Innovative Leadership: Preparing Students for Success

Annual Leadership Conference
January 11-12, 2024
Minneapolis Convention Center
Conference at a Glance

Tuesday, January 9
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Learning to Lead – School Board Basics: Phase I (Hyatt Regency Minneapolis)

Wednesday, January 10
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Leadership Foundations – School Finance and Management: Phase II (Hyatt Regency Minneapolis)
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Building a High-Performance School Board Team: Phase III (Hyatt Regency Minneapolis)
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Charter School Board Member Training (Hyatt Regency Minneapolis)
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Early Bird Session (Minneapolis Convention Center)
   • Mark Lanterman: Cyber Threat Awareness and Creative Strategies for Managing Risk

Thursday, January 11
7:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibit Hall opens
8:00 a.m. Board Skills Sessions
8:00 a.m. Board Chair Q & A with MSBA
9:00 a.m. Opening Session (doors open)
   • Keynote: Hadi Partovi: “Computer Science and AI: Opportunity and Creativity”
11:00 a.m. Exhibit Hall time
11:00 a.m. School Excellence Showcase
11:30 a.m. Recognition Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Director District Discussions (Elections in DD3, DD5, DD6, DD9, DD12 and DD13)
1:45 p.m. Roundtables
2:45 p.m. Workshops
4:00 p.m. Workshops

Friday, January 12
7:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibit Hall opens
8:00 a.m. Roundtables
9:15 a.m. Workshops
10:15 a.m. Closing Session (doors open)
   • Keynote: Ben Rudrud: “Positive Relationships and the Power of One”
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Visit [www.mnmsba.org/LeadershipConference](http://www.mnmsba.org/LeadershipConference) for more details. Connect with your District Office to register for the conference and to reserve housing. Registration and housing are scheduled to open October 24.

Thank you to Ratwik, Roszak and Maloney, P.A., for supporting the printing and mailing of this conference brochure.
Featured Speakers

Thursday, January 11
Hadi Partovi
“Computer Science and AI: Opportunity and Creativity”

With the rapid advances in technology, it’s imperative for schools to embrace computer science and artificial intelligence — not only to modernize education and curriculum for the needs of the future, but also to make school more creative and engaging for students. Hadi Partovi, the founder and CEO of Code.org will talk about the global movement to include AI and computer science in K-12 curriculum.

Biography
Hadi Partovi is a tech entrepreneur and investor, and CEO of the education nonprofit Code.org. Born in Tehran, Iran, Hadi grew up during the Iran-Iraq War. His school did not offer computer science classes, so he taught himself to code at home on a Commodore 64. After immigrating to the United States, he spent his summers working as a software engineer to help pay his way through high school and college. Upon graduating from Harvard University with a master’s degree in computer science, Hadi pursued a career in technology starting at Microsoft where he rose into the executive ranks. In 2013 Hadi and his twin brother Ali launched the education nonprofit Code.org, which Hadi continues to lead full-time as CEO. Code.org has established computer science classes reaching 30% of U.S. students, created the most broadly used curriculum platform for K-12 computer science, and launched the global Hour of Code movement that has reached hundreds of millions of students spanning every country in the world.

Friday, January 12
Ben Rudrud
“Positive Relationships and the Power of One”

A powerful and uplifting keynote message to help make your school even more amazing than it already is by creating a “RIPL effect” through positive relationships and ensuring all students have the Power of One.

Biography
Ben Rudrud is a nationally recognized, award-winning keynote speaker who speaks to more than 100,000 students, educators, and business professionals each year. Ben’s topics focus on the subjects of positive relationships, helping others, everyone’s special purpose, believing in oneself, and understanding what it means to have a Power of One. Ben tells personal stories filled with practical advice and humor using an animated delivery. He captivates audiences with his messages and leaves people inspired and uplifted with hope.

Workshop Topics

Workshop topics: In December, view a complete list of workshops with descriptions at www.mnmsba.org/LeadershipConference.

Some of the featured workshops include: Board and superintendent relationships, student achievement, referenda tips, student involvement at the board table, finances, and much more!
Special Features

Skills Sessions
Join us Thursday morning for special sessions on the nitty-gritty aspects of school boarding: meeting management; superintendent evaluation; and legislative advocacy. Board chairs can attend a special session to talk to MSBA Executive Director Kirk Schneidawind about how MSBA can best serve your school boards.

School Excellence Showcase
Visit with proud Minnesota students and staff who are showcasing unique programs from their schools.

Director District Discussions and Elections
Your MSBA Director District representatives will be setting aside time to meet with board members from their region. Director Districts with openings on the MSBA Board of Directors will also have presentations from board members running for those positions. Bring your questions to add to the conversation.

Roundtables
Join us for two 20-minute sessions starting at 1:45 p.m. Thursday, and three rounds of 20-minute sessions starting at 8:00 a.m. Friday in the Exhibit Hall. These informal sessions provide a great opportunity to converse with an expert in a small-group setting. Topics this year include superintendent contract, strategic planning, and much more.