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KENTUCKY SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION
SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2025
GRIFFIN GATE MARRIOTT RESORT AND SPA - LEXINGTON, KY

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ADVOCACY

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Character Strong 

Wednesday, September 10, 2025 | 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Pre-Conference Learning Sessions are an additional opportunity for more professional development and CEU contact hours. The sessions generally cover more in-depth information and allows more opportunity for discussion. These sessions are not included in the conference registration fee and have a minimal fee. Space is limited. Interested participants are encouraged to register early. Sessions run concurrently, so only one may be chosen.

1. Navigating the Future: Exploring AI in School Counseling

Russ Sabella



ABOUT THIS SESSION: Join Russ for an insightful keynote presentation that delves into the realm of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the context of school counseling. This engaging session is designed for school counselors seeking to comprehend the fundamentals of AI and its application in their profession. Dr. Sabella will equip school counselors with the knowledge and insights needed to leverage AI effectively, fostering a future-ready approach to school counseling. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the transformative potential of AI in shaping the future of your work.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their laptops to practice using AI during the session.

SPEAKER BIO: Dr. Russell Sabella is currently a Professor of Counseling in the College of Health Professions & Social Work, Florida Gulf Coast University and President of Sabella & Associates. He is well known for his Technology Boot Camp for Counselors workshops conducted throughout the country. Dr. Sabella is Past President (2003-2004) of the American School Counselor Association. He has trained and consulted with thousands of school counselors, educators, parents, and organizational leaders throughout the country. Russ is the co-author of two books entitled *Confronting Sexual Harassment*, *Learning Activities for Teens* and *Counseling in the 21st Century: Using Technology to Improve Practice*. He is also the author of the popular *SchoolCounselor.com*, *A Friendly and Practical Guide to the World Wide Web* as well as *GuardingKids.com*, *A Practical Guide to Keeping Kids Out of High Tech Trouble*.

Russ will also be presenting one breakout session.

2. One Conversation: It Can Change Your Life

Deirdra Williams



ABOUT THIS SESSION: The need to inform and educate others about the role of the school counselor is ongoing. It's even more critical to be able to show relevance and share evidence of how students benefit from their school counseling programs. Prepare to engage in a lively discussion about local, district and state level advocacy and the many possibilities for success in this effort when done the right way.

Objectives:

- Learn how to have effective dialogue with stakeholders about school counseling
- Identify best practices for advocacy throughout the year
- Discover resources to support your advocacy efforts

SPEAKER BIO: Deirdra Williams is the Director of Programs and Advocacy for the American School Counselor Association (ASCA). Prior to joining the ASCA staff in 2021, she served high school students for over 20 years as a school counselor and Dean of Counseling and Student Services in one of the largest school districts in North Carolina. She is also a past Government Relations chair and as well as past President for her SCA.

Deirdra developed a passion for advocacy while serving as her SCA's Government Relations chair and President. Her advocacy work expands from local, to state to national work and now supporting advocacy efforts of state leaders. Deirdra also coordinates the Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP). She uses her own experience of earning RAMP, and providing trainings to school districts to further advocacy efforts by supporting school counselors seeking to earn RAMP for their school. Deirdra encourages use of the ASCA National Model for school counselor advocacy, especially at state and local levels.

Deirdra will be presenting two breakout sessions.

3. SB 1 and Beyond: Understanding KY's School Counselor and Other Mental Health Laws

Abby Piper and Advocacy Committee

ABOUT THIS SESSION: Join Abby Piper and KSCA's legislative experts from the Piper-Smith lobbying firm along with our KSCA advocacy team for a deep dive into recent legislation affecting school based mental health professionals. This session will consist of in-depth and practical explanation of bills passed during the last five years but will also feature a time for school-based teams to work collaboratively on implementation steps and to ask questions in a round table format. All professionals wishing to better understand the law and how these can affect schools are invited to attend.



4. Engaging All Stakeholders To Build Student Success

Nicole Fields

SPEAKER BIO: Dr. Nicole Fields is the school counselor at Grace M. James Academy of Excellence in Jefferson County and the post-secondary VP for KSCA.



Thursday, September 11, 2025 • 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Understanding Students Through Their Perspectives

Tommie Mabry



ABOUT THIS SESSION: This session will give strategies to provide a space for students to develop a positive perspective on their formal education. This interactive session will provide educators with real-world insight into how shifting their own perspective on their students, can transform the educational process. By taking a deep dive into what shapes students’ perspectives, educators can better understand the beliefs, values, and experiences of students who have been labeled as “troubled” or “at risk.”

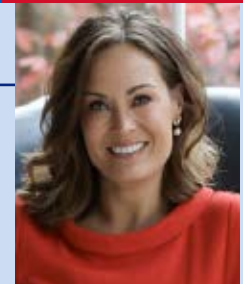
This session will also allow participants to see the importance of being able to build trust with their students.

