

the Association of Personalized Learning Schools & Services

APLUS+ Network Conference 2026

Overview for Attendees and Presenters

**Deadline for Session Proposals & Early Registration-
September 4th, 2026**

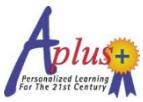


***Flex-Based Personalized Learning:
Rise of the Resistance***

May the Flex be with You! 

Our 23rd Annual APLUS+ Network Conference

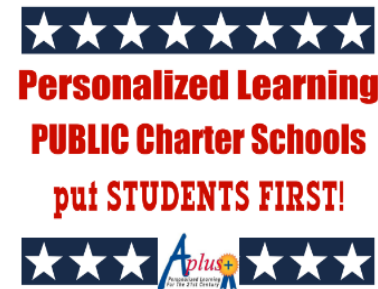
**Wednesday October 21st—Friday, October 23rd, 2026
Sheraton Park Hotel @ The Anaheim Resort
Anaheim, California**



APLUS+ Network Conference 2026 Overview

Welcome to Anaheim! APLUS+ is thrilled once again to return to the land of the Magic Kingdom at Disneyland for our 23rd annual APLUS+ Network Conference! The newly renovated Sheraton Park Hotel @ The Anaheim Resort and its top-of-the-line professional staff will help us have that magical experience once again in 2026! Our host hotel is just a short walk to Downtown Disney and the Magic Kingdom of Disneyland!

Inspired by the ever-evolving imagineers at Disneyland, who continue to find new and innovative ways to expand our imagination and enjoyment in the Magic Kingdom, our APLUS+ Conference 2026 theme is: Flex-Based Personalized Learning—Rise of the Resistance! According to Wikipedia, “unlike most standalone rides, *Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance* is a multi-modal, multi-phase attraction that includes multiple ride systems and experiences, including multiple walkthroughs, motion simulators, an LPS-powered trackless dark ride, and a concealed drop tower, all in conjunction with Audio-Animatronics, practical sets, projection mapping and screen-based media.” As one of the newest and most innovative ride experiences to emerge in the Magic Kingdom in years, the Star Wars Rise of the Resistance attraction aligns well with our unwavering commitment to stand united and resist the opposition’s relentless attacks against us to either force our students back into a full-time classroom-only environment that previously failed them, prevent our growth and expansion to serve more challenged students, or ultimately to kill us outright.



The Stars Wars Rise of the Resistance battle theme is not so different from the ongoing battle that we continue to endure on behalf of students everywhere. Set in the timeline of the Star Wars sequel trilogy, the attraction is centered on a battle between the powerful and authoritarian First Order and the galactic Resistance. In our public education world, the education status quo system and powerful, authoritarian special interests are very much like the First Order. This First Order uses unprecedented political power and force to exert control over the system and the masses. By contrast, we the galactic Resistance in the flex-based personalized learning and greater charter school movements represent unwavering principles of truth. We stand united for what is best to elevate individuals to reach their greatest potential and for the freedom for students to choose the education model that works best for them.

We endured and defeated in recent years two major frontal assaults by the First Order opposition, through AB 1316 and AB 84, to cut our funding, restrict our flexibility, force our students back into a classroom full-time, undermine our ability to personalize instruction, and sabotage our efforts to expand our programs. In 2025, our galactic Resistance also went on offense and rallied behind a comprehensive package of strong charter school reform measures through SB414, championed by our leader, Senator Angelique Ashby. SB414 would have had a significant impact in strengthening oversight and preventing waste, fraud, and abuse. For the first time ever, our charter coalition bill passed through the Legislature, only to be vetoed on the final day by the First Order-aligned Governor of California.



Let’s look ahead in 2026. Despite our continuing student academic achievement results that outperform the state average in both English Language Arts and Math across our network of member schools, our movement must brace for yet another frontal assault. This time the Governor’s office is taking the lead through their proposed budget trailer bill. This more simplified reform package is nowhere near as extreme or extensive as what had been put forth in AB 84 one year ago. Yet the cost burden that all charter schools must bear to be compliant with the current proposal’s measures will be severely taxing at best. There is no mandate cost relief from the state included in the proposal, nor any corresponding fixes to the longstanding funding determination process flaws that we have endured for decades. Bottom line: charter schools must bear the brunt of the bill’s costs. For flex-based charter schools particularly, this financial burden further squeezes our admin cost percentages.

So please plan to join us in October 2026 for our 23rd annual APLUS+ Network Conference. Let us celebrate our ongoing flex-based personalized learning successes, share our best practices with each other, and affirm our Rise of the Resistance commitment to fight for the educational rights of our students, families, and communities for a more flexible, student-centered, personalized, and collaborative education delivery model. *May the Flex be with You!* 🙌

Jeff Rice, Founder/Director; APLUS+



APLUS+ Network Conference 2026 Highlights

Who Attends APLUS+ Network Conferences?

