

# NIET 2025

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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## 25 YEARS OF IMPACT





# WELCOME.



## BREAKOUT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS:

### STRAND 1

## Advancing Collaborative Structures

### Aligning Teacher and Leader Learning

Driving key instructional initiatives through clusters is critical to the instructional leadership team's (ILT) work. Join this session to explore the connection between the ILT's work and cluster learning to maximize the impact on student success.

### Assessing the Impact of Professional Learning

Cluster meetings are successful when the new learning positively affects student learning when implemented in the classroom. Participants in this session will explore how an effective instructional leadership team consistently measures the impact of cluster meetings to ensure success.

### Turning School Plans into Actions

Translating school plans into actionable steps is crucial for effective school improvement. This session focuses on coaching leadership team members to develop and implement daily actions that align with school goals, ensuring these actions drive meaningful progress and success.

### Using Data to Empower Teacher Support

Ongoing student assessment data drives specific instructional preparation practices and student progress throughout the school year. Explore how leadership teams can use assessment data to guide teachers through effective instructional preparation, helping to refine practices and maximize impact on student success.

**W**elcome to NIET's 2025 National Conference! As we celebrate our 25th year as an organization, we are excited for you to join us to advance excellence in education. We know that highly effective teachers — supported by an effective school leader — are unequivocally the most important in-school factors for student success. Over the next two days, we will provide actionable information, learn from each other, and share strategies to make transformative differences in classrooms across the nation. The learning you engage in here is envisioned for you to transfer back and impact educators and students in your schools, districts, and states. We appreciate your continued partnership with NIET, and we look forward to learning together to empower educators and support student success!

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## Individualized Coaching and Support

### Intentional Instructional Reflection for Impact

Intentional instructional reflection demonstrates growth for teachers and students, as supported by the instructional leadership team (ILT). Participants in this session will explore ways the ILT effectively monitors and supports growth through instructional reflection.

### Maximizing the Impact of Coaching

As instructional coaches, we must continue learning, growing, and improving our practices to maximize our impact. In this session, participants will reflect on how they measure the impact of their coaching and support to refine practice and increase effectiveness.

### Evidence-based Coaching Conversations

Effective coaching uses data to guide reflective practice and shared decision-making. Participants in this session will learn how to incorporate student performance data, observational data, and other evidence sources into coaching conversations to drive focused instructional improvement through collaboration.

### Collaborative Coaching for Aligned Support

Coaching and support can come from various members of the instructional leadership team over time, but for this work to have the greatest impact, it must be aligned with school goals and student needs. Participants in this session will explore strategies for ensuring continuous, aligned support and collaborating to maximize impact on both teacher growth and student achievement.

## Maximizing Instructional Coherence

### Tailoring Grouping to Student Needs

Effective grouping structures are crucial for addressing diverse student needs and enhancing learning outcomes. This session aims to provide educators with the tools to identify, implement, and support appropriate grouping strategies based on student work and progress.

### Effectively Supporting the Science of Reading

Evidence-based practices for teaching literacy are essential to improve student outcomes and long-term literacy success. Join this session to develop the ability to provide targeted feedback to teachers, ensuring literacy instruction is rooted in research-based practices.

### Supporting High Levels of Discourse

Effective classroom discourse is essential for deepening student understanding and promoting critical thinking. This session will explore how to recognize high levels of academic discourse, assess current discourse practices, and provide actionable strategies for supporting teachers in enhancing their discourse techniques.

### Creating Systems for Success

Instructional coherence is essential for ensuring that all aspects of a school's operation align effectively to support student learning and success. This session will guide school and district leaders in designing and implementing a data-driven decision-making system that aligns leadership structures and practices with the specific needs of their teachers and students.

## Optimizing the Learning Environment

### Empowering Student Ownership Through Teacher Leadership

Supporting teachers with student ownership ensures that students are empowered to take control of their learning journey, ultimately enhancing student achievement and preparing them for lifelong learning. Join this session to explore methods for helping teachers continuously assess and adapt instructional practices to empower students to take charge of their learning journey.

### Leveraging Partnerships for Continuous Improvement

Building strong collaborations between school and teacher leadership is crucial for creating a supportive environment that drives teacher effectiveness and school-wide growth. This session explores strategies for leveraging these partnerships to share best practices and foster continuous improvement across the school.

