

NATCON 2026

AVID National Conference | Hyatt Regency | Atlanta, Georgia

December 10–12, 2026

Attend the Annual Leadership Forum

December 10, 2026
8:00–11:05 am

Join principals, superintendents, and other AVID leaders for professional learning and networking designed just for you.

This experience is part of your National Conference registration fee.

Opening Session Leadership Panel

Kick off the Leadership Forum learning from a dynamic panel of AVID leaders, including a site coordinator, principal, district director, and superintendent, hosted by **Michael McCormick, AVID's Superintendent in Residence.**



Hear insights, challenges, and strategies for sustaining and scaling AVID across campuses and districts, then choose from two leadership-focused Professional Learning sessions to connect, learn and lead with fellow leaders.

What to Expect Leadership Forum Agenda

7:30–8:00 am

Registration and Check-In

8:00–8:40 am

Opening and Leadership Panel

8:50–9:50 am

Professional Learning – Session 1

10:00–11:00 am

Professional Learning – Session 2

11:00–11:05 am

Closing



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Professional Learning Sessions for Leaders

Leading for Multilingual Learner Excellence

Presented by Melissa Ganas and Tana Sukauskas

What does it take to build systems where multilingual learners thrive? This session explores leadership actions and implementation priorities that strengthen access, achievement, belonging, and opportunity for multilingual learners. Participants will examine how AVID Excel® can serve as a strategic lever within a comprehensive approach to multilingual learner success and leave with strategies to drive sustainable impact across schools and districts.

Achieving Consistency and Impact with AVID Elementary

Presented by Pamela Leibring and Dr. Mike Mozingo

In this session, elementary site and district leaders reflect on the student journey and examine how implementation can evolve from isolated practices to a more aligned and coherent AVID experience. Through the leadership lenses of engage and expect, participants consider strategies for reducing variability in the student experience, strengthening educator alignment, and creating a consistent foundation of college and career readiness for all students. Participants will leave with practical ideas for supporting implementation, calibration, and articulation across their campuses.

Achieving Maximum Impact: Positioning AVID within School or District Improvement Planning

Presented by Brett Bowers and Jasmine Winslow

Too often, AVID is implemented as an isolated initiative, resulting in inconsistent outcomes or “pockets of excellence,” rather than systemwide impact. Without careful positioning within school and district improvement priorities, its full potential is left unrealized. This session examines the critical leadership moves required to integrate AVID into improvement plans most effectively and how to lead Schoolwide and Districtwide implementation for targeted impact.

From Professional Learning to Implementation: Site Teams, APLMs, and Focused Educator Actions

Presented by Dr. Jessika Burnside, Valeri Angus, and Dr. Christie McMullen

Moving professional learning (PL) from awareness to action requires intentional structures, aligned resources, and clear educator practices. In this session, we explore how Site Teams can leverage AVID Professional Learning Modules (APLMs) and PL resources to support implementation priorities, strengthen educator practice, and drive measurable outcomes for students by intentionally inspecting what we expect.

The AVID System: Connecting Implementation Outcomes, Impact, and Sustainability

Presented by Cristine Goens and Traci Grove

What are you trying to achieve for your students, schools, and district, and how can AVID serve as a systems driver to help you get there? This interactive session explores how leaders can align AVID implementation with district priorities, leverage the AVID Implementation Tools to establish meaningful goals, and use student outcome data and implementation signals to drive continuous improvement. Participants will examine what the data reveals about student success and implementation effectiveness, how to translate those insights into informed decisions, and how to demonstrate return on investment through measurable outcomes. Participants will also explore emerging AVID data and available AVID Center resources and supports that can help identify opportunities for growth, strengthen implementation, communicate impact, and sustain long-term success.

Your Next Right Move: Using AVID Implementation Tools to Align Priorities, Evidence, and Action

Presented by Barbara Copeland and Kristin Lockwood

Every leader comes to National Conference with challenges they are trying to solve and goals they are trying to achieve. This session explores how leaders can use school and district evidence, including student outcomes and school improvement data, alongside the AVID Implementation Tools to uncover root causes, identify high-leverage priorities, and determine their next right move for strengthening AVID implementation.

Learn more and register today at:



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