



# Women Education Leaders in Virginia

Fall 2021



October 2021

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"Women Education  
Leaders in Virginia"  
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"WELV VA"

## Women Education Leaders in Virginia 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference

**A Time for Lift: Inspiring and Empowering Yourself and Others**

March 3-4, 2022

Omni Hotel, Downtown Charlottesville



WELV Conference 2020

Are you ready to network with colleagues, learn, and have fun?



We were so thankful to have our WELV Conference via Zoom last year! We stayed connected but we are ready to be together face-to-face!

Thursday's Keynote: *Thrive Through the Five: Practical Truths to Powerfully Teach and Lead through Challenging Times.* [Dr. Jill Siler, Leader, Superintendent, Author](#)

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** In challenging times, a central role of leaders is to inspire hope. During the Pandemic and now as we transition to a "new normal", leadership requires the ability to thrive in a world filled with trauma and uncertainty.

Dr. Jill Siler's first book, *Thrive Through the Five*, was released in 2020 and focuses on how to thrive through the most challenging seasons. **All those who register will receive a copy of her book.**

Register at [www.welv.org](http://www.welv.org)

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello WELV Sisters!!

I am so excited to serve as your WELV President!! I promise not to keep you long, but I wanted to share a few thoughts as we embark upon the 2021-2022 academic year. First, I honor and celebrate you...Since March 13, 2020, regardless of your current position or job title, you have shown up every day to lead through the murky, uncharted waters of Covid-19. Any advice or suggestion provided, was simply that, as no one has led through this type of crisis before. However, I believe that every experience prepares us for something new down the road. Now, we have additional tools in our toolkits that will help us navigate through additional challenges we may face in our individual leadership journeys. Don't stop! You've got this, **PRESS FORWARD!**

The theme for the 2022 Annual Conference is *A Time for Lift: Inspiring and Empowering Yourself and Others*. I've been reflecting on this theme for a couple of weeks, and I just can't get the image of a door out of my mind. I kept asking myself, "what is with this door?" In several recent conversations with colleagues, I've come to realize that many educators are stuck. Stuck in a classroom without support. Stuck in a classroom when they have more to offer. Stuck in an AP position overshadowed by their principal. Stuck in the principal seat when they are ready to be district leaders. This realization led to my aha moment: stop waiting for someone to open the door! You have all the necessary skills you need to position yourself to be whatever you want to be in your classroom, school division, and/or community. We must stop operating like we are powerless. Instead, we must allow our expertise to be seen, heard, and valued. It is time that we stand in our skills, position ourselves, and go!

Never fear, your WELV sisters are here! We want to provide you with supports beyond the annual conference. We have heard many educators express their need for mentoring and/or coaching. What I've realized is that many are intertwining the two although they serve different purposes. Now, can someone need both? Yes. However, it is important to know what you need and when you need it. WELV is preparing to formally introduce a new mentoring program to our members. As such, it is important to know what you need:

	<b>Coaching</b>	<b>Mentoring</b>
Difference #1	Coaching is task oriented. It is about acquiring skills and knowledge. A coach helps someone get to a different level of competency (moving from point A to point B).	Mentoring is relationship oriented. It is designed to provide a safe environment for the mentee to express critical issues that affect his/her professional and personal success.
Difference #2	Coaches are experts in specific areas. Their expertise typically includes a monetary investment.	Mentors are developmental facilitators, geared towards personal transformations.
Difference #3	Coaching is one-directional. It is a one-way street getting someone to their destination.	Mentoring is bi-directional. Both the mentor and the mentee gain through the relationship.

So, what do you need? I have a coach that I invest in to help me be strategic in meeting my goals (and there's no crying in coaching). I have a mentor that I seek guidance from...we laugh, I cry, and we move on! If you are looking for a mentor, please click this link <https://forms.gle/A8WRKQui2sfTAppk8> and answer a few questions. It is important that you complete the mentor request survey by October 15, 2021. Our goal is to pair you up with a mentor in early October.

