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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Illinois Principals Association to Host “TeamWorks” Conference in October

Springfield, IL - The Illinois Principals Association (IPA) will host its 54th Education Leaders Annual Conference, “TeamWorks” from October 19-21, 2025, in Peoria, IL. The event will feature keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities to help school leaders enhance their impact on schools and communities.

2025-2026 IPA President Dr. Angie Codron shared, “Leading teams as a school leader is a critical part of the job. Making time to collaborate and learn from each other at the annual conference will remind us that being a part of a ***team works*** better than leading alone.”

The conference kicks off Sunday with a golf tournament, committee meetings, and a welcome reception honoring past IPA presidents. Keynote speakers include:

- **Andrew Marotta**, Director of Academic Services and Communications in Port Jervis City School District in New York, will open Monday with his session “*Be the ONE, Surviving and Thriving.*” Andrew will take participants on a fun journey of exploring, dissecting, and diving deep into the strategies and intentional actions of being THAT one that people want to work with and be around.
- **Dr. Angie Codron**, 2025-2026 IPA President and **Illinois State Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders**, will speak Monday afternoon. IPA Awards for Excellence, Herman Graves Award, Reaching Out & Building Bridges Award, and the Mr. John Ourth & Dr. Fred W. Singleton Professional Development Scholarships will also be presented at this session.
- **Shauna Green**, University of Illinois Women’s Basketball Coach, will deliver a keynote Tuesday morning titled “*How to Cultivate a Winning Team and Culture.*” Green will explore how culture and connection directly influence winning, both on and off the court. Participants will discover what it truly means to be ELITE and the defining characteristics that set elite performers and leaders apart.

Additionally, Tuesday’s **IGNITE** session will feature fast-paced presentations from notable principals, including Monet Webster, Abraham Lincoln Elementary School (Belleville); Chevi Ingalls, Central Elementary School (Camp Point); Brian Faulkner, Kaneland Harter Middle School (Sugar Grove); Jamie Toland, Rochester Intermediate School (Rochester);

and Tim Moore, Bloomington High School (Bloomington). Each will share their unique perspectives on school leadership in 5-minute bursts.

The conference will conclude with **IPA Deputy Executive Director, Brian Schwartz, and IPA Government & Public Relations Director, Alison Maley**, providing updates on new education-related laws passed during the 2025 Illinois Legislative Session, and offering insights on how school leaders can stay informed and advocate for their schools.

For more information about the IPA or to register to attend, please visit **ilprincipals.org**.

The Illinois Principals Association is a leadership organization serving more than 7,000 educational leaders throughout Illinois whose mission is to develop, support, and advocate for innovative educational leaders.

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