



## Breakout Session Details

### Day One

10:00am-11:45am

#### **Understanding and Prioritizing School Needs- *Presented by Demonstrated Success***

This session will support Charter School leaders and their teams through a process of prioritizing for school improvement. First, teams will work through a needs inventory to surface their highest priorities. Then, they will plan for what student, staff, and systems data to analyze in light of their mission. The teams will receive a strategic planning template where they will begin to articulate their assets and barriers within one priority area they identified, and they will collectively draft one SMART goal and possible beginning action steps, to hone in on that priority area. The process that the teams move through in the session can be repeated back at their schools to identify their highest priorities for school improvement.

#### **Cultivating Student Agency and Engagement- *Presented by Results Ahead***

Ultimately, we want our students to become independent, self-driven, engaged learners. So let's give them the tools to do so. Participants will engage in an active conversation about student engagement strategies every teacher and school leader can use to elevate student ownership of their own learning, creativity, and creation of new knowledge throughout the school day and build enduring habits through school-wide routines. Evidence-based, student-focused strategies include: shared inquiry, vertical learning, prior processing, off-the-word wall, and data conversation protocol.

1:00pm-2:30pm

#### **Grant Funds Landscape- *Presented by Results Ahead***

Through this session participants will gather essential information on grants in the charter school space. Topics discussed will include: how grants differ from other funding sources, how grant types differ from each other, grant readiness, where and how to find grants, and major funders for charter schools.

#### **Key Policies for NH Charters- *Presented by NH Charter School Foundation***

Participants will explore the key elements of effective policies, including clearly stated objectives, defined roles and responsibilities, and procedures for implementation and evaluation. emphasis will be placed on aligning policies with the school's mission, vision, and educational goals, ensuring that they support the overall success of the students and the organization.

Transparency is a vital aspect of policy development, and participants will explore strategies for creating policies and procedures that are easily accessible and understandable to all stakeholders. The session



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will delve into the importance of transparency in decision-making processes, involving relevant stakeholders, and seeking input from staff, students, families, and the wider community. Participants will learn how to effectively communicate policies and procedures, utilizing clear language and providing multiple channels for dissemination. Additionally, best practices for maintaining up-to-date policies, conducting regular reviews, and addressing policy revisions will be discussed, emphasizing the importance of ongoing transparency and adaptability in the ever-evolving educational landscape. By the end of the session, participants will have the knowledge and tools to develop comprehensive policies that promote transparency, support effective governance, and contribute to the overall success of their public charter schools.

2:45pm-4:15pm

**Grant Applications 101- *Presented by Results Ahead***

Through this session, participants will learn how to generate winning grant applications. Topics discussed will include: setting fundraising goals and avoiding mission creep, tips on writing style and tone, aligning budget and narrative, tricks of the trade, and minimizing the grant writing burden.

**Charter School RSAs- *Presented by NH Charter School Foundation***

In this session, we will provide a comprehensive overview of the specific laws and regulations that govern charter schools in New Hampshire and explore the key distinctions between charter schools and traditional public schools. Participants will gain a deep understanding of the legal framework that governs charter school authorization, operation, accountability, funding, and other essential aspects. We will examine the rights and responsibilities of charter schools, the process of obtaining and maintaining charter status, and the unique autonomy and flexibility that charter schools enjoy in curriculum design, staffing, and decision-making.

## Day Two

10:00am-11:30am

**Social & Emotional Wellness Strategies for Students- *Presented by Demonstrated Success***

In this session, educators will explore the need for supporting social emotional wellness in students, and the staff who support them. Participants will learn about the 5 critical SEL domains outlined by CASEL. Participants will have an opportunity to explore high leverage practices that explicitly support social emotional skill-building in the 5 areas: self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. The session will be interactive, and participants will have the opportunity to apply their learning to real scenarios while learning from colleagues.



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### **Key Student Performance Indicators- *Presented by B. Feit Insight***

Charter schools have historically positioned themselves as data-driven organizations that use their flexibilities to meet students where they are academically and to systematically build their knowledge and skills. A prerequisite to operating in that kind of data-driven fashion is a clear understanding of what students know, where gaps remain, and whether those data points reflect broader trends at the school or classroom level or are more indicative of individual struggles. This session will equip attendees with both an awareness of the types of student data that can and should be collected and an understanding of how to analyze that data at the student, classroom, school, and board levels to ensure students are making appropriate progress toward mastery (and schools are on track to meet the targets set forth in their accountability plans). Attendees will learn the importance of disaggregating data by a range of characteristics in order to identify internal performance gaps that may implicate issues of educational equity. Attendees will also come away with an understanding of the range of possible responses to issues revealed by the data including those related to educator development, scheduling, student grouping, curricular choices, and resource allocation. The session will include interactive and collaborative reviews of mock student data in order to set expectations for analyzing student outcomes and considering the appropriate response at the leadership level.

12:45pm-2:15pm

### **Moving from Start-up to Sustainability- *Presented by B. Feit Insight***

This session is geared towards developing schools and schools within their first 5 years of operation. The session will discuss key operational goals, systems, and considerations that school leaders must be prepared to address as a school moves from a startup model to a mature organization. The session will also include how leaders can proactively develop their skills to be ready to meet these challenges and changes to their school.

### **Building a Strong Board- *Panel Discussion***

This panel discussion is geared towards charter school leaders and board members of established schools with at least 5 years of operation under their belt. Discussions will focus on challenges that leaders have faced, and solutions used to combat them. The panel discussion will be led by Tal Bayer from the New Hampshire Department of Education.