

the Association of Personalized Learning Schools & Services

Every Child's Learning is Personal

APLUS+ Network Conference 2023

Overview For Attendees & Presenters

Deadline for Early Registration: September 1st, 2023



Our 20th Annual APLUS+ Network Conference

***Personalized Learning:
The Pinnacle of Flex-Based Instruction***

**Monday October 23rd—Wednesday, October 25th, 2023
Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel
Sacramento, California**



APLUS+ Network Conference 2023 Overview

Welcome to our 20th annual APLUS+ Network Conference 2023! Twenty years of APLUS+ conferences are ample reason to come together in Sacramento and celebrate!

After twenty+ years of enduring the misguided and misleading statutory term known as “nonclassroom-based instruction” (NCB), this year we are pivoting from defense to offense. Our goal is to turn the tide from the negative to the positive by affirming who we are in the public charter school segment as flex-based Personalized Learning Public Charter Schools. In so doing, we seek to foster greater clarity and understanding among those outside our segment. The problematic NCB term has been an albatross around our necks. The ongoing confusion and misunderstanding



around this term among lawmakers and policymakers have resulted in harmful policy decisions that continue to disadvantage the more than 200,000 largely challenged and marginalized students in our segment. These consequences have created unjustified inequities among public education students, including numerous exclusions from state school facilities subsidy programs, the moratorium on the establishment of new flex-based charter schools, and more recently, exclusions from enrollment growth and hold harmless funding provisions. It’s time we stand united to affirm who we are as public charter schools all founded upon flexibility and send a strong message that we reject continuing to be wrongly labeled by what we are not with a derogatory, negative, and disrespectful term. It’s time to call in the F.B.I.!

Our APLUS+ Network conference annual theme this year is **“Personalized Learning: The Pinnacle of Flex-Based Instruction”**. Though all public charter schools within our segment are united by our ability to create diverse and innovative models by leveraging varying degrees of flexibility, the pinnacle of flexibility among these models is Personalized Learning. Our Personalized Learning model not only proved resilient and highly adaptable to the unforeseen and unprecedented circumstances through the recent pandemic, which by contrast, forced the long-term closure of the majority of classroom-only models, our model also proved successful in advancing our students to greater academic achievement and preventing learning losses that many students in classroom-only models experienced.



Just two years ago we had miraculously survived perhaps the most extreme attack ever by our adversaries against the very heart and foundation of our Personalized Learning model, who shamelessly engaged in false and misleading talking points to try to misguide lawmakers into voting for harmful policies that would have severely undermined our flexibility. Our steadfastness in our commitment to our Personalized Learning students through all challenges, attacks and threats remains firmly rooted in the highest standards of integrity, transparency, accountability, and academic excellence.

Our dedication and commitment to these highest standards in serving our students, our schools, and our Personalized Learning model and movement have yielded tremendous and very positive student academic growth achievement. According to our latest APLUS+ network statewide data reports, our Personalized Learning students have demonstrated significant positive growth results on statewide indicators during the period from 2018-19 through 2021-22 in both ELA and Math, compared to similar students in traditional public schools who suffered significant learning losses in both ELA and Math. Congratulations! Let us celebrate together our student data achievement successes within our Personalized Learning model and movement.



Recent surveys reveal that parents in growing numbers are becoming more enlightened about the need for and benefits of a more flexible, adaptable and student-centered education delivery model like Personalized Learning for their children. Given the heightened social, mental, and behavioral challenges we are enduring as we enter the post-pandemic era, parents seek to play a much more active role in their children’s education, as well as wanting to ensure for their children a safer environment and more engaging education experience. As the enthusiasm spreads highlighting the many benefits of our Personalized Learning and other flex-based instructional models, more parents are choosing to exit the more rigid, traditional classroom-only model. APLUS+ member schools and our Personalized Learning model are pioneering the path to what high quality and flexible education delivery should be in the 21st century for the growing number of students for whom a rigid, conformity-based, institution-centric model is not a good match for their academic success.

APLUS+ Network Conference 2023 Highlights



Who Attends APLUS+ Network Conferences?

We estimate that our 2023 conference will welcome between 300-400 attendees. Typically, APLUS+ Network conferences attract a high percentage of both educational and administrative decision-makers who are either on the leading edge of providing an innovative, Personalized Learning model for their students, or who are interested in developing a more flex-based and personalized model for their schools. The majority of our attendees represent California public charter schools that are firmly rooted in flex-based instruction.

