTEER TO BE A CONFERENCE CHAMPION AND HAVE YOUR CONFERENCE FEES REIMBURSED! (limited availability)

WSCA AND EDUCATORS CREDIT UNION HAVE TEAMED UP TO OFFER A SPECIAL 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 & Academic Enrichment
- Perkins V (high school only)
- Perkins Reserve Grant
- IDEA Coordinated Early Intervening Services (limited)
- DPI Stronger Connections Grant
- School-Based Mental Health Grant
- DPI Education for Homeless Children & Youth Grant
- DPI Gifted and Talented Grant
- School-Based Mental Health Services State Funding
- College Board AP Test Rebate ($9/test)
- Grants from Local Education Foundations & Unions:
  - WEAtrust Grant
  - WREA Foundation Professional Development Grant
  - McCarthey Dressman Education Foundation

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.

1005 Quinn Drive, Suite 158
Waunakee, WI 53597

WSCA CONFERENCE 2026
NOVEMBER 5-7, 2025

KALAHARI RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER
WISCONSIN DELLS, WISCONSIN

REGISTRATION IS OPEN



COME FOR THE LEARNING, STAY FOR THE WEEKEND!

*Can't access your funds until the new school year? No Problem! Register today and request an invoice that can be paid after July 1.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
REGISTER BEFORE OCTOBER 1ST TO SAVE $60!

REGISTER HERE:

WWW.WSCAWEB.ORG