We estimate that our 2026 conference will welcome 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, Flex-Based 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 Personalized Learning instruction.

Professional Development Workshops, Breakout Sessions, and Networking: The APLUS+ Network Conference Cornerstone!

APLUS+ Conference 2026 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, CEOs, 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:

- **Administrative Leadership**
- **Advocacy Strategies, Community Relations, & Outreach Successes**
- **Assessment & Accountability Strategies for Personalized Learning**
- **Charter Renewal Successes**
- **Data Collection, Analysis, & Reporting Strategies**
- **Financial, HR, or Legal Compliance (including CalSTRS challenges)**
- **Instructional Strategies for Achievement**
- **Mental Health challenges and solutions**
- **Preparing Students for Their Goals in Life**
- **Special Education Compliance and Best Practices**
- **Specialized Programs for Personalized Learning Students**
- **Preferred Partner Training Sessions**



MORE THAN A DOZEN TWO-HOUR INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS!

To kick off our 2026 conference we will offer at least a dozen or more two-hour in-depth workshops on Wednesday afternoon, October 21st. 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 50 BREAKOUT SESSIONS COVERING YOUR MOST CRITICAL AREAS OF INTEREST!

Over the course of a day and a half throughout Thursday and Friday morning of the conference, APLUS+ will be offering more than 50 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 PARK HOTEL BALLROOM SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS!

The 2026 APLUS+ Conference will again feature several key spotlight sessions in our main ballroom on topics of top-of-mind interest to many of our attendees.

SUBMIT YOUR WORKSHOP/BREAKOUT SESSION PROPOSAL BY September 4th, 2026.

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 September 4th, 2026:

<https://aplusnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/rwynyad0y8z08t/>

APLUS+ Conference 2026 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 2026 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**

*All presenters must register and pay for one of the conference registration options. Session proposals must be submitted prior to submission of the registration form to take advantage of the 10% presenter discount. Discounts cannot be applied retroactively.

APLUS+ Network Conference 2026 Sponsors, Preferred Partners & Exhibitors

“Flex-Based Personalized Learning: Rise of the Resistance”

Our 2026 APLUS+ Conference will feature up to 49 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 Flex-Based 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, various curriculum resources, and other education-based products and services, mental health and special needs support, as well as back-office, legal, financial, community relations, advocacy, and other consulting services. 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 2026 Pioneer Awards

Following our traditional Flex-Based Personalized Learning state-of-the-state address on Thursday morning, October 22nd, APLUS+ will once again take time to honor and recognize key individuals and organizations within the APLUS+ Network whose innovative vision, passion, achievements, sustainability, and other major successes have helped elevate and advance our Flex-Based Personalized Learning model and movement.

APLUS+ Conference 2026 Wednesday Evening Reception

Our APLUS+ Conference 2026 Wednesday evening kick-off welcome reception will take place out on the Sheraton Resort patio 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 after our first conference day.

The APLUS+ Network Singers Return!

A smash hit in their long-anticipated return after a 17-year absence to the APLUS+ Conference 2025, the APLUS+ Network Singers will take the stage once again following our Wednesday evening reception to entertain you with popular Broadway musical and other popular songs highlighted by lyrics with a special flex-based personalized learning theme twist! Will new songs and new singers be added to this year's performance? You won't want to miss this very special entertainment event!



APLUS+ Conference 2026 Thursday Evening Signature Reception

Our APLUS+ Conference 2026 Thursday evening reception will again take place out on the Sheraton Resort patio immediately following Thursday's full day of general session events and breakout sessions and will feature tasty hors d'oeuvres and drinks with your first beverage of choice again on us!

APLUS+ Conference 2026 Famous Fabulous Farewell Bon Voyage Reception & Drawing

Without a doubt, this annual fabulous farewell reception event is one of the most eagerly anticipated and talked about traditions of our APLUS+ conference! This exciting annual APLUS+ Network conference tradition returns on Friday morning following our morning breakout sessions as we close our 2026 conference on a high note by bidding you all 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 with a shot of caffeine and a variety of tasty, sweet treats. Experience the thrill of anticipation as you anxiously await on the edge of your seat to see if your name will be called above all others for one of dozens of fabulous farewell prizes. Bring your business card to drop in our drawing box and plan to stay to the end for this exciting conference conclusion for your chance to win. As the saying goes, you must be in it to win it!



