

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

IPA Education Leaders Annual Conference
October 18-20, 2026 – Peoria, IL

Conference Presentation Proposal Guidelines

Get ready to showcase your expertise at the 2026 IPA Education Leaders Annual Conference! We're looking for dynamic, engaging sessions that align with this year's theme – Unlocking Potential. Here's what you need to know to get your proposal in the mix:

What's the Format?

- ✓ Small Group Sessions: 55 minutes (30 proposals selected).
- ✓ Spotlight Lunch Sessions: 35 minutes (8 proposals selected).

The Numbers Game

- ✓ We receive more than 125 proposals each year, and you can submit up to two proposals (proposals are date and time stamped – only the first two will be reviewed).

How to Stand Out

To boost your chances of being selected, focus on the following:

- ✓ **Illinois School Leaders Preferred:** Vendor/consultant proposals will be considered only if submitted in partnership with an Illinois school leader.
- ✓ **Tie It to the Paradigm:** Align your session with a Dimension – Culture, Systems, or Learning.
- ✓ **Catchy Titles:** Make your title pop! (100 character limit)
- ✓ **Clear, Actionable Descriptions:** Say exactly what attendees will gain and how they'll use it. (350 character limit)

*Check out these examples, bring your A-game,
and let's make this conference come alive!*

CULTURE DOMAIN

Building Relationships in Schools

This session is about relationships in schools. We'll talk about why relationships are important and how they can help. Participants will learn some ideas about building relationships and why they matter. It will be a good session for anyone working in a school.

✓ Relationships That Rule and Winning Strategies for School Success

Strong relationships are key to thriving school communities. Join three experienced educators to explore strategies for building trust, collaboration, and belonging among staff, students, and families. Through real-world examples and practical tools, you'll gain actionable insights to improve school climate and student outcomes.

SYSTEMS DOMAIN

Leading Schools

This session will talk about leadership in schools. We'll cover some important things school leaders should know. It will be a good session for anyone who is a principal or wants to be one. Attendees will learn some tips about leadership.

✓ Lead Like a Boss With Insights from Award-Winning Illinois Principals

Discover what it takes to lead schools to success! Two award-winning Illinois principals share strategies to drive improvement, build positive culture, and empower teachers and students. Gain practical tools, real-world insights, and actionable tips to tackle challenges in school leadership.

LEARNING DOMAIN

Assessments in Schools

This session will focus on assessments in schools. We will discuss how assessments are important and what schools can do with them. Attendees will learn some things about assessments that will help them in their schools.

✓ Level Up Learning and Turn Assessments into Student Growth Wins!

Assessments can drive instruction and boost student success! Join two experts to explore strategies for designing impactful assessments, interpreting data, aligning goals, and fostering a growth culture. Gain practical tools and real-world examples to maximize the power of assessments in your school.