SPEAKER BIO: Dr. Tommie Mabry grew up in one of Jackson, MS roughest neighborhoods. He was suspended or expelled from several schools due to his behavior. Things started to change for Tommie when he joined an AAU basketball league that traveled around the world. He received a full basketball scholarship to Missouri State University-West Plains and later received a B.A. cum laude in Education from Tougaloo College and his M.A. in Child Development. After his undergraduate studies, Tommie was hired as a teacher by the same Jackson Public School District that had suspended and expelled him many times during elementary and secondary education. He went on to get a Doctorate Degree – an Executive Ph. D. from Jackson State University in 2020 where he majored in Urban Higher Education. Tommie now travels the world sharing his story to motivate and inspire others.

Friday, September 12, 2025 • 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman

Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman is scheduled to appear



SPEAKER BIO: Jacqueline Coleman is the 58th Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky. She is a life-long Kentuckian, educator, basketball coach, writer and founder of a nonprofit. She is wife to Chris, mom to Evelynne, adopted mom to Emma, and a bonus mom to Will and Nate. Her family lives in Frankfort.

Public service is a way of life for Jacqueline and her family. She was raised on a farm in Burgin, where her family owned a small business for five generations. Her upbringing, including her father’s tenure as state representative, taught her to help those in need and, as a result, she has devoted her personal and professional life to service.

After graduating from Mercer County High School, Jacqueline attended Centre College, where she majored in history and secondary education and played on the basketball team. Basketball has always been part of Jacqueline’s life and instilled values in her like attention to detail, discipline, and teamwork. Her grandfather, Jack Coleman, Sr., was the University of Louisville’s first 1,000-point scorer, a hall-of-famer, and two-time NBA champion. Jacqueline earned her master’s degree in political science from the University of Louisville and served on the women’s basketball coaching staff. As a high school basketball coach, she appeared in the 2017 KHSAA Sweet 16 and was named regional coach of the year in 2015.

As the state’s highest elected teacher, Jacqueline is a vocal and passionate advocate for public education. She believes education is the key to providing Kentuckians opportunities for transformational change that can create new cycles of success. She began her career as a high school civics teacher in her hometown at Burgin High School. Jacqueline also taught at East Jessamine High School and, most recently, served as an assistant principal at Nelson County High School. She is currently completing a doctorate in educational leadership at the University of Kentucky.

Her experience in Emerge Kentucky inspired her to found her own nonprofit, Lead Kentucky, in 2013. Lead Kentucky ensures Kentucky’s college women are prepared, encouraged, and empowered to seek leadership positions on their campuses and later in their professional lives. Since its inception, Lead Kentucky has empowered students on more than a dozen college campuses.

Jacqueline remains focused on the challenges Kentucky families face. During her first term, through the Team Kentucky Student Mental Health Initiative, she worked with student leaders to secure more than \$40 million in federal funding to increase student mental health resources in schools across the commonwealth. In January 2020, she led the charge to waive the testing fee for adults earning their GED. Since then, more than 8,100 Kentuckians have earned a GED and changed the trajectory of their families’ futures. She revived the Kentucky Commission on Women after its office was shuttered and funding was removed during the previous administration. As a rural Kentuckian, she aims to ensure Kentucky’s booming economy reaches every zip code.

~ *TENTATIVE SCHEDULE* ~

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

- 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Registration & Information Center Open
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. KSCA Bookstore Open
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Exhibits Open
- 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pre-Conference Sessions

Thursday, September 11, 2025

- 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Registration & Information Center Open
- 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Exhibits Open
- 7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Light Breakfast with Exhibitors
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Opening Keynote Session – Tommie Mabry
- 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Breakout Session 1
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
- 11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. Breakout Session 2
- 12:20 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Box lunches or cold cut buffet
- 1:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Break with Exhibitors
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Breakout Session 3
- 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break with Exhibitors
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Breakout Session 4

Friday, September 12, 2025

- 7:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Registration & Information Center Open
- 7:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Exhibits Open
- 7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Coffee Break with Exhibitors
- 8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Breakout Session 5
- 9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
- 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Grade Level Share Sessions
- 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Transition Break
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon with Keynote
– Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman
is scheduled to appear

REGISTRATION FORM (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME (as it should appear on name badge) _____

JOB TITLE - (REQUIRED PLEASE) _____

ORGANIZATION/SCHOOL DISTRICT _____

ATTENDEE EMAIL (REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION) _____

WORK ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

WORK PHONE (_____) _____

- Is this your first time attending: Yes No
- Will you be attending the Awards Brunch: Yes No
- I am a (Please Check One): Professional Member Student Member Retiree Member Non-Member
- Role: Elementary School Counselor Middle School Counselor High School Counselor Post-Secondary School Counselor Educator
 Grad Student Other _____
- How long have you currently worked as a Certified Professional School Counselor? N/A First Year 1-3 years 4-8 years 9-15 years 15+ years