APLUS+ Conference 2026 Schedule at a Glance

“Flex-Based Personalized Learning: Rise of the Resistance”



Wednesday, October 21st

Registration Check-In	10:00 am—5:30 pm
Coffee and Morning 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	5:15 pm—6:00 pm
APLUS+ Network Singers Broadway Musical Review	6:15 pm—6:45 pm

WEDNESDAY DINNER ON YOUR OWN

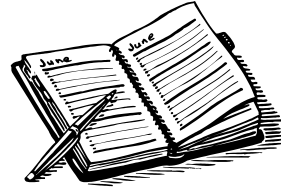
Thursday, October 22nd

Registration Check-In/Breakfast	7:30 am-9:00 am
APLUS+ Exhibitor Hours	7:30 am-5:30 pm
APLUS+ State of the Movement Address	8:00 am-8:50 am
APLUS+ Pioneer Awards Ceremony	8:50 am-9:20 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 & Break Time	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—6:15 pm

THURSDAY DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Friday, October 23rd

Registration Check-In/Breakfast	7:30 am-8:30 am
APLUS+ Exhibitor Hours	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-12:30 pm
Conference concludes	12:30 pm



APLUS+ Conference 2026 Registration Fees

For APLUS+ Members (including Preferred Partner Members):

- Early Full-Conference Registration for Members by 9/4/26-\$799 ea.
- Late Full-Conference Registration for Members by 10/9/26-\$899 ea.
- Early One-Day Conference Registration for Members by 9/4/26-\$599 ea.
- Late One-Day Conference Registration for Members by 10/9/26-\$699 ea.

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

- Early Full-Conference Registration for Non-Members by 9/4/26-\$899 ea.
- Late Full-Conference Registration for Non-Members by 10/9/26-\$999 ea.
- Early One-Day Conference Registration for Non-Members by 9/4/26-\$699 ea.
- Late One-Day Conference Registration for Non-Members by 10/9/26-\$799 ea.

APLUS+ Conference 2026 Registration Instructions

To register for the 23rd annual APLUS+ Network Conference 2026, please complete the online registration form here:

<https://aplusnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/rzhh2gz1td9oac/>

Each online registration form can accommodate up to 9 attendees from a single organization. For more than 9 attendees, simply fill out additional forms. Advance registration and payment only. APLUS+ does not offer onsite conference registration.

May the Flex be with You!



APLUS+ Conference 2026 Hotel Room Reservations "Flex-Based Personalized Learning: Rise of the Resistance"



How to Make Hotel Room Reservations for the APLUS+ Conference 2026 at the Sheraton Park Hotel @ The Anaheim Resort

The APLUS+ Conference 2026 special group hotel room rate is only \$219 per night per room. Applicable state or municipal taxes, fees or assessments are additional.

Conference attendees are responsible for contacting the hotel directly to reserve their own hotel rooms and cover all associated costs. Please be sure to specify room preference either as one king or two double beds. If you are reserving multiple rooms for your group, please only reserve the number of rooms you know you will need. Reserving excess rooms early that you may not need and cancelling at the last minute is problematic and costly to your conference host! Please avoid last-minute cancellations if at all possible!

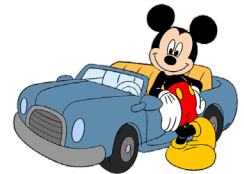
Hotel room reservations for the APLUS+ Conference 2026 can be made online by clicking on the following link:

APLUS+ OCTOBER 2026 - Start your reservation

Hotel room reservations must be secured no later than Tuesday, September 29th, 2026 to take advantage of the APLUS+ Conference 2026 special group room rate.

APLUS+ has also arranged for the following guest amenities:

- ✓ No added resort fee.
- ✓ Complimentary in-room basic Wi-Fi daily.
- ✓ Complimentary basic Wi-Fi in all meeting spaces.
- ✓ Discounted self-parking of \$20.00 per vehicle.



The Sheraton Park Hotel at the Anaheim Resort is located just minutes from Disneyland. The address is:

Sheraton Park Anaheim, 1855 S Harbor Boulevard, Anaheim, CA. 92802

APLUS+ Conference 2026 Registration/Substitution/Cancellation/Payment Policies

Registrations

Our APLUS+ online registration form can accept up to 12 attendees from each organization. For more than 12 attendees, simply fill out one or more additional registration forms online as needed. Our early registration deadline is Friday, September 4th, 2026, 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 9th, 2026. There will be no onsite registration services available.

Substitutions

Unpredictable and unanticipated circumstances always occur that necessitate last-minute changes in who can attend our conference. Therefore, substitutions for registered attendees are welcome as needed and will be honored until Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 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 Wednesday, September 30th, 2026, by 5:00 pm PDT. Due to our annual requirement to front conference 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 30th, 2026. Unfortunately, we are unable to refund conference sponsorship fees.

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 9th, 2026.

Late Payments

All payments must be received in advance of the conference and are due no later than Friday, October 9th, 2026. 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.

Wellness Support

Our wellness support table was established initially during our first post-COVID APLUS+ Network Conference in 2021. As it has been very well received and very much appreciated by our guests, APLUS+ will continue to help support the well-being of all 2026 conference attendees with an assortment of daily immune-boosting vitamin supplements, chocolate, pocket-sized hand sanitizers, and face masks as requested.