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### *Spring Conference Update*

Please attend our "no travel required" Spring Conference, on March 20:

[Making Creative, Clever, and Courageous Connections to Deepen the Pool](#)

The shortage of qualified teachers and principals in Pennsylvania has been well-publicized. Less publicity has been given to solutions. While many contend that simpler qualifications will make the difference, PAC-TE members know that our teacher and principal preparation programs reflect the high quality of our respective college/university missions, as well as the Ch. 354 and Ch. 49 regulations that exert controls. Come to this conference to discover examples of partnerships that can help us deepen the pool of qualified and courageous educators and keep them afloat as they hone their skills.

Keynote speaker is Dr. Rebecca West Burns, a nationally recognized leader in teacher education. She has served in leadership positions for the National Association for Professional Development Schools, the AERA Professional Development Schools Research Special Interest Group and Supervision and Instructional Leadership Special Interest Group, and the Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision. She also has received national recognition for her exemplary school-university collaboration and impact on urban education. Burns has authored and co-authored more than 60 publications, including four books, and has given more than 130 presentations in local, state, regional, national and international contexts, including at our very own TEA a few years ago.

Following the Keynote are three breakout sessions:

1. School Counselors & School Social Workers as partners

2. Supporting the Recruitment and Retention of New Teachers: Developing Teacher Leadership Through Instructional Coaching
3. Fireside Chat with Dr. Burns--extend the conversation and ask questions

Each Breakout Session is repeated, so attendees can easily choose two of the three sessions.

New option: We will offer a 1-hour optional session at the end of the conference for those who are interested in our online Book Club. The selected book is Elena Aguilera's *Onward: Cultivating Emotional Resilience in Educators*

The day will include a session with leaders from PDE.

The day will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will be streamed via [Whova](#), which offers a desktop or laptop experience and a mobile app experience. Conference events will be livestreamed through the app, and attendees can gather on their campuses or elsewhere or participate from home. No need to pay for lodging or travel.

If your special interest group needs to gather right after the conference (same day) and you would like to utilize Whova for your session, let our Executive Director, Joel Geary, know at [joel@pac-te.org](mailto:joel@pac-te.org)

Even if you must come and go due to scheduling conflicts, Whova makes it easy to stay involved. Whova pulls together streaming, messaging and attendee communication through various ice breakers, messaging boards, themed chats, note-taking, and even job-posting pages.

Paid registrants will have access to whatever is saved on the Whova app for 3 months following the conference.

As always, the end of the day includes an opportunity to win prizes including gift cards and/or free registration to upcoming conferences. This year we will offer a grand prize of free admission for a team of up to four (4) faculty and staff (or students!) to attend the Fall Conference in October (Prize does not include hotel rooms.)

Cost of Registration:

Members: \$75 through March 19; \$100 on the day of the conference

Non-members: \$100 through March 19; \$125 on day of conference.

Students: \$50

Registration for the conference is online at [this link](#).



## *Teacher Education Day on the Hill*

The Government Relations Committee, chaired by President-elect Tom Conway, is announcing PAC-TE's annual "Day on the Hill" (known as Teacher Education Day or TED).

**Date:** April 9.

**Time:** 9:30 AM arrival, 11:00 event in the Capitol Rotunda, visits with legislators throughout the day, lunch/wrap-up 1:30 -2:00 PM

**Location:** Harrisburg, at the Capitol

The GRC is working to acquire a variety of speakers. Information will be shared in the next edition of PAC-TE's *Update* and on our website.

The Teacher Education Day event is open with no charge for those who attend; however, **registration is required**. A link to the registration page will be shared in the February *Update*.

This year's event is in partnership with [PEDC](#) and the PA Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE).





## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 20, 2024 -- Annual Spring Conference (Virtual)

April 9, 2024 -- Teacher Education Day at the Capitol

October 23-25, 2024 -- Fall Conference (in person)

**PAC-TE is a state unit of AACTE and ATE**



AACTE and PAC-TE collaborate to strengthen their advocacy efforts, share experience and expertise, and expand their members' professional development opportunities. To this end, our Chapter's relationship with

AACTE is a voluntary affiliation that allows us to advance our members' interests.



The Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators

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If you have suggestions for a future *Update*, please contact us using the methods shown above.

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