



WELS Education Conference
JUNE 23-25, 2025 • GREEN BAY WI

June 22 - 25, 2025

WELS National Education Conference Presenter Information

Building Culture

The WELS National Education Conference Steering Committee has designed this conference to impact the classrooms of our schools. Attending a conference does not guarantee changes in classroom practices or instructional decisions. It is quite difficult to have a direct impact on students due to the one-time nature of a conference and the limited time spent around a topic.

Our conference design is built to overcome these challenges. We developed programming around four larger themes: Assessment, Collaboration, Ministry Cultivation, and Student Care. Should a teacher engage in all six of the sectionals in the theme, a base of knowledge can be developed that increases the probability of classroom impact.

Another feature of our conference developed to multiply the impact of the learning is the reflection period after each sectional. This time is designed to give the teacher an opportunity to reflect on this learning, build a network with like minded attendees, and brainstorm implementation and accountability measures.

The sectional length is 75 minutes. The additional time is to be devoted to teacher reflection, networking, and planning. You will be a host and reflection guide assigned to _____.

As a reflection guide we ask that you provide your sectional attendees with help in the reflection process. Consider what challenges might exist in applying this new knowledge:

- How might attendees help others overcome reluctance to change?
- At what point in the class or day might this new learning be implemented?
- How does this topic impact
 - what you are currently doing?
 - plans for the future?
- Where might you find support and encouragement?
- What additional resources are needed for continued development?

Variations on the following questions could be employed:

1. What is one key takeaway from today's session that resonated with you the most? Why?
2. How does today's learning connect to your current teaching practices or classroom challenges?
3. Which strategies or ideas presented today are you most excited to try in your classroom?
4. What potential obstacles might you face in implementing these new approaches, and how could you address them?
5. How can you adapt today's concepts to better fit the needs of your students or school community?
6. Who in your school or network could you collaborate with to support the implementation of these ideas?
7. What resources or support do you need to effectively apply what you've learned?
8. How will you measure the impact of these new strategies on student learning and engagement?
9. What is one small, actionable step you can take this week to begin integrating today's learning into your practice?
10. How can you continue the conversation and share your progress with colleagues after today's conference?

As a reflection guide, recall that attendees will be involved in 6 of these! We want to carefully plan so that they aren't engaging with the same questions time and again. We also want to allow for natural reflection and conversations! Embrace the challenge and thank you for leading the reflection time!