

NATIONAL FORUM

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Schools ^{to} Watch

Where Middle Grades Schools Meet or Beat Adequate Yearly Progress Through:



- **Academic Excellence**
- **Developmental Responsiveness**
- **Social Equity**
- **Organizational Structures for High Performance**

Schools to Watch:
High Performance Middle Grades

Annual Conference

June 9-11, 2005
Arlington, VA



National Forum

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June 9-11, 2005 * Arlington, VA

Presented by

The National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform

Join us for this exceptional event!

The Schools to Watch program is a significant force in middle-grades reform. The program identifies high-performing middle grades schools that are academically excellent, responsive to the developmental challenges of young adolescents, and socially equitable holding high expectations for all students.

Sites selected as Schools to Watch exemplify the National Forum's vision and serve as resources for other schools. Online school tours and site visits allow for the sharing of innovative strategies and programs that have fostered student achievement. Through this conference, Schools to Watch practitioners, experts at attaining results for their students, will learn from one another and will share how to become high-performing. All participants will gain valuable knowledge and accelerate their possibilities for continuing improvements.

This conference is for educators from schools interested in becoming high-performing, middle grades schools, education experts, professors, policymakers and teams from Schools to Watch sites across the nation. The event offers a powerful forum for sharing real-world success stories, strategies and information about school cultures that raise student achievement to meet AYP and support positive student development.

Conference Highlights Include:

Professional Development

Sessions will feature research-based practices from Schools to Watch sites; current strategies on effective practices to meet AYP; tips for creating supportive cultures ; and suggestions for advocating for young adolescents.

There will be a session for schools interested in becoming a Schools to Watch, and time for current Schools to Watch sites to collaborate.

Hot topic luncheon, planning and reflection sessions will allow educators in current and future Schools to Watch sites to exchange ideas and proven solutions.

General Sessions

Two outstanding keynote sessions will provide an opportunity for participants to deepen their knowledge and skills about results-oriented practices.



National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform

P.O. Box 11346, Champaign, IL 61822 • (217) 351-2196 • FAX (217) 351-1068 • Email: dtkasak@gmail.com

Websites: www.mgforum.org • www.schoolstowatch.org

Special Events

- Pre-Conference Cross-State Session, June 9
- Evening Gala honoring current Schools to Watch sites, June 9
- Hot Topic Luncheon, June 10, Ticketed, \$13 each
- Frequent chances to interact with middle grades leaders in the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform, the unique alliance of organizations and leaders unified to “speak with one voice” for middle grades education

Special Resource Offer

Reserve a copy of the Forum’s 5-part Leadership Library set for a special conference rate of \$100 (\$220 value). (Recommend one set per school.)

Exhibit Hall

Exhibit booths will showcase educational products and services to give schools the added edge they need to achieve greater success.

Conference Registration Fees

- \$250 per individual
- \$850 for a team of 4 (from same school or district)
- \$200 per person for teams of 5 or more (from same school or district)

Location: Washington, D.C. Area

From its celebrated symbols of patriotism to its undiscovered neighborhoods, the sights and sounds of the nation’s capital inspire millions of visitors every year. Packed with famous sites, free attractions, and an endless calendar of special events, Washington, D.C. offers year-round fun.

Conference Site and Accommodations

Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel

1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202

(703) 920-3230 • \$139 single/double, plus tax

Call the hotel directly to reserve your room or visit www.stayatmarriott.com/viewrate

and reference group code: socsoca. To ensure low conference rates, make your reservation before May 12, 2005. The Crystal Gateway is conveniently located minutes from Washington Reagan Airport. Upon arrival, call the hotel for shuttle pick-up. The hotel is at the Metro-Crystal City stop for easy accessibility to all the DC sites.

About the Forum

The National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform is an alliance of educators, researchers, national associations, and officers of professional organizations and foundations committed to promoting the academic performance and healthy development of young adolescents. The Forum’s signature Schools to Watch program is jointly promoted through the National Forum, The National Middle School Association, The National Association of Secondary School Principals, The National Association of Elementary School Principals and The National Staff Development Council.

