

JANUARY 24, 2014

Friday **General Session**

10:30 – noon | Hilton Milwaukee City Center

■ **Stacey Bess** keynote speaker

**Stacey Bess** taught homeless children in Salt Lake City, chronicling her experiences into a book, *Nobody Don't Love Nobody*, which was made into a Hallmark Hall of Fame movie *Beyond the Blackboard* in 2011. Bess gives an address you won't soon forget.

Bess began her teaching career in a small shed behind a community homeless shelter. She taught kindergarten through sixth grade to children with no homes and little hope, an experience that effected a profound change in the teacher as well as her students. Stacey discovered that by teaching and modeling love, self-worth, personal power, and courage, she could reach children who had previously been labeled unteachable. These children have grown into living proof that Stacey's methods work.

Stacey has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Utah. Her outstanding service has been recognized with a number of awards on the local, state, and national levels, including the National

Jefferson Award for Greatest Public Service. She has also enjoyed speaking in many forums around the country as she works to shed light on her quest as a leading advocate for the educational rights of impoverished children.

Stacey and her husband Greg have been married for 30 years and are the proud parents of six children.

*"After only five months of teaching I had plenty of hard lessons left to learn. One of the hardest would be that one person can't be everywhere to motivate and to love every child. I would learn it quickly, as I did with Danny, and I would be reminded of it over and over again. These children must connect with other teachers and adults who will hang on to them and keep them from falling through the cracks. Almost anyone who has faith in the power we have to change the lives of others can make the difference."*

— Excerpt from *Nobody Don't Love Nobody*

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## ● ● ● GENERAL SESSION HIGHLIGHTS ● ● ●

Presiding: **Lynn Knight**,  
WASBO President, School District of Nekoosa



Lynn Knight



Gov. Scott Walker

**Vocal Point**, a popular choral group from **Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau High School** will open the final session of the 93rd State Education Convention.

After their performance, **Gov. Scott Walker** is invited to discuss his priorities for public education.

Educator and best-selling author **Stacey Bess** will deliver a keynote address that is sure to remind us of the positive impact teachers and school leaders can have on a student's life.

## FEATURED SESSION

■ **School Finance Roundtable/Open House Q&A**

Have a specific school finance question or are interested in more in-depth discussion on school finance and operations? Check out this session and confer with practicing school business officials on a variety of topics.

WASBO

● **Forward Thinking our Communities, our Schools and our Future**

Hear about Forward Thinking, a multi-community visioning project that aims to build a stronger bond between public schools and communities. Citizens from Greendale, Greenfield, and Whitnall School Districts hosted conversations throughout their communities to share ideas about the kind of community they want to live in.  
*Whitnall School District*

● **High Results in a System Designed for Quality**

This session will demonstrate how to build a system to succeed. Student learning and department improvement can be tied together in a system for continuous improvement. This session will tie together student accountability, staff accountability, and leadership accountability within a full system for improvement.  
*School District of Menomonee Falls*

● **Inviting All Innovators**

The question should be: how can the 'system' change so as to encourage and invite the innovators already on your staff to innovate? This session will detail the efforts of the board and staff of a mid-sized, Wisconsin school district to change the system to open up innovation opportunities to all staff members.  
*Verona Area School District*

● **A Year in China and the Chinese Education System**

Hear from a Wisconsin school administrator who spent the 2012-2013 school year in China as the chief academic officer for an education foundation. Learn about the basics of the Chinese education

system and how it operates from pre-school through high school, and the lessons for Wisconsin educators.  
*Clinton Community School District*

● **The Impact of Vouchers on Public Schools**

This session will help attendees understand the effects, issues and concerns about school vouchers at the local and statewide levels. There will be information shared about specific local school districts as well as statewide information.  
*Racine Unified School District*

● **Adult Bullying – How to Deal with it Effectively**

Adult bullying directly impacts the educational success of students, interactions with parents, and discussions at school board meetings. We assume that when an individual becomes an adult, bullying disappears. Unfortunately, adult bullying can be even more challenging than student bullying to deal with effectively.  
*Port Washington-Saukville School District*

● **Combining a School and Community Library: Making it Work!**

Hear how one district joined forces with its local community library — providing many positive benefits for the community and school district.  
*Granton Area School District*

● **Project Lead the Way: Integrating Engineering Lessons**

Teachers and administrators from the Kenosha School of Technology Enhanced Curriculum will demonstrate how Project Lead the Way has provided a rigorous STEM program for their middle school students. They will demonstrate how this program aligns with the Next Gener-

ation Science Standards.

*Kenosha Unified School District*

● **How to Become a Top Workplace**

Hear how one district, which struggled with teacher and staff relations, turned around the school culture and has been named the #1 Small Workplace in Wisconsin (an award given by the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*) three years in a row.  
*Maple Dale/Indian Hill School District*

● **Financial Challenges? One District's Very Successful Story**

Learn strategies one district used to successfully address a \$950,000 budget shortfall without reducing staff, increasing class sizes, or eliminating programs/courses. During the same school year, the district doubled its fund balance and completed a major \$1.7 million facilities upgrade without going to referendum.  
*Edgerton School District*

● **Legislative Update**

Attend this session to get the latest information on legislative activity in Madison affecting public education.  
*WASB*

● **Advancing Rigor and Raising Student Achievement with the Common Core State Standards**

Learn how one district used professional learning communities to build an English language arts curriculum with the Common Cores State Standards as its framework. You will leave with a clear plan in place and a list of ideas that work to move your district forward.  
*Hillsboro School District*