### Learning Environments Where Teachers Thrive

Navigating the dynamic aspects of teaching requires collaboration and a community-wide mindset for learning and reflection. In this session, participants will explore ways to create a learning environment for teachers that values existing perspectives while shifting mindsets to a commitment to growing all students.

### Equitable Learning Environments Through Data

Effective data use can drive an inclusive and responsive school environment. This session will explore methods for using student and teacher data to identify needs, tailor professional learning, and adjust school practices to promote teacher and student success.

## Empowering Early Career Teachers

### Empowering Early Career Teachers with Rigorous Tasks

Effective implementation of rigorous tasks is crucial for ensuring that all students are challenged and supported in their learning. This session will unpack how to support early career educators to ensure students succeed with rigorous daily lesson tasks.

### Boosting Content Knowledge for Early Career Teachers

Strong content knowledge is essential for early career educators to deliver effective instruction and support student learning. This session provides strategies and resources to help early career educators deepen their understanding of their subject matter and build confidence in their instructional practice.

### Reflective Practices for Early Career Teachers

Fostering reflective practices is crucial for early career educators to feel empowered, valued, and confident in their voices while enhancing their teaching effectiveness. This session explores strategies to support self-assessment, provide constructive feedback, and build a supportive network that encourages continuous improvement and growth.

### Individualizing Supports for Early Career Teachers

Ensuring early career educators have equal access to learning opportunities during cluster meetings is vital for their success and growth alongside their more experienced peers. This session focuses on strategies to support early career educators in effectively engaging with and benefiting from cluster meetings to accelerate their professional development and effectiveness.



## Panel Sessions

### Implementing Effective High-Quality Instructional Materials in Literacy

**MODERATOR:** STEPHANIE MOSQUEDA

Join us for a lively panel with experienced practitioners who have successfully helped school and teacher leaders integrate High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) into literacy instruction. Participants will engage in discussions on building job-embedded professional learning systems and gain strategies aligned with the Science of Reading to enhance literacy outcomes in their schools.

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### Leveraging Apprenticeships and Early Career Support

**MODERATOR:** NICOLE BOLEN

States, districts, and schools nationwide are facing teacher shortages. In this panel session, attendees will learn from leaders across the country about job-embedded programs that support early career teachers by integrating professional development directly into their work environment. Discover how these programs help retain educators by providing meaningful support during their first years in the classroom.

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### State Policy to Advance District Innovation

**MODERATOR:** KRISTAN VAN HOOK

In recent years, states have taken on a larger role in driving education policy. What are the innovative approaches that have shown positive results? What can other state and district leaders learn from those experiences, including state policies to improve reading, advance the use of high-quality resources, and address teacher shortages? This panel will discuss state policies and funding that have proven effective catalysts for district innovation and improvement. The discussion will engage participants in how states can support innovation, identify and scale effective practices, and sustain improvement over time.

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### Learning from NIET Award Winners

**MODERATOR:** DAVITA LANCELIN

A valued tradition at NIET's conference is honoring schools and districts that are exceptional models for building educator excellence and advancing student success. We invite you to learn from recent winners of the NIET Founder's Award and District Award of Excellence for Educator Effectiveness.

## Bubble Sessions

Bubble sessions allow educators to observe a collaborative learning opportunity modeled by school and district leaders and facilitated by NIET leaders. In these sessions, educators are seated around a center table where the meeting will occur, with participants surrounding them in a "bubble" to observe. Throughout the meeting, there will be "step-outs" where participants will reflect on what they are observing, and facilitators will unpack what they are learning. These sessions will each highlight a different collaborative learning opportunity: cluster/PLC meeting, instructional leadership team (ILT) meeting, and district instructional leadership team (D-ILT) meeting.

#### Participants will:

- » Identify key elements of high-quality cluster/PLC, ILT, or D-ILT meetings that build educator capacity to improve instructional practice.
- » Analyze how cluster/PLC, ILT, or D-ILT meeting structures can accelerate educator impact.
- » Determine the next steps for creating or strengthening cluster/PLC, ILT, or D-ILT meeting structures in their district or school.