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Joan Lipsitz

Co-founder of the National Forum as well as the Schools to Watch initiative, Dr. Lipsitz has devoted her professional life to supporting the success of early adolescent learners. Currently senior fellow for the nonprofit organization Making a Difference in Communities, she has headed the Center for Early Adolescence at the University of

North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She is the author of two books on early adolescence, *Growing Up Forgotten* and *Successful Schools for Young Adolescents*.



Dr. Nancy Doda

Dr. Doda began her career as a language arts teacher in an exemplary middle school in Florida. Her foundational experiences in the use of teams, advisory programs, multiage classrooms and a student-centered philosophy established a firm commitment to the tenets of middle school. Now a university professor and educational consultant, she has written for numerous publications, and was the "Teacher to Teacher" columnist for the Middle School Journal.

Invited Guest, Senator Barack Obama (D-Illinois)

Senator Obama is a passionate advocate for poor and working families.

Conference Schedule

Thursday, June 9

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|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9:00 am - 9:45 am | STW State Directors Meeting |
| 10:00 am - 11:30 am | Pre-Conference STW Session |
| 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm | Conference Registration |
| 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm | Opening Celebration/Evening Gala |

Friday, June 10

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|---------------------|--|
| 6:30 am - 8:00 am | Exhibit Set-up |
| 7:30 am - 8:30 am | Registration |
| 8:00 am - 4:30 pm | Exhibit Hall Open |
| 8:30 am - 9:30 am | General Session |
| 10:00 am - 11:15 am | Breakout Session I |
| 11:30 am - 12:45 pm | Breakout Session II |
| 12:45 pm - 1:45 pm | Hot Topic Round Tables, Ticketed Lunch |
| 1:45 pm - 3:00 pm | Breakout Session III |
| 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm | Reflective Conversations |
- Evening on your own**

Saturday, June 11

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|---------------------|---|
| 8:00 am - 11:30 am | Exhibit Hall Open |
| 8:30 am - 9:45 am | Breakout Session IV |
| 10:00 am - 11:15 am | Breakout Session V |
| 11:30 am - 12:30 pm | Closing Choices, including special session for schools contemplating School to Watch application. |

Conference Adjourns

National Schools to Watch Annual Conference Registration - June 9-11, 2005 * Arlington, VA

All registration forms and payments are being processed by the National Middle School Association, a member of the National Forum.
Send to: NF/NMSA, 4151 Executive Parkway, Suite 300, Westerville, OH 43081 • Telephone: (800) 528-6672 • FAX: (614) 895-4750
Registration form can be retrieved at www.mgforum.org

Registration Information: Information will appear on name badge. For team registrations (from same school), attach a sheet for each attendee.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title: ☐ Principal ☐ Assistant Principal ☐ District Administrator
☐ Teacher ☐ Board Member ☐ Other: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Sch. Ph: _____ Hm. Ph: _____

E-Mail: _____

Regular Registrations - must be received with payment by mail or FAX on or before May 12, 2005. (Only purchase orders or credit card orders may be faxed.) **On-Site Registration** - after May 12, 2005, you must register on-site (there is no additional cost). Payment by cash, check, purchase order, Visa or Mastercard will be accepted.

Payment

_____ \$250 (individual rate) = _____
No. _____

_____ \$850 (team rate of 4) = _____
No. _____

_____ \$200 (per person for a team of 5+) = _____
No. _____

_____ \$13 each (Hot Topic Box Lunch) = _____
No. _____

_____ \$100 (5-Part Forum Leadership
Module Library Set , a \$220 value) = _____
No. _____

Total Enclosed _____

☐ **Check** - Payable to National Fourm (\$20 fee for returned checks)

☐ **Official Purchase Order - PO#** _____
A valid copy of the purchase order must accompany form to be processed.

☐ **Visa / MC / AmEx** Card # _____ Exp _____

I authorize NF/NMSA to bill my credit card for \$ _____

Cardholder name (please print) _____

Authorized Signature _____

CANCELLATION POLICY (Substitutions allowed): Cancellations must be faxed to (614) 895-4750. Please call to verify receipt of cancellations at (800) 528-667?.

Prior to 4/27/05	Full Refund
4/27/05 to 5/12/05	\$100 Fee
After 5/12/05	No Refund

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