Your WELV leadership is in the process of developing a virtual book club. If you are interested in learning more and/or participating, please click the Book Club Link <https://forms.gle/EvRnJLwTEWyDvue49> and answer a few questions. This is going to be a great opportunity to explore ideas, reflect, and expand your understanding with a diverse group of passionate women.

As you can see, your WELV Board has been busy! I look forward to continued conversations with you. If you haven't already, please make sure you register for our Annual Conference that is scheduled for March 3-4, 2022, at the Omni Hotel in Charlottesville, VA.

Regards,  
Taneshia H. Rachal, Ed.D.

# Women Education Leaders of Virginia Leadership Awards



**Tracy Lee, WELV Region 1 Leader of the Year**

We wanted to remind you to help us recognize outstanding Women Leaders in Virginia. The different awards for consideration are listed below. We are accepting nominations for all the awards except The Breaking the Glass Ceiling Award. This award is given by the WELV Board of Directors. We hope you will help us recognize the deserving leaders in Virginia. The WELV Leadership awards are:

**The Breaking the Glass Ceiling Award**, established at the start of WELV, is presented to a woman who by her accomplishments and her appointments to a position or positions heretofore not held by women has provided new pathways for other women to follow. She has demonstrated outstanding leadership that has contributed to the quality of education in Virginia. Most importantly, she has broken the glass ceiling in her field. Listed below are recipients with notations on some of their “firsts”. **This is not an annual award but is awarded by the Board of Directors when it deems that a recipient has “broken the glass ceiling in Virginia”.**

**The WELV Spirit Award**, established in 2009, is presented to a leader who has had a significant role in supporting the mission of WELV to promote women in all areas of education and to further the participation of women in higher levels of educational administration.

**The Rising Star Female Leader**, established in 2012, is presented to an educational leader who demonstrates the traits of an outstanding leader and is viewed by her colleagues as an individual with great potential to contribute significantly to education in Virginia.

**The Outstanding Service to Education Award**, established in 2012, is presented to a leader who has made a particularly significant and unusual contribution to education in Virginia and who has served as a role model and mentor to emerging female leaders.

**WELV Mentor Award, established in 2019**, is presented to an educational leader who served or serves as an inspirational mentor to women leaders and has consistently supported women for advancement throughout his/her career.

**Regional Woman Leader of the Year, established in 2019**, is presented to a woman leader in each of the eight Superintendents’ Regions. The recipient in each region is a leader who has led with impact on student learning and has promoted with passion and actions the mission of WELV. She motivates those around her to be the best they can be. She models generosity of spirit and encourages others to become involved with WELV.

## **FOR ALL AWARDS except Glass Ceiling Award**

**Nomination Procedures:** *The nominator is to submit (1) a letter of nomination, referring specifically to stated criteria and citing examples, (2) a resume, and (3) two additional letters of recommendation from individuals who know well and can speak to the accomplishments of the nominee.*

*These materials are to be submitted electronically to the Executive Director ([afogliani@aol.com](mailto:afogliani@aol.com)) by January 15, 2022. Selection Procedures: The Nominations Committee of the WELV Board will review completed nomination packets and make recommendations, based on stated criteria, to the full WELV Board. The Board will make final decisions on the awards to be presented at the upcoming Annual Conference.*

For additional information on all the WELV Award Categories, please go to [http://www.welv.org/index.php/home/learn\\_more/awards](http://www.welv.org/index.php/home/learn_more/awards)

# WELV WELCOMES NEW SUPERINTENDENTS

As the 2021-22 school year begins, WELV welcomes seven new Virginia school women leaders serving school divisions as superintendents.