#### District Instructional Leadership Team in a Bubble

**Team:** Perry Township Schools, IN  
**Facilitated by:** *Lori Line and Jen Brady*

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#### Instructional Leadership Team in a Bubble

**Team:** Ascension Parish School Board, LA  
**Facilitated by:** *Theresa Hamilton and Christina Hulin*

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#### Cluster/PLC Meeting in a Bubble

**Team:** Natchitoches Parish School Board, LA  
**Facilitated by:** *Tracy Hypolite and Tiffaney Kelly*

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#### Instructional Leadership Team in a Bubble

**Team:** Osborn School District #8, AZ  
**Facilitated by:** *Patti Cruz and Tanjela Sims*

# THURSDAY, February 27, 2025

ROOMS

10:15 - 11:45 AM

1:45 - 3:15 PM

3:30 - 5:00 PM

	Breakout Session A	Breakout Session B	Breakout Session C
Archives	Empowering Early Career Teachers with Rigorous Tasks Erin Foster and Marquita Jackson	Boosting Content Knowledge for Early Career Teachers Jill Crossley and Jodi Leckbee	Reflective Practices for Early Career Teachers Natalie Szakacs and Sandra Walker-Parker
Capitol	<b>PANEL SESSION:</b> Implementing Effective High-Quality Instructional Materials in Literacy Stephanie Mosqueda	<b>PANEL SESSION:</b> Leveraging Apprenticeships and Early Career Support Nicole Bolen	
Congress	Supporting High Levels of Discourse Danielle Chretien and Jennifer Woods	Learning Environments Where Teachers Thrive Angela Kendall and Laura Tew	Equitable Learning Environments Through Data Sherrie Fairchild-Keyes and Kimberlyn Slagle
Independence A-C	Aligning Teacher and Leader Learning Tasha Dawson and Lydia Stevenson	Assessing the Impact of Professional Learning Claire Murray and Amy Gayle	Learning Environments Where Teachers Thrive Angela Kendall and Laura Tew
Independence D	Tailoring Grouping to Student Needs Sarah Jolly-Swift and Christa Stewart	Creating Systems for Success Marjorie Manuel-Rabun and Tiwanaha Washington	Using Data to Empower Teacher Support Theresa Hussey and Abigail McKamey
Independence E	Empowering Student Ownership Through Teacher Leadership Bobbie Jo Bright and Trey Forrester	Leveraging Partnerships for Continuous Improvement Angela Griffis and Carrie Pullins	Turning School Plans Into Actions Britney Allen and Rossette Osamba
Independence F-H	Effectively Supporting the Science of Reading LaDazha Ford and Stephanie Reiners	Tailoring Grouping to Student Needs Sarah Jolly-Swift and Christa Stewart	Supporting High Levels of Discourse Danielle Chretien and Jennifer Woods
Liberty I-L	<b>BUBBLE SESSION:</b> District Instructional Leadership Team - Perry Township Schools, IN Lori Line and Jen Brady	<b>BUBBLE SESSION:</b> Instructional Leadership Team - Ascension Parish School Board, LA Theresa Hamilton and Christina Hulin	<b>BUBBLE SESSION:</b> Cluster/PLC Meeting - Natchitoches Parish School Board, LA Tracy Hypolite and Tiffaney Kelly
Liberty M	Intentional Instructional Reflection for Impact Brandy Brown and Scott Duncan	Maximizing the Impact of Coaching Melissa Blossom and Andrea Divine	Evidence-based Coaching Conversations Kennette Bardell and April Woolard
Liberty N-P	Equitable Learning Environments Through Data Sherrie Fairchild-Keyes and Kimberlyn Slagle	Collaborative Coaching for Aligned Support Shayla Canady and Kathleen Deleon	Empowering Student Ownership Through Teacher Leadership Bobbie Jo Bright and Trey Forrester
Monument	Evidence-based Coaching Conversations Kennette Bardell and April Woolard	Intentional Instructional Reflection for Impact Brandy Brown and Scott Duncan	Collaborative Coaching for Aligned Support Shayla Canady and Kathleen Deleon
Supreme Court	Turning School Plans Into Actions Britney Allen and Rossette Osamba	Aligning Teacher and Leader Learning Tasha Dawson and Lydia Stevenson	Assessing the Impact of Professional Learning Claire Murray and Robin Variest
Treasury	Individualizing Supports for Early Career Teachers Jennifer Board and Elizabeth Miller	Empowering Early Career Educators with Rigorous Tasks Erin Foster and Marquita Jackson	Creating Systems for Success Marjorie Manuel-Rabun and Tiwanaha Washington
Mint	Leveraging Partnerships for Continuous Improvement Angela Griffis and Carrie Pullins	Reflective Practices for Early Career Teachers Natalie Szakacs and Sandra Walker-Parker	Boosting Content Knowledge for Early Career Teachers Jill Crossley and Jodi Leckbee

