



## Join Us in Milwaukee!

After this month, school board members, administrators, business officials, educators and other stakeholders will be meeting in Milwaukee for the 95th Wisconsin State Education Convention. You don't want to miss it! This annual event provides a valuable opportunity to get ideas and information to take back to your district.

In addition to special events, a packed Exhibit Hall, nationally renowned and thought-provoking keynote speakers, including *Brain Rules* author Dr. John Medina, the convention features more than 100 sessions led by local public school leaders and industry experts. The sessions will cover a wide range of issues from managing construction projects to leading for high student achievement.

Each session provides school leaders an opportunity to learn something new. For example, Brown Deer School District leaders will discuss how to build a positive culture in all schools, the New Glarus School District will share its process of implementing a flexible schedule with a focus on teacher collaboration, and Plunkett Raysich Architects in conjunction with the Sauk Prairie School District will present a session on "Managing Multiple Construction Projects." We are also excited to announce that the new documentary film, *REJECT*, will be shown at the convention and followed by a discussion with Purdue University's Dr. Kip Williams.

If you are able to join us early,

four pre-convention workshops will get you started with in-depth discussions. They'll feature Dr. Cile Chavez of the University of Northern Colorado on transformational leadership and Dr. Demond Means of the Mequon-Thiensville School District on addressing achievement gaps as well as workshops on the state's school funding system and legal issues related to extracurricular activities.

In addition to Dr. Medina, a fascinating molecular biologist who will share information about how the brain works, the other keynote speakers — all nationally recognized school principals — will challenge and inspire you. Dr. Luis Cruz gives a humorous and thought-provoking keynote on improving school culture. Chris Lehmann, a pioneer of the School 2.0 movement, will challenge you to think about how to engage all students. Milwaukee Public Schools' Dr. Janie Hatton, our WASB Breakfast speaker, will kick off the day on Thursday at convention with a passionate and enthusiastic discussion about shifting demographics and the role of school policy makers.

The State Education Convention also provides an unparalleled opportunity for school leaders to learn about innovative products and services available for your schools with an Exhibit Hall that features nearly 300 businesses and organizations. While you're in the Hall, stop by the Sustainable Schools Pavilion for a unique opportunity to learn about green and

healthy practices in our schools. The Pavilion will feature hands-on demonstrations, knowledgeable experts and exclusive presentations. Don't forget to drop off your card from the Regional Meetings in the Pavilion for a chance to win a 2017 State Education Convention registration.

Again this year, a mobile app is available for the convention. It includes all the convention information and updates at your fingertips on your phone or tablet. Download the app by visiting the Apple App or Google Play stores and search "2016 WI Education Convention." Or click on the link at [wasb.org/convention](http://wasb.org/convention). Use the app to customize your convention experience. If you don't have a smartphone or tablet, you can use the "Complete Schedule" page on the convention website. Log in and you'll have the ability to select events and print your own agenda.

With the number of challenges facing public education, it is important for us to collaborate and share ideas. Who knows what solutions or ideas will be waiting for you at the convention? If you haven't already registered, I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity and join us in Milwaukee Jan. 20-22.

I also want to remind everyone that the WASB 2016 Member Survey is available on [wasb.org](http://wasb.org) starting Jan. 4. Please take this short survey and let us know how we can improve our services, programs and publications. The survey closes Feb. 1. We want to hear from you! ■

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