

General Session

10:30 AM – 12:15 PM
Wisconsin Center

Presiding: **Patrick Finnemore**, WASBO President,
Kenosha Unified School District



Patrick Finnemore



Gov. Scott Walker

The Bay Port High School Wind Ensemble from the Howard-Suamico School District will open the final session of the 96th State Education Convention.

Governor Scott Walker has been invited to discuss his priorities concerning public education in Wisconsin.

Nationally recognized STEM educator **Fredi Lajvardi** will share his inspiring story that emphasizes the importance of STEM education across all cultures of students.

JANUARY 20, 2017



Fredi Lajvardi

“A classroom needs to be a reflection of what’s going on in society if it’s going to be relevant to the kids.”



FRIDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER

For more than two decades, high school science teacher, Fredi Lajvardi has engaged, motivated and challenged students by making science fun and introducing them to the field of robotics. With countless hours spent after school, mentoring and investing in the underserved students at Carl Hayden Community High School, Lajvardi drew national attention in 2004, when he entered his diverse high school team in a university-level national underwater robotics competition, where they placed first, defeating leading universities, including MIT.

First covered by *Wired* magazine, their inspiring story drew attention from

local and national media outlets and led to the acclaimed documentary, “Underwater Dreams.” In March 2015, the film was selected by President Obama to screen at the White House in honor of National Robotics Week. Their story was also adapted into the major motion picture, “Spare Parts”, starring actor and comedian, George Lopez as Lajvardi.

With an effective leadership philosophy, incredible story and a spirited passion for teaching, Lajvardi offers valuable and inspiring insight on fostering teamwork, sparking creativity and helping individuals realize and maximize their potential.

FRIDAY Break-out Sessions

PLEASE NOTE: Sessions may be updated or added. For an up-to-date schedule (with times and room numbers), visit wasb.org/convention.

● Your Marketing Pitch: How to Knock It Out of the Park

Hear about one district’s grand slam efforts in developing a new website, launching a district app, creating a district promotional video, and successful marketing strategies to pass an operational referendum. Hear from district leaders on how you can inspire community trust through marketing and public relations.
Jefferson School District

● Helping Students SOAR: A Personalized Approach to RTI

Learn about the Swallow School District’s SOAR intervention and extension program to provide personalized learning opportunities to all students in a K-8 environment. Stu-

dents are flexibly grouped, receive personalized instruction, set prioritized individual SMART goals, and meet regularly with faculty members to discuss their learning journey.
Swallow School District

● “Underwater Dreams”: A Documentary Screening

Written and directed by Mary Mazzio, and narrated by Michael Peña, “Underwater Dreams” is an epic story of how the sons of undocumented Mexican immigrants learned how to build an underwater robot from Home Depot parts and defeat engineering powerhouse MIT in the process. This documentary screening features Friday’s keynote speaker, Fredi Lajvardi.
WEA Trust

● Is Free Speech Free in 2017? From Tinker to the Internet

How far do the arms of school boards reach? When does student speech invade the rights of others? The Supreme Court has recognized that school districts have competing concerns between ensuring order, discipline and safety for an optimal educational environment, and refraining from infringing on students’ free speech rights.
Salem School District

● Get Real! Implementing Personalized Learning

Elementary school teachers from Baldwin-Woodville will share their journey as they began incorporating components of personalized learning.

Highlights will include: establishing voice and choice in a K-4 setting, encouraging a growth mindset, fully including special education staff and learners into a regular education classroom, and more.

Baldwin-Woodville Area Schools

● **Search and Leadership Transition Services**

This session will provide board members with an outline of search services offered by the WASB to assist a school board in conducting a quality superintendent search and provide tips to ensure an effective leadership transition occurs in the school district and community.

WASB

● **Business-Education Partnerships for Community Growth**

Business-education partnerships have created and strengthened opportunities for students and families in the Baraboo School District by establishing shared goals, financial supports, and stronger career pathways. School and community leaders will share how they formed partnerships with a common vision for individual and economic growth.

Baraboo School District

● **Employee Engagement: The ONE Thing That can Improve EVERYTHING in Your School**

Current research shows that only 30 percent of employees are engaged. See the data and research behind employee engagement and witness the story of how the St. Croix Central School District has increased engagement, correlating to improved achievement and growth.

St. Croix Central School District

● **Effective Responses to Student Mental Health Issues**

In Wisconsin, approximately 20 percent of youth and working-age adults have some type of mental health condition. School and community leaders can help. Learn how in this fast-paced and informative program.

Port Washington-Saukville School District

● **Assessment of Facilities**

This presentation will discuss the various components of a comprehensive facilities assessment as well as research-based standards to assist in the evaluation of the current use and usefulness of facilities.

WASB

● **Implementing an International Student Program**

Learn how one school district established international partnerships to provide student cultural enrichment experiences and bring in new revenue. This session will provide the steps needed to establish such a program, including how to create international connections, how to finance the program, and how to create a network of host families.

Marshfield School District

● **Legislative Update**

Get an up-to-date briefing on how the election will affect the agendas of the Senate and Assembly Education Committees. Learn what the WASB hopes will be included in the governor's 2017-19 budget proposal as well as what we expect will be included.

WASB

● **Positive and Productive Engagement Through Parent Leadership**

The School District of South Milwaukee has established a parent leadership team that cultivates authentic involvement in district-wide initiatives. Find out how their unique structure promotes student success and well-being by fostering positive dialogue among families, teachers, administrators, community members, and legislators.

South Milwaukee School District

● **Implementing the Business of Education**

The income achievement gap indicates that only 8 percent of students who live in poverty are likely to graduate from college compared to 80 percent of middle- or upper-income students. This presentation will provide a call to action and offer

a system to change the culture of leadership, stewardship and practice.

KCMG International LLC

● **Teacher Development Institute – Rethinking Staff Development**

Presenters will dialogue with participants on the challenges faced by districts to provide ongoing professional development. Specifically, the presenters will share their journey to develop and implement a specially designed staff development program that directly embraces the goals of the district.

Sheboygan Area School District.

● **Community-Based Servant Leadership**

Through the hard work of community and school advocates, a network of servant leaders of all ages are being formally trained. These leaders are working corroboratively to expand supports and improve the quality of life for the students and residents of the Cashton area.

Cashton School District

● **Creating a School: The Visioning, Challenges Celebrations**

In the fall of 2013, the Altoona School District opened a new school, not a physical building but a new concept school: Altoona Intermediate School, a fourth- and fifth-grade, multi-age, project-based learning school. Learn how this school was opened with no extra grant money, using the sweat of hard work by all stakeholders.

Altoona School District

● **Creative Curriculum Curation: Leveraging Our Learning**

Hear how one district is taking an innovative approach to curriculum by using digital practices and resources to collaboratively allow teachers to curate and update curricular resources to provide continuity across the district. This has not only allowed the district to model digital learning practices, it has helped the district to fiscally shift how it's investing in tools that support learning as well as the planning of powerful learning experiences.

New Berlin School District