**Alleghany County  
Ms. Kimberly Halterman**



**Franklin County  
Dr. Joyce Bernice Cobbs**



**Middlesex County  
Dr. Tracy B. Seitz**



**Page County  
Dr. Antonia Fox**



**Prince William County  
Dr. LaTanya McDade**



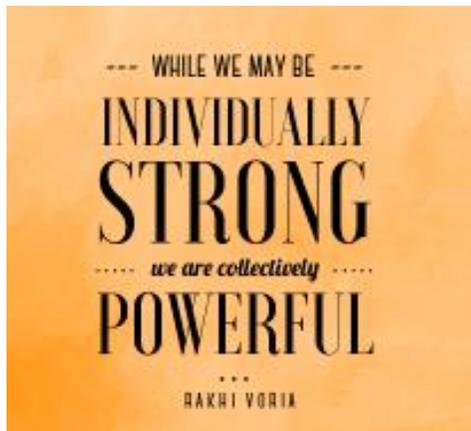
**Shenandoah County  
Ms. Melody A. Sheppard**



**Manassas Park City  
Dr. Melissa Saunders**

# WELV Outreach News

## Ambassadors and Affiliates: Ignite 2021 Submitted by Gabby Ryman, Outreach Director



While 2020-21 was a challenging year in every way, WELV Ambassadors and Affiliate programs continued with their mission to bring women together. Most, if not all, events were held virtually but still succeeded in creating engaging, fun environments. On October 24, 2020, Region 4 Affiliate WALL (Women Administrators Leading Learning!) held a virtual conference with the theme 'Dare to Lead with True Presence'. The event kicked off with a coffee hour and small group sessions geared towards participants interest and hobbies. Breakout sessions and special guest Kelly Horner rounded out the half-day session that left everyone feeling uplifted and supported.

The ladies of Region 8 had a successful virtual event in November 2020 as well. They spent the evening creating and sharing their own vision boards. This activity provided a tremendous fellowship opportunity and gave each attendee the change to envision the future they each want and need to manifest their goals. In February 2021, Region 8 also held a Twitter chat to offer support and idea sharing related to successful virtual learning environments.



**#12DaysTwitter #welvchat**



Please join the WELV community from Dec 7-18 for some festive fun while growing your PLN!!

Each day be sure to include #12DaysTwitter & #welvchat in your tweets.

<b>Day 1: 12/7</b> Tweet a meme or gif to introduce yourself and follow new people.	<b>Day 2: 12/8</b> Tweet your favorite self-care strategy.	<b>Day 3: 12/9</b> Tweet your favorite app or extension to use either personally or professionally.	<b>Day 4: 12/10</b> Tweet your favorite thing that has happened in your classroom, school or division so far this year.
<b>Day 5: 12/11</b> Tweet your favorite educational website, blog or book.	<b>Day 6: 12/12</b> Tweet about your all-time favorite teacher or tweet a shout out to a colleague.	<b>Day 7: 12/13</b> Tweet about one new item you would like for your classroom, school or division and why.	<b>Day 8: 12/14</b> Tweet a favorite fun holiday activity you or your family like to do together.
<b>Day 9: 12/15</b> Tweet a meme or gif that shows your favorite holiday movie, quote or song.	<b>Day 10: 12/16</b> Tweet one thing you would do differently if you could start this year over.	<b>Day 11: 12/17</b> Retweet something you found helpful, funny or interesting that you think will benefit our Twitter PLN.	<b>Day 12: 12/18</b> Tweet one goal you have for yourself for the upcoming year.

Adapted from the work of [Mickie Mueller](#)

Throughout the year, the Ambassadors and Affiliates brainstormed other ways to keep existing members engaged and supported during the ongoing pandemic. One of the ideas put into action was the first WELV #12DaysTwitter chat leading up to the 2020 holiday season. A variety of fun, engaging questions were posed over twelve days and resulted in engaging as many as 30 participants. For the 2021-22 year, WELV is planning this activity again along with several other Twitter chats to continue to attract more women to engage with our social media platforms.

As we eagerly look forward to the WELV Annual Conference 'A Time to Lift' returning to an in-person format in March 2022, the Ambassadors and Affiliates will continue to leverage the virtual skills we all have learned over the past year to attract more attendees and ignite excitement for the conference. The first 2021-22 virtual meeting for Ambassadors and Affiliate Leaders will be