| A. Main Conference Attend both days (Sept. 11-12) | Professional/Affiliate MEMBER** | Graduate Student/ Retiree/Emeritus MEMBER** | Non-Members | BECOME A KSCA MEMBER OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP! \$40 FOR PROFESSIONALS OR \$25 FOR STUDENTS & RETIREES!** |
|--|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Register (by July 31, 2025)* | \$185 | \$85 | \$250 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Registration (August 1, 2025 - Sept. 7, 2025) | \$205 | \$105 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Final Registration (after Sept. 7, 2025) | \$235 | \$135 | | |
| B. Pre-Conference Learning Session (Sept. 10) Please choose one. | Professional/Affiliate | Graduate Student/ Retiree/Emeritus | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Navigating the Future: Exploring AI – Sabella | \$50 | \$40 | Main Conference (A) \$ _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. One Conversation: It Can Change Your Life – Williams | | | Pre-Conference (B) \$ _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. SB 1 and Beyond – Piper & Advocacy Committee | | | Add Membership (C) \$ _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Engaging All Stakeholders To Build Student Success – Fields | | | Total Due (A + B + C) \$ _____ | |

* To qualify for the Early Registration Rate, your registration form AND payment (copy of your purchase order, check, or credit card) must be received or postmarked by the Early Registration cutoff date.
** Membership must be good through September 12, 2025 to qualify for membership rates.

REGISTRATIONS CANNOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT PAYMENT. PLEASE SEND PAYMENT AND REGISTRATION FORM(S) TOGETHER.

How and Where Do I Pay?

| | WEBSITE | EMAIL | FAX | PHONE | MAIL |
|----------------|---------|-------|-----|-------|------|
| CREDIT CARD | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| PURCHASE ORDER | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| CHECK | | | | | ✓ |

WEBSITE: www.ncyionline.org/ky-scac

EMAIL: registrations@ncyi.org

FAX: 423-899-4547

PHONE: 866-318-6294

MAIL: National Center for Youth Issues
P.O. Box 22185
Chattanooga, TN 37422-2185

Please make your check or purchase order payable to: **National Center for Youth Issues.**

A W-9 is available on the website.

PLEASE NOTE: The attendee will receive a confirmation to the email address provided when their registration is processed (make sure to check Junk/Spam folders). Please allow ample time for processing.

PAYMENT METHOD

- PURCHASE ORDER** A COPY OF THE PURCHASE ORDER IS REQUIRED.
(PAYABLE TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH ISSUES, P.O. BOX 22185, CHATTANOOGA, TN 37422-2185)
- CHECK ENCLOSED** (MADE PAYABLE TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH ISSUES)
- CREDIT CARD** PERSONAL CORPORATE

CARD NO. _____ EXP. DATE _____ CID# _____

NAME ON CARD (PLEASE PRINT) _____

CREDIT CARD BILLING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE _____ EMAIL _____

CANCELLATION POLICY: If we are forced to cancel the KSCA Conference because of a "force majeure" event, such as a government restriction on large gatherings that cover the intended size of the conference, then we will issue full refunds of the registrations. Otherwise, our normal cancellation policy will be upheld: There will be no refunds after August 10, 2025. All cancellations before August 10, 2025 will be refunded less a \$25 handling fee. The conference is not responsible for and cannot give refunds due to problems beyond its control such as weather or school closings. The sponsors of the conference receive registrant contact information.

On social distancing and other health and safety measures, the regulations/guidelines that apply to hotels and conference centers may change. The KSCA Conference will conform to all necessary regulations/guidelines that are in place as of the date of the conference.

The Kentucky School Counselors Conference will take place at the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort and Spa, Lexington, KY

1800 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY 40511



All events of the conference will be located at the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort & Spa. Standard rooms at the hotel may be reserved at a special **conference rate of \$170 per night, plus tax**. This rate is **valid through August 19, 2025**.

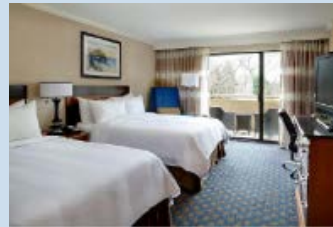
Please note that when reserving your stay you will be charged an additional \$20.00 daily resort fee on top of the nightly rate of \$170 plus taxes. However, this charge will be modified to \$10.00 upon check out. Guests are not charged when making a reservation.

To make hotel reservations:

CALL: (800) 228-9290 or (859) 231-5100.

Be sure to mention the group code COUCOUA or the Kentucky School Counselor Association.

REGISTER ONLINE: Go to www.ncyionline.org/ky-scac and scroll to the “Accommodations” section. Click on “Book a Room.”



Come Learn and Play!

In the evening, make sure you take time to relax and enjoy the surrounding area.

Visit www.ncyionline.org/ky-scac to see the things to do around the beautiful Griffin Gate Marriott Resort and Spa.

Visit the Hamburg Pavilion, just minutes away from the Marriott!

- You can sit back and relax at the many restaurants at the Hamburg Pavilion, such as Logan’s Roadhouse, Tekka, and Old Chicago, along with others.
- At the Hamburg Pavilion enjoy shopping at the White House / Black Market, DSW, Bath & Body Works, and many more!



We hope this conference will educate and equip you to do your job well, and we also hope you will take advantage of the wonderful ways you can relax and be refreshed!