Conference Welcome and Opening 8:30 - 10:00 AM

Founders Award Ceremony and Lunch 12:00 - 1:30 PM

<b>LEGEND</b>	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; background-color: #fff9c4; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> <b>Strand 1:</b> Advancing Collaborative Structures	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; background-color: #cfe2f3; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> <b>Strand 4:</b> Optimizing the Learning Environment
	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; background-color: #e1f5fe; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> <b>Strand 2:</b> Individualized Coaching and Support	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffe0b2; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> <b>Strand 5:</b> Empowering Early Career Teachers
	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; background-color: #e0e0e0; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> <b>Strand 3:</b> Maximizing Instructional Coherence	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; background-color: #fff; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> <b>Panel and Bubble Sessions</b>

# FRIDAY, February 28, 2025

ROOMS

9:15 - 10:45 AM

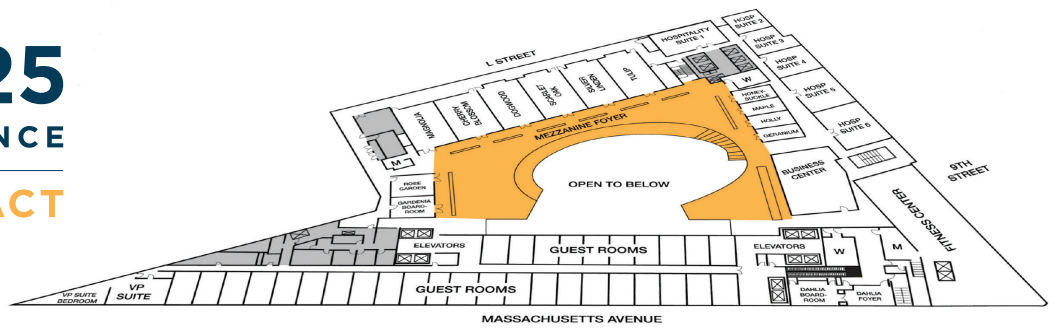
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

