**Summer Summit 2018**
# "Reboot and Retool: Teaching and Learning For Diverse Minds"
***June 18-19, 2018***
***Airlie Resort and Conference Center, Warrenton, Virginia***

# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Association of Independent Schools of Greater Washington (AISGW), the Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools (AIMS), and the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS), are collaborating on a program on June 18-19, 2018 that will enhance the understanding, teaching, and learning of students with learning differences. Recognizing that all school populations include students who learn differently, the conference will aim to create an engaging, open dialogue among teachers and administrators and highlight the ways in which diverse teaching and learning enriches our schools. The conference will include keynote speakers, a panel, simulations, breakout workshops, and an opportunity for discussion and networking.

The Summer Summit will offer the following: (1) an overview of the neurological underpinnings of learning differences; (2) techniques for identifying, characterizing and understanding learning differences; and (3) examples of effective classroom and other strategies for teaching and supporting diverse learners. This conference will be an ideal opportunity for educators in both traditional and specialized educational settings to understand and embrace the concept of diversity in learning to bring out the best in every child.

With these guiding principles in mind, the 2018 Summer Summit Planning Committee is looking for master teachers and other experts to share their expertise with peers who possess a range of background knowledge and teaching experience with diverse learners. **Specifically, the committee is seeking presenters who can offer (1) topic-specific workshops that address four defined areas, and (2) TED-style talks, *i.e.*, short, dynamic presentations that highlight an**

**innovative teaching approach or idea.** Further information about the conference and this Call for Proposals is below.

<u>SUGGESTED AUDIENCE</u>: The conference audience will include educators wanting to reach all learners in independent schools. Attendees will include individuals who are already experienced in differentiated teaching and learning as well as those who are less familiar with supporting differentiated learners.

<u>TIMELINE FOR CALL FOR PROPOSALS:</u> This Call for Proposals is open until November 20, 2017; final selections will be made by January 10, 2018.

| October 5 | Call for Proposals Opens |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Nov. 20 | Call for Proposals Closes |
| January 10 | Selection of Proposals |
| January 15 | Notification of Speakers |

<u>PRESENTER PROFILE:</u> The Summit Planning Committee welcomes presenters from all areas of independent schools, as well as outside organizations or resources that serve independent schools. Teachers, learning specialists, division leaders, academic deans, counselors, college advisors, and heads of school are encouraged to share their expertise with conference attendees.

<u>TRACKS & PRESENTATION OPTIONS:</u> Presenters can submit proposals for 50-minute workshop session(s) and/or 15-minute "TED talk" style sessions as described below:

- *Topical Workshops (50 minutes)*

    o Technology -- These sessions will address how technology supports and enhances students with learning differences, specific technology tools that have proven to be effective, considerations regarding recorded books, use of ipads, cyber etiquette, etc.

    o Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) -- These sessions will address the SEL components that are unique to different learners, how educators recognize and manage SEL characteristics (e.g., anxiety) in students with learning differences, specific considerations relating to self-advocacy, executive functioning, mindset, etc.

    o Specific Academic Areas -- These sessions will address strategies for effective instruction in reading, math, and written expression, how to approach reading across the content areas, teaching modifications, etc.

    o Supporting Students -- These sessions will address the various ways in which schools accommodate different learners, examples of successful learning support programs and strategies, placement/outplacement considerations, college transition, peer coaching, etc.

- *"TED Talks" (15 minutes)*

  These sessions are intended to highlight innovative teaching strategies and practices in a succinct "TED talk" style. Some ideas include but are not limited to Project Based Learning and STEM teaching. The innovations presented should build on the strengths of the learner and be potentially applicable to all learning environments.

<u>PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS</u>:  All proposals should include the following elements:

- **Conference Track** -- Which conference track does your proposal address:  technology, SEL issues, specific academic area, student support, or TED Talk?
- **Presentation Title** -- Develop a short and catchy name for your presentation
- **Description** -- Explain the idea behind your presentation. Indicate what the presentation will cover, 2-3 learning objectives, and specific "takeaways" for participants.
- **Conference Program Abstract** -- Include a short-form description of your workshop (2-3 sentences) that can be used in the conference program and marketing materials.
- **Knowledge Level** -- As the conference attendees will have a range of experience with learning differences, explain whether your presentation is designed for newer or more experienced educators.
- **Target Audience** -- Who will benefit most from your presentation? Teachers?  Administrators? Counselors?
- **Engagement** -- It is important for the conference presentations to be interactive and engaging. Explain how you will engage your audience. Choose up to three of the following presentation techniques that you will use in your presentation:
  - o Case Study
  - o Large Group Discussion
  - o Role Playing
  - o Hands-On Activity
  - o Self-Discovery Exercise
  - o Small Group Discussion
  - o Use of Technology
  - o Other: _____

*Please click on this* link *to complete the form to submit a proposal.  For questions regarding proposals, please contact Lynn Maloney at lmaloney@AISGW.org.*