

**DSEA is proud to offer a full day of professional development geared towards your needs as an Educational Support Professional**



# **2016 Education Support Professional Conference**

**Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 am - 4:00 pm • Dover Downs**

**Register Online until February 12th:**

**<http://www.cvent.com/d/vfq129/4W>**

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## **Conference Sessions**

- **Stress Management**
- **True Colors**
- **Para Power!**
- **Education Support Professionals: Meeting the Needs of the Whole Student**
- **Addressing Behavior Challenges in the Classroom and other School Environments**
- **Healthy, Supported ESPs Work Better – How to Engage with School Employee Wellness and Professional Training Standards for Food Service Staff**
- **NEA Member Benefits and Financial Planning for Your Future**

*Full Course Descriptions on Reverse Side*

# Education Support Professional Conference Sessions

**Para Power! (Full Days Session)** - Paraeducators, like other education support professionals (ESPs), are critical partners in meeting the needs of the whole student. As roles and responsibilities of paraeducators continue to increase and change, it is critical that ongoing, targeted training be offered. This interactive workshop will address behavior management strategies and positive intervention supports, roles and responsibilities, effective paraeducator/teacher teams, advocacy and problem solving. Participants will walk away empowered to advocate for their students and their careers.

**Education Support Professionals: Meeting the Needs of the Whole Student** - Do members of your community understand the essential role that Education Support Professionals (ESPs) play in education and in student success? ESPs include paraeducators, school nutrition workers, custodians, clerical and administrative staff, transportation workers, technology services employees, security services staff, health and student services workers and skilled trades workers—in short, nearly one-third of the education workforce. ESPs keep students physically and emotionally healthy and safe, engage students so they feel connected to the wider school community, support students who require specialized interventions, and challenge them to understand the connection between education and lifelong success. They keep students healthy safe, engaged, supported and challenged, ensuring their success for college, career and citizenship. Student success is a shared responsibility that involves not only school communities, but also neighborhood, social and other local networks. Participants will walk away feeling empowered to engage and network with community members in order to build support for their fellow ESPs, students and public education.

**Addressing Behavior Challenges in the Classroom and other School Environments** - We all want students to succeed academically, behaviorally and socially. Challenging student behavior disrupts our work and is a continued source of stress for ESPs. NEA promotes safe and supportive discipline practices, limiting the use of suspension and expulsion. Data shows this reactive method only contributes to school “push out” and unnecessary involvement in the juvenile justice system, particularly for students of color, students with disabilities, and LGBTQ students. Simply removing students from the environment should no longer be considered a solution. In some situations, such as on the bus, it is not even an option. How can ESPs manage and prevent these behaviors, promote a positive school climate, and support student success? How can you engage your colleagues and district leaders to take on wider prevention strategies in your school? In this interactive and informative session, you will learn strategies to better address disruptive behavior and promote a positive school climate, strategies to assist you in responding to challenging behaviors and supporting a positive school climate; and specific techniques to prevent, redirect, and de-escalate these behaviors, rather than escalating emotions and behaviors into more confrontational and perhaps even dangerous situations.

**Healthy, Supported ESPs Work Better – How to Engage with School Employee Wellness and Professional Training Standards for Food Service Staff** - This interactive workshop focuses on how Food Service ESPs can protect their own health as well as promote overall school employee wellness. We will delve into how healthy eating, physical activity, and other healthy habits influence staff performance, then explore various programs that support wellness for school employees through hands-on stations. Participants will develop individual action plans to take back to their school so they can advocate for individual and colleague health and wellbeing. Using innovative activities, participants will develop team approaches for promoting staff wellness efforts and building strong community connections. The second part of this workshop will focus specifically on how Food Service Professionals can leverage training standards to get the most out of PD opportunities. We will explore various training models, national resources, federal requirements and district-level best practices to empower FSPs to ensure that all food service colleagues receive quality trainings on necessary topics, relevant to both their specific jobs and to their role within the school community. This training will touch upon 4 USDA Professional Standards Learning Objectives (#3430, 3450, 4130, and 4150).

**NEA Member Benefits and Financial Planning for Your Future** - This interactive workshop will help you understand everything you need to know when planning for retirement and how save you and your family more money than the cost of dues.

**Stress Management** - With ever increasing demands from students, parents, the district, DOE, and the community at large, school employees are experiencing a greater degree of stress in their day-to-day existence. The need for ways to identify stress, along with strategies to cope with stress is evident. Those who feel in control in their personal lives will have more control on the job. Participants in this workshop will learn to recognize the causes of stress, identify stressors in their lives, practice problem-solving techniques, and create individual plans to deal with the stressors in their lives. This workshop is highly interactive and entertaining in a safe and stress free environment!

**True Colors** - Discover your True Colors and dynamic keys to unlocking your personal success! With the help of the True Colors personality process, you will begin to see yourself and others in a new light and learn to improve relationships that will lead to new success at work, at home, and in life. Learn what makes people crazy, become more effective, and modify your style to get your desired results. Come laugh and have some fun while discovering yourself.