

Session Descriptions

2026 School HR Summer Boot Camp
June 11-12, 2026 – Gaylord Rockies Hotel
Denver, CO

ADA in the Workplace

Talent Development & Process Management

Presented by Kelley Pearson, Partner & Reagan Sauls, Partner, Parker Poe, Cheyenne WY

Session Description Coming Soon

Beyond the Logo: Building a Brand That Attracts the Right Talent

Talent Acquisition & Relationship Management

Presented by Dr. Amy Dillon, Assistant Superintendent for HR, Park Hill School District, Kansas City, MO

Are you ready to take the leap into the creation of a recruitment and branding study for your district? Branding is more than just a flashy logo or catchy colors. It's about how candidates perceive your district. This presentation will walk you through the creation and interpretation of a branding survey that you can implement quickly and with very little expense and the results will give you a beginning road map for your recruitment and branding work.

Boot Camp Basics: Training for a Strong Grievance Framework

Talent Development & Process Management

Presented by Darnisha Carreathers, Director-Employee Services, Cynthia Hollis, Coordinator-Title IX & Monica Corona-Hunter, Coordinator, Employee Services, Fort Worth ISD, Fort Worth, TX

This session provides Human Resource professionals with a practical, structured overview of the District's DGBA Grievance Process, focusing on the procedures, expectations and best practices for conducting Level I and Level II grievance hearings. Grounded in the Grievance Manual Version 2.0, this session will walk participants through each phase of the complaint process, with emphasis on resolving concerns at the lowest, informal level when possible. This session will demystify the roles of supervisors, Employee Services, Legal Services, representatives and Hearing Officers throughout the process.

Don't Get Burned: How to Conduct Legally Sound Employee Investigations

Employee Relations & Risk Management

Presented by Rebecca Bailey, Partner, Thompson & Hornton LLP, Houston, TX

Just like a day at the beach, employee-related crises can roll in fast — sometimes as gentle waves, other times as tidal surges. With state and federal laws requiring specific responses — and with today's heightened scrutiny — educational leaders cannot afford weak or inconsistent investigations. This session equips HR professionals, campus leaders and administrators with a practical, step-by-step framework for conducting lawful, effective and defensible investigations into employee misconduct... without getting swept away.

Using real-world examples and a clear investigative roadmap, we'll walk participants through the entire process: from understanding underlying risks to defining the scope, gathering reliable evidence, conducting focused interviews, evaluating credibility, and preparing well-reasoned investigation reports. Attendees leave with tools they can use immediately — whether they're navigating a minor splash or a full-blown storm.

Family Medical Leave Act; What do you need to know?

Talent Development & Process Management

Presented by Rachel Risetto, Labor Relations Specialist, Franklin-Essex BOCES, Malone, NY

FMLA; We all know the basics, but here we will learn the tricks of the trade!

Hiring with Intention: A Strategic Approach To Interviewing

Talent Acquisition

Presented by Dr. Amy Dillon, Assistant Superintendent for HR, Park Hill School District, Kansas City, MO

Hiring is more than filling a vacancy—it's shaping the future of your school district. In this session, we will explore how to recognize the true "right fit" for your team, design a purposeful interviewing experience that attracts top talent and build a sustainable hiring process for the future. Participants will leave with practical strategies, guiding questions and a clear framework to ensure every hire strengthens culture, performance and student success.

Smarter, Faster, Better: AI for HR Professionals

*Sessions and descriptions are subject to change.

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Total Rewards & Process Management

Presented by Ashley Kitten, Director of Human Resources, Upper Dublin School District, Maple Glen, PA

This session will be a beginners guide on how to focus on using AI in your HR Office to increase efficiency. Hands on polls and activities will be included so feel free to bring devices.

Tactical 1:1s that Strengthen Employee Engagement

Talent Development and Strategy

Presented by Cheryl Hinzman, Supervisor, Performance Management, Prince William County Schools, Manassas, VA

Employee engagement is built (or broken) in everyday interactions - especially during 1:1 conversations. Yet many leaders say they “don’t have time” for 1:1s and employees often describe them as unstructured, rushed, or ineffective. This session reframes 1:1s as a strategic leadership tool and provides practical, tactical steps to transform them into high-impact conversations that build trust, performance and a culture of connection.

The Modern Investigator: Blending Due Process, Practical Wisdom and AI Tools in School HR Investigations

Employee Relations & Investigations

Presented by Rachel Rissetto, Labor Relations Specialist, Franklin-Essex BOCES, Malone, NY

Investigations are at the heart of effective HR leadership in schools. This session blends legal precision with modern efficiency, exploring best practices when conducting thorough, unbiased investigations while introducing practical AI tools to streamline the process. We’ll walk through every investigative step—from complaint intake and interviews to report writing and follow-up—while highlighting how tools like Otter.ai and ChatGPT can enhance accuracy, consistency and time management.

Unforced Errors: Title IX Missteps That Put Schools at Risk

Talent Development & Risk Management

Presented by Rebecca Bailey, Partner, Thompson & Hornton LLP, Houston, TX

Even the best Title IX teams can fumble when the pressure is on. From dropped balls in documentation to missed passes in notice and coordination, small mistakes can lead to big penalties. In this presentation, Rebecca will walk through the most common “unforced errors” schools make under Title IX—and how to stay out of the penalty box. With real-world plays and practical strategies, she’ll cover:

- Common missteps that turn routine matters into compliance headaches
- Gaps in reporting, documentation and communication that can cost your team
- Proven defensive moves to protect your institution from liability
- Game-day strategies to keep your Title IX operations running smoothly

Join Rebecca to tighten your playbook, sharpen your execution and keep your compliance game strong.