Professional Development Workshops, Breakout Sessions, and Networking

APLUS+ Conference 2023 workshops, breakout sessions, and networking discussions will be tailored specifically to the needs and interests of key school decision-makers and stakeholders, including Board Members, CEO's, Directors, Site Administrators, CFOs, Curriculum Coordinators and Developers, Counselors, Technology Specialists, Mentor Teachers, Teacher Guides, CTE, Special Education and Special Needs Teachers, and more. Proposed topics may include but not be limited to:

- **Administrative Leadership**
- **Advocacy Strategies, Community Relations, & Outreach Successes**
- **Assessment & Accountability Strategies for Personalized Learning**
- **Compliance, Financial, and Legal Issues in the "New Era"**
- **Data Collection, Analysis, & Reporting Strategies**
- **Instructional Strategies for Achievement**
- **Preparing Students for Their Goals in Life**
- **Specialized Programs for Personalized Learning Students**
- **Preferred Partner Training Sessions**



A TOTAL OF 10 OR MORE TWO-HOUR INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS!

To kick off our 2023 conference we will offer at least 10 two-hour in-depth workshops on Monday afternoon, October 23rd. Workshop proposals may be submitted by a single presenter, a panel of presenters, or a discussion facilitator seeking to offer a more in-depth exploration in a particular topic area of interest.

MORE THAN 40 BREAKOUT SESSIONS COVERING YOUR MOST CRITICAL AREAS OF INTEREST!

Over the course of a day and a half throughout Tuesday and Wednesday morning of the conference, APLUS+ will be offering more than 40 one-hour and fifteen-minute breakout sessions and networking discussions. Breakout sessions proposals may be submitted by a single presenter, a panel of presenters, or a roundtable discussion facilitator in your area of expertise.

SHERATON GRAND BALLROOM SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS!

Continuing with our great success from last year's conference, the 2023 APLUS+ Conference will again feature several key spotlight sessions in our main ballroom, including our annual Leadership Forum panel and our panel of 2023 California Distinguished School award winners!

SUBMIT YOUR WORKSHOP/BREAKOUT SESSION PROPOSAL BY AUGUST 31, 2023.

Share your expertise, best practices, and enthusiasm with your fellow colleagues! Access the following link online to complete and submit your workshop, breakout session or networking discussion proposal no later than August 31, 2023:



<https://aplusnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/mufe2b818vet8x/>

APLUS+ Conference 2023 Presenter Bonuses

As always, the strength and success of our annual conference is predicated on the willingness of our members to share their expertise and best practices with their fellow members. Plan to share your wealth of knowledge and experience during our 2023 conference, and in heartfelt appreciation for your willingness to share your expertise and best practices with your fellow members and conference attendees, you will receive a:

- ✓ **10% Discount on Conference Registration Fee**
- ✓ **Special Presenter Appreciation Gift**
- ✓ **Second Entry in Our Signature Bon Voyage "Have Your Cake & Eat It Too" Farewell Reception and Drawing**



APLUS+ Network Conference 2023 Sponsors, Preferred Partners & Exhibitors Personalized Learning: The Pinnacle of Flex-Based Instruction

Our 2023 APLUS+ Conference will welcome more than 30+ APLUS+ Conference Sponsors, APLUS+ Network Preferred Partners and affiliate resource providers and exhibitors. These quality companies offer a wide variety of products and services that are designed to enhance and support Personalized Learning public charter schools. Our conference exhibitor services typically include a wide variety of single subject courses that may be delivered either online or in person, curriculum, and other education-based products and services, as well as back-office, legal, financial, community relations, advocacy, and other consulting services.

Our member schools are committed to partner with several high quality, outside providers to assist them in their Personalized Learning mission and vision, and in their commitment to high standards of academic excellence and to fiscal and operational accountability. Many APLUS+ Preferred Partners will also provide on-site training opportunities for attendees to learn more about their high-quality products and services.



APLUS+ Conference 2023 Receptions & Bon Voyage Farewell Drawing

Our APLUS+ Conference 2023 Monday evening kick-off welcome reception will take place in the Sheraton Grand foyer and Gardenia ballroom immediately following our first afternoon of intensive workshops and will feature tasty hors d'oeuvres and drinks. As is our tradition, APLUS+ will treat you to your first beverage to help jump-start your reception experience. Our kick-off reception offers a great opportunity for us all to wind down and relax and chat after our first conference day and celebrate Diane's birthday!