		Breakout Session D	Breakout Session E			
Archives	Morning General Session 8:00 - 9:00 AM	Individualizing Supports for Early Career Teachers Jennifer Board and Robert Stell	Learning Environments Where Teachers Thrive Angela Kendall and Laura Tew	Lunch 12:30 - 1:30 PM	Optional Team Planning 1:30 - 3:00 PM	CONFERENCE CONCLUDES
Capitol		<b>PANEL SESSION:</b> State Policy to Advance District Innovation Kristan Van Hook	<b>PANEL SESSION:</b> Learning from NIET Award Winners Davita Lancelin			
Congress		Tailoring Grouping to Student Needs Sarah Jolly-Swift and Christa Stewart	Empowering Early Career Teachers with Rigorous Tasks Erin Foster and Marquita Jackson			
Independence A-C		Equitable Learning Environments Through Data Sherrie Fairchild-Keyes and Kimberlyn Slagle	Aligning Teacher and Leader Learning Tasha Dawson and Lydia Stevenson			
Independence D		Assessing the Impact of Professional Learning Claire Murray and Robin Variest	Turning School Plans Into Actions Britney Allen and Rossette Osamba			
Independence E		Using Data to Empower Teacher Support Theresa Hussey and Abigail McKamey	Creating Systems for Success Marjorie Manuel-Rabun and Tiwanaha Washington			
Independence F-H		Intentional Instructional Reflection for Impact Brandy Brown and Scott Duncan	Supporting High Levels of Discourse Danielle Chretien and Jennifer Woods			
Liberty I-L		<b>BUBBLE SESSION:</b> Instructional Leadership Team in a Bubble - Osborn School District #8, AZ Patti Cruz and Tanjela Sims				
Liberty M		Collaborative Coaching for Aligned Support Shayla Canady and Kathleen Deleon	Maximizing the Impact of Coaching Melissa Blossom and Tiffany Kelly			
Liberty N-P		Effectively Supporting the Science of Reading LaDazha Ford and Stephanie Reiners	Evidence-based Coaching Conversations Kennette Bardell and April Woolard			
Monument		Maximizing the Impact of Coaching Melissa Blossom and Tiffany Kelly	Using Data to Empower Teacher Support Theresa Hussey and Abigail McKamey			
Supreme Court		Empowering Student Ownership Through Teacher Leadership Bobbie Jo Bright and Trey Forrester	Effectively Supporting the Science of Reading LaDazha Ford and Stephanie Reiners			
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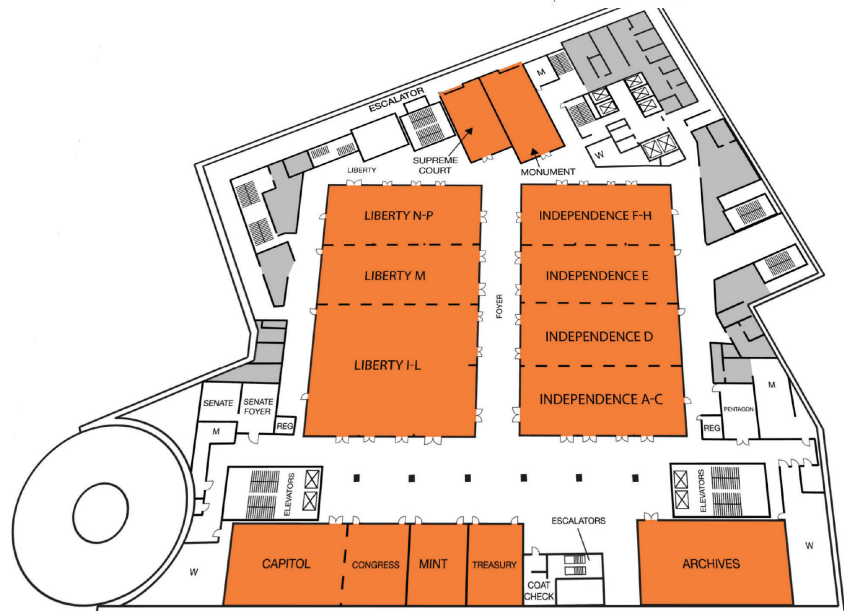
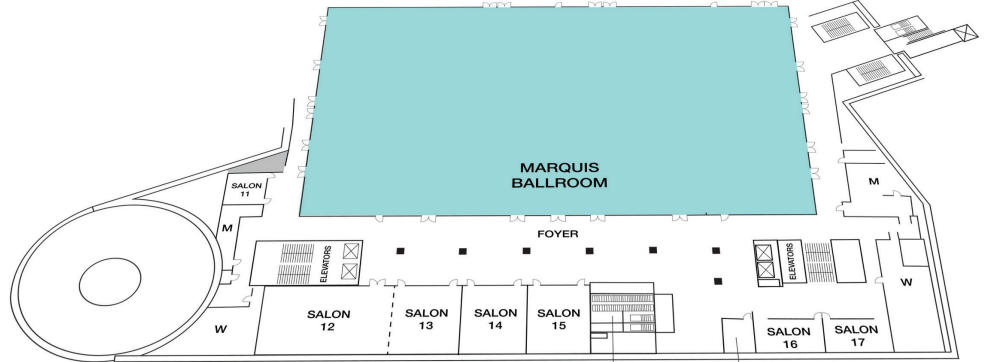
25 YEARS OF IMPACT



## Marriott Marquis Washington, DC

901 Massachusetts Ave NW,  
Washington, DC 20001

- Networking Reception
- General Sessions - Level M2
- Breakout Sessions - Level M4



### 2025 Founder's Award Finalists

**Eastside Elementary School**  
Warren County Schools, TN

**Provencal Elementary & Junior High School**  
Natchitoches Parish School Board, LA

**Shenandoah Elementary School**  
Shenandoah School Corporation, IN

**Somerset High School**  
Somerset Independent School District, TX

**Waterloo Elementary School**  
Laurens County School District 55, SC

# NIET

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EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

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