

At a Glance: Mideastern Region Fall Leadership Conference at Skytop Lodge



Friday, November 7th @ 8:30pm – Sunday, November 9th @ 11am

- [Skytop Lodge](#) is located in the Poconos about two hours north of most places in Bucks and Montgomery Counties.
- All participants and presenters must make their own rooming reservations directly with Skytop Lodge by calling (570) 257-2114 by October 6th. Let them know you are with PSEA to guarantee a nightly room rate of \$236 plus tax and fees.
- There are not many double-occupancy rooms at the hotel – if you plan on sharing a room with another member and need a room with two beds you should make your reservation sooner than later.
- The \$125 fee due at registration covers all food and socials at the conference with the exception of dinner on Friday and Saturday nights. [There are both casual and formal dining options on-site.](#) *Reservations and a slightly elevated dress code are required for the Windsor dining room.*
- If you are bringing your family with you for the weekend, there are tons of [on-site activities](#) for people of all ages.

To register visit www.psea.org/skytop or use this QR Code:



We hope to see you there!

And don't forget to also call (570) 257-2114 to reserve your room!

Mideastern Region
Fall Leadership Conference at [Skytop Lodge](#)
November 7-9, 2025

Friday, November 7

Registration – Main Lobby 5:00-8:15pm

[Dinner On Your Own](#)

Opening Session – Laurel Room 8:30-10:00pm

Leading with Hope, Health, and Happiness in 25-26

Presenter: Suzanne Dailey, Central Bucks EA

Eligible for Act 48/Chapter 14: *It's time to pause, reset, and recapture some much needed energy and bandwidth at this point in the school year. In this session, we will revisit past learning, explore new concepts, and envision how to continue the school year with hope, health, and happiness as we serve the colleagues and students around us. Time will be given to reflect, set goals, and explore classroom resources.*

Social – Laurel Room 10:00pm - Midnight

Saturday, November 8

Breakfast Buffet – Windsor Dining Room 7:00-8:15am

Registration – Garden Lobby (lower level) 7:30-8:15am

Large Group Session 1 – Hemlock Room 8:30-9:30am

Legal Update

Presenter: Chuck Herring, PSEA Staff Attorney

Eligible for Act 48/Chapter 14

Large Group Session 2 – Hemlock Room 9:30am-10:30am

Salary/Wage Schedules Awareness, 101 and 201-A: Abridged CAP and an Introduction to Analysis, Aspirational Drafts, and Feasible Fallbacks

Presenter: James Henninger-Voss, PSEA Assistant Director of Research

Maximizing salaries and wages is a high priority for PSEA members. This session focuses on how salary/wage schedules work, how to make them work to help maximize salaries, the steps local leaders can take to better understand the structure of their own salary schedules and the strategies locals may want to take to improve schedule structures to maximize salaries.

Note: This session is only an awareness program, not a training session, and will be relatively fast paced. This conversation level will fluctuate between basic and advanced ideas. Your UniServ Director can provide this information to your leadership team and/or your whole local at a pace more appropriate for your members.

Coffee/Snack Break – Garden Lobby 10:30am-10:45am

Breakout Session 1 – Evergreen Rooms	10:45 – Noon
Lunch – Windsor Dining Room	Noon – 1:15pm
Breakout Session 2 – Evergreen Rooms	1:15 - 2:30pm
Breakout Session 3 – Evergreen Rooms	2:45pm – 4pm
Social/Hospitality – Laurel Room	4:00 – 5:30pm

[Dinner on Your Own](#)

Sunday, November 9

Breakfast Buffet – Windsor Dining Room	7:30-9:00am
Large Group Session 3 – Hemlock Room	9:15- 11:00am

Leading the AI Generation with Purpose

Hollie Woodard, Council Rock EA

Eligible for Act 48/Chapter 14: *If not us, then who? The age of AI is here, reshaping the way we live, work, and learn. Our students will explore its possibilities—whether we guide them or not. As educators, this is our moment to lead the way.*

In this energizing, beginner-friendly session, members will gain practical tools, clear frameworks, and the confidence to shape AI's role in education. Anchored in the SAMR Model, Roger's Theory of Innovation, and the ISTE Standards for Students, we'll explore how to help learners thrive as creative communicators, knowledge constructors, and responsible digital citizens.

You'll leave with strategies to integrate AI with intention, address ethical challenges head-on, and champion its purposeful use—not just in your classroom, but throughout your schools and unions. The future is being written. Let's make sure our students help write it well.

