



Schools That Matter

Pre-conference, July 20, 2022, 8:30AM-4:30PM

Schools That Matter work to refocus the energy and efforts of the school in ways that matter to all stakeholders including the students, the community, and staff. The race to the top of the academic mountain has done little to help our children feel connected, competent, powerful, and helpful. Instead of seeing children as data points to be measured and sorted, Schools that Matter work for the well-being of the child and the adults who teach and care for children. *Reclaiming Youth at Risk: Futures of Promise*, by Brendtro, Brokenleg, & Van Bockern, (2019, 3rd edition) and Steve Van Bockern's *Schools That Matter: Teaching the Mind, Reaching the Heart* (2018), serve as the primary "road maps" to take children and adults to places where they thrive. The themes of belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity will be explored in the context of safe and adventurous environments.

Participants will receive a copy of the book *Schools That Matter: Teaching the Mind, Reaching the Heart*, the book, *Fire in the Heart*, by Matthew Van Bockern & Justin Royal, a Schools That Matter poster, and a participant guidebook filled with resources, activities, and teaching handouts that can be shared.

The workshop will be active and interactive with visual presentations, conversations, and activities. An optional one semester hour of graduate credit from Augustana University can be earned.

In this workshop participants will:

- examine a philosophical base that helps transform negative school cultures to positive learning environments.
- examine new paradigms and alternatives in education.
- examine both positive and problematic characteristics manifested by youth along with appropriate interventions to foster resilience and responsible behavior.
- explore essential components or indicators of quality school programs for youth.
- identify trauma and trauma informed care within the context of schools and classrooms.
- learn how to respond rather than react to children's "bad" behavior.
- define emotional intelligence and the importance of adults who constantly work on their own emotional intelligence.
- understand best practice teaching that leads to social, emotional and academic growth.
- learn teaching practices that are non-threatening, relevant and meaningful and socially engaging.

Presenter

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