

Firm Foundations Overview – 2024/2025

Dates and times: August 23-24 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
November 1-24 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
February 7-25 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Locations: August – Hales Corners Lutheran
November - Hales Corners Lutheran
February - Milwaukee Lutheran

Cost: \$85 per registered attendee
No a la carte discounts

Event Presenters and Topics:

**August 23: Dr. Mychal Thome, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN
Chief Diversity Officer, CUSP**

Student Belonging: The True Heartbeat of the School

In today's world, there is much emphasis on the idea of belonging. Societies, companies, and schools are being tasked with the responsibility of creating an environment of belonging so that citizens, employees, students, faculty and staff can feel a part of the environment and contribute the best version of themselves. But how do we approach this topic as Educators? In what ways can we encourage an environment of true belonging in our schools so that this is a sense that students carry with them beyond our walls no matter what circumstance they find themselves in?

Using the practice of Compassion, this seminar will focus on the foundation of belonging. In addition, using interactive sessions, topics will be discussed, and strategies offered for school leaders, faculty and staff to support an environment of true belonging for the school community based on current research. Also, attendees will investigate the idea that it may be normal that one may not always feel like they fit in, but they can still feel a sense of belonging in all situations. Attendees will engage in small group conversations, active learning, and large group discussions throughout the seminar.

November 1: Dr. Jessica Minahan

Dr. Minahan is the author of the book, “The Behavior Code: Strategies, Tools, and Interventions for Supporting Students with Anxiety-Related or Oppositional Behaviors”.

This text and the “Companion” text and PD is designed to help educators create and implement successful behavior intervention plans (FAIR Plans) for students with anxiety-related or oppositional behaviors.

The two texts are available at a discounted price for our having engaged Dr. Minahan in this PD.

Here is a code for 20% off The Behavior Code: BCF14 on the Harvard Ed Press website: http://hepg.org/hep-home/books/the-behavior-code_161

Here is a code for 20% off The Behavior Code Companion: BCCF14 on the Harvard Ed Press website: <http://hepg.org/hep-home/books/the-behavior-code-companion>

The after-discount price is roughly \$28 each.

*****As a point of reference, the West Side Association schools with LCL worked with Dr. Minahan in this same PD last year and were very satisfied with the work.

February 7: Dr. Leslie Smith

Dr. Leslie Smith is an educational consultant and an inspiring keynote presenter. Serving as a strategic partner, she advises and supports private school leaders across the country in organizational leadership, growth strategy, brand development, and social emotional literacy to strengthen school culture and develop high-performing collaborative teams. Currently, Dr. Smith also serves as national program director and instructor for [Principal 360](#), an innovative leadership development training program powered by the Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation (CLEF).

“Emotional Intelligence: The Key to Success”

Participants will learn why Emotional Intelligence is more than just “people skills” and why it is the single greatest predictor of success.

Participants will understand the benefit of increasing Emotional Intelligence at school, and they will discover how to develop the five main components, which include self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills.

Participants will also discover their unique personality traits and gain proficiency in managing and strengthening relationships.