Evaluations and Wrap-Up	11am
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Breakout Session 1 Options (choose one)**10:45 – Noon****Salary Schedules, 201-B: More Analysis, Aspirational Drafts, and Feasible Fallbacks – Evergreen East**

Presenter: James Henninger-Voss, PSEA Assistant Director of Research

The focus of this special session is interactively going into more detail and using more examples of salary schedules to elucidate the ideas from this morning's session around Analysis, Aspirational Drafts, and Feasible Fallbacks.

This is not a substitute for working with your UniServ Director to analyze your salary schedules and create aspirational drafts and feasible fallbacks. No presumptions should be made that examples developed in this session are directly usable in negotiations.

Tips and strategies to align your professional and personal goals with your INBOX– Evergreen Central

Presenter: Tricia Audrain, MER UniServ

Have you missed important information because you can't keep up with your inbox? How long does it take to find a critical email or document for an upcoming meeting? Staying on top of your emails and documents makes it easier and much less stressful to be a responsive and credible leader. Whether you are an INBOX guru, or desperately need help, please join this session (with your personal or Union laptop if possible) to learn and share with others how to stay sane in this online world.

Who Is Attacking Public Education? Why Do They Care? And What Can You Do About It?" – Evergreen West

Presenter: Adam Clark, Region Advocacy Coordinator

In this session, participants will learn about the historical context of today's current attacks on public education and explore relevant people-centered struggles from the past.

Breakout Session 2 Options (choose one)**1:15 - 2:30pm****Leadership Development/Training/Workshop – Evergreen East**

Presenter: Dustin Mott, MER UniServ

This "workshop" style session will focus on the necessary skills and characteristics of leaders in any organization through the eyes of those they lead. We will discuss topics such as apathy, engagement, and morale and identify ways for leaders to increase organizational growth and strength.

Social Media Pitfalls & Best Practices – Evergreen Central

Presenters: Tricia Audrain, MER UniServ and Adam Clark, Region Advocacy Coordinator

How do you balance your job with your life online? What considerations are important as an educator and as a union leader? In this session, participants will learn about best practices for social media use, including success stories for promoting your association and your members, as well as cautionary tales to help you and your members avoid getting in trouble.

Additional sessions...

Criminal Accusations: The Process, The Impact, and the Requirements - Evergreen West

Presenter: Pam Martino, Chris Wolf, and Greg Moll MER UniServs

This presentation will provide an overview of what occurs when criminal accusations are made against school employees, the potential impact of those accusations, and the reporting responsibilities of public school staff. We'll also cover how to support employees and work with the district to navigate these challenging situations.

Breakout Session 3 Options (choose one)

2:45pm – 4pm

Stuff that Gets You Fired 2025 – Evergreen East

Presenters: Vicki Armitage and Brad Gross, MER UniServs

You don't know what you don't know! Sometimes our members unknowingly trigger mandatory responses from their employer that can often have, well, unexpected or unpleasant outcomes. Based on actual events, we'll explore situations that involve "hostile work environments", "ADA claims and the Interactive Process", member vs member disputes, "Harassment", and much, much more. The outcomes of these stories are irrelevant; it's the lesson on how to stay out from under the microscope that is KEY!

From Gaps to Gains: Helping ELL Students Thrive – Evergreen Central

Presenter: Kelly Hoffman, Council Rock EA

Eligible for Act 48/Chapter 14: *Our English Language Learners bring diversity, culture, and perspective to our schools, but too often, the systems we have in place make it harder for them to be successful. Many teachers haven't had the training or support in literacy they need, and resources like bilingual staff or adapted curriculum aren't always available. On top of that, standardized tests can measure a student's English skills more than their actual knowledge, which can be discouraging for both students and teachers. But here's the good news: there are doable, research-backed strategies that work, and they don't have to overwhelm anyone's workload. In this session, we'll take an honest look at the challenges ELL students face, share ideas that are already making a difference, and talk about how we can create classrooms where every student's language and culture are seen as assets, not obstacles on the road to literacy.*

Government Relations Update – Evergreen West

Presenter: Jen Statler, PSEA Government Relations

This interactive session, post-Election 2025, will look ahead to the political landscape as we head into 2026. We will also review the Education Defenders program and how to get members of your own local involved – and help them see the important connections between their jobs and the ballot box. We will also review strategies for building relationships with legislators and encouraging your fellow members to do the same!