Our APLUS+ Conference 2023 Tuesday evening reception will again take place in the Sheraton Grand foyer and Gardenia ballroom immediately following our first afternoon of intensive workshops and will feature tasty hors d'oeuvres and drinks with your first beverage of choice again on us! Wet your whistle and whet your appetite before heading out on the town for dinner.

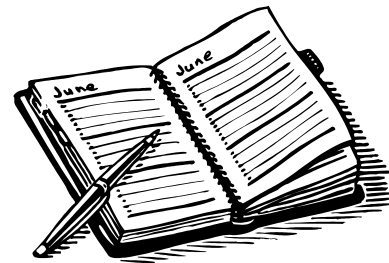


On Wednesday morning following our morning breakout sessions, we will once again bid our conference attendees a fond farewell with our ever popular, signature Bon Voyage "Have Your Cake & Eat It Too" Farewell Reception and Drawing. Go out in style with a smile and a shot of caffeine and a variety of tasty treats. Experience the thrill of anticipation as you await anxiously on the edge of your seat to see if your name will be called above all others. Plan to stay for this exciting conference conclusion for your chance to win one of several very cool prizes!

APLUS+ Conference 2023 Schedule at a Glance

Monday, October 23rd

Registration Check-In	10:00 am—5:30 pm
Coffee and Welcome Snacks	10:00 am—12:30 pm
Workshops I	12:30 pm—2:30 pm
Refresher Break	2:30 pm—3:00 pm
Workshops II	3:00 pm—5:00 pm
APLUS+ Welcome Reception	5:30 pm—6:30 pm
MONDAY DINNER ON YOUR OWN	



Tuesday, October 24th

Registration Check-In/Breakfast	7:30 am-9:00 am
APLUS+ Preferred Partner Exhibits	7:30 am-5:30 pm
APLUS+ State of the Movement Address	8:00 am-8:45 am
APLUS+ Pioneer Awards Ceremony	8:45 am-9:15 am
Breakout Sessions I	9:30 am-10:45 am
Breakout Sessions II	11:00 am-12:15 pm
LUNCH/Keynote Address	12:15 pm-1:45 pm
Conference Exhibitor Networking	1:45 pm-2:45 pm
Breakout Sessions III	2:45 pm-4:00 pm
Breakout Session IV	4:15 pm-5:30 pm
APLUS+ Evening Reception	5:30 pm—6:30 pm
TUESDAY DINNER ON YOUR OWN	

Wednesday, October 25th

Registration Check-In/Breakfast	7:30 am-8:30 am
APLUS+ Preferred Partner Exhibits	7:30 am-11:30 am
Breakout Sessions V	8:30 am-9:45 am
Breakout Sessions VI	10:00 am-11:15 am
Bon Voyage Farewell Reception/Drawing	11:30 am-12:00 pm
Conference concludes	12:00 pm



Registering Attendees for the 20th Annual APLUS+ Network Conference 2023 Personalized Learning: The Pinnacle of Flex-Based Instruction

APLUS+ Conference 2023 Registration Instructions

To register for the 20th annual APLUS+ Network Conference 2023, please complete the online registration form here:

<https://aplusnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/m1kilj3m1rbd4qn/>

Each online registration form can accommodate up to 15 attendees from a single organization. For more than 15 attendees, simply fill out additional forms. Advance registration and payment only. APLUS+ does not offer onsite conference registration.

APLUS+ Network Conference 2023 Registration Fees*

For APLUS+ Members (including Preferred Partners):

- Early Full-Conference Registration for Members by 9/1/23-\$699 ea.
- Late Full-Conference Registration for Members by 10/6/23-\$849 ea.
- Early One-Day Conference Registration for Members by 9/1/23-\$499 ea.
- Late One-Day Conference Registration for Members by 10/6/23-\$649 ea.

For Non-APLUS+ Members (including non-member Exhibitors):

- Early Full-Conference Registration for Non-Members by 9/1/23-\$799 ea.
- Late Full-Conference Registration for Non-Members by 10/6/23-\$949 ea.
- Early One-Day Conference Registration for Non-Members by 9/1/23-\$599 ea.
- Late One-Day Conference Registration for Non-Members by 10/6/23-\$749 ea.



Reaching the pinnacle!

