

the Virginia Principal - February, 2021

Hey Jim,



The LEAD

VAESP Annual Conference Registration is Now OPEN!

Thank you for your patience. As VAESP continues to closely monitor developments related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), your safety is our top priority. Based upon the information we have, vaccination progress and continued adherence to safety guidelines, we are moving forward to an in person conference on **June 27-29, 2021** at the Delta Hotel by Marriott, Virginia Beach Bayfront Suites.

Registration and Hotel Reservations are available at www.vaesp.org . Please note the **NEW VAESP Conference Prepayment Plan (CPP)** on the website. If conditions with COVID change and if needed to protect the health and safety of our staff and members, VAESP will move the conference to a virtual format.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



The pros, cons and lessons learned from schools that do virtual snow days

EdTech Magazine

Traditional snow days — and the excitement they evoke as kids wait for that early morning call — could be going the way of the overhead slide projector once commonplace in school districts across the U.S. A growing number of districts are shifting toward "e-learning" or virtual learning days rather than cancelling classes in the face of inclement weather. While some technological trendsetter districts have had such programs in place for years, the switch to remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic has given many more districts a reason to try it out, experts say.

[READ MORE](#)

[Who is checking on the mental health of our school leaders?](#)

By Brian Stack

Remember when you were a child at the amusement park, and the ride operator said if you want to get off the ride all you have to do is wave? Well, I've been waving furiously for several months and yet some days it seems no one is coming to my rescue. I am sure I am not alone. Being a school leader is tough enough but doing so in a pandemic starts to take its toll on us as professionals and as human beings. Who is checking on the mental health of our school leaders during this challenging time? I hope all of you reading this can recognize if and when you need help and reach out to your fellow school leaders.

[READ MORE](#)



Calendar Check

VAESP Regional Virtual Zone Meetings are coming this Spring!

Meet regional colleagues and discuss issues facing all of us in this unique educational year. Opportunities for rewards and door prizes for attendees.

June 27-29, 2021, VAESP Conference Virginia Beach

July 8-10, 2021, NAESP Annual Convention, Chicago, ILL



You PD'D? Jenn David Lang shares:

Our students are hurting right now. We know that, but we might not realize the full extent of it.

You may have seen this video of a 15-year-old's experience of learning during the pandemic, but if not it is well worth the 3 minutes to watch it (and perhaps share with staff): [3-minute video of NUMB](#)

This month I chose a book written to help staff address the needs of youth who have experienced trauma. But I think the model of resilience and positive youth development in this book will be extremely useful for *many students* right now.

[Reclaiming Youth at Risk](#)

by Larry K. Brendtro, Martin Brokenleg,

& Steve Van Bockern

This book provides a model of resilience that educators can use to connect with and reclaim youth at risk. The authors suggest that all students have a need for attachment, achievement, autonomy, and independence. When these needs are unmet, youth respond with a range of emotional, behavioral, and learning problems.

Imagine the power if right now all the adults in schools and districts understood and took responsibility for these 4 needs. This is not just the work of guidance counselors and social workers. We can all come together and address these needs.

Here is a [SUMMARY that also includes PD ideas and a HANDOUT](#). Email [Jenn](#) for a PPT workshop you can use with teachers. Note the PD ideas can be done *remotely!*

Click on the link for Jenn's 1-page overview of the four basic needs: [The 4 A's of Reclaiming Youth at Risk](#).

PS– To learn more or purchase the book: [Solution Tree Press](#)



Community Chatter

Join Melissa Hill with American College of Education, for an

informational webinar on March 11 at 7 PM.

Learn more about our programs offered, affordability, upcoming start dates and available grant opportunities. Please share this learning opportunity with members of your educational organization. Register below to find out how ACE is here to get you there! Unable to attend? Please register and a link of the recorded session will be sent to view at your convenience.

[Register HERE](#)



The most important conversations you can have in your school are those relating to equity.

Save the date for the **Equity & Engagement Academy** on April 30, 2021 featuring our nation's top equity experts. Learn more at <https://www.equityandengagement.com/>
#eeacademy #equity



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