**APLUS+ gratefully offers a 5% discount to organizations registering 5 or more attendees, and a 10% discount to organizations registering 10 or more attendees.*

All presenters receive a 10% discount plus double the chance to win a fabulous prize in our farewell drawing! (Discounts for presenters and multiple attendees may not be combined)

APLUS+ Conference Early Registration Deadline is Friday, September 1st, 2023

APLUS+ Conference 2023 Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel Room Reservations

Our 20th annual APLUS+ Network Conference will be hosted by the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel, located in the heart of midtown Sacramento, within a short walking distance of the California State Capitol and Park, K Street shops, and many fine restaurants. Hotel room reservations for the 2023 APLUS+ Network Conference at the Sheraton Grand Hotel are available at our conference group rate of \$196 per room per night (not including taxes and assessments), for either a one-bedroom suite or a traditional double room.

Conference hotel room reservations may be made in one of two ways as follows:

1. Access the APLUS+ Conference 2023 Online Reservation Link Here:

[Book your group rate for Aplus+ 2023 Annual Meeting](#)

2. Call Toll Free or the Local Hotel Reservations Line:

1-888-236-2427 or (916) 447-1700

Conference hotel room reservations at the APLUS+ Conference 2023 group rate must be secured no later than Friday, September 29th, 2023.

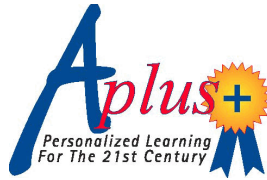
Parking

Parking costs for Sheraton Grand Hotel overnight guests are as follows:

- Self-Parking \$25/day
- Valet Parking \$32/day

The Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel offers:

- ✓ Complimentary basic high speed internet access in sleeping rooms for Marriott Bonvoy Members



APLUS+ Conference 2023 Policies

COVID Protocols

Though we appear to be moving past the COVID era, for the safety and comfort of all our conference guests, APLUS+ will honor and abide by whatever COVID-related safety protocols may still be in effect in October 2023 that may be mandated either by the state, region or Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel.

Wellness Support

Our wellness support table that we established during our APLUS+ Network Conferences in 2021 and 2022 APLUS+ Conferences was very well received and very much appreciated. Though we are moving past the COVID era, APLUS+ will continue to help support the well-being of all conference 2023 attendees with an assortment of daily immune-boosting vitamin supplements, pocket-sized hand sanitizers, and face masks who request them.

Registrations

Our APLUS+ online registration form: <https://aplusnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/m1kij3m1rbd4qn/> can accept up to 15 attendees from each organization. For more than 15 attendees, simply fill out one or more additional registration forms online as needed. Our early registration deadline is Friday, September 1st, 2023, and registration forms and payment must be received by this deadline to take advantage of the early registration discount. All conference registrations must be completed and received in advance of the conference and are due no later than Friday, October 6th, 2023. There will be no onsite registration services available.

Substitutions

Unpredictable and unanticipated circumstances always occur that necessitate last-minute changes in who is able to attend our conference. Therefore, substitutions for registered attendees are welcome as needed and will be honored until Friday, October 13th, 2023 by 5:00 pm.

Cancellations and Refunds

If a school or organization must cancel one or more registrations outright, a full refund of an attendee's conference fee will be given if notification of the attendee's cancellation and a request for a refund is submitted in writing no later than Friday, September 29th, 2023, by 5:00 pm PDT. Due to our annual requirement to front the majority of costs for materials, food, and other conference related fees for each attendee well in advance of the conference date, refunds are not available for any cancellation notice and refund request submitted after September 29, 2023. Unfortunately, we are unable to refund conference sponsorship fees due to late cancellations.

Invoices

Our APLUS+ conference registration policy is to issue and send invoices for conference registrations only upon request. **PLEASE NOTE: If you require an invoice for processing conference payment, PLEASE REQUEST IT IN ADVANCE ON THE ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM AT THE TIME YOU SUBMIT YOUR CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS!** For those requesting invoices, a purchase order number is much appreciated along with your conference registration form for reference on your conference invoice, as well as the email address of the individual to whom the invoice should be sent.

Payments

Schools or organizations with more than one representative attending may submit one payment to cover fees for all attendees. Please make checks payable to APLUS+. APLUS+ can accept direct credit card payments online via Paypal. On your online conference registration form, please indicate if you would like to make payment via Paypal and a Paypal invoice will be emailed to you. Payments must be received in advance of the conference and are due no later than Friday, October 13th, 2023.

Late Payments

All payments must be received in advance of the conference and are due no later than Friday, October 13th, 2023. Payments that are not received prior to the beginning of the conference will be subject to a 10% late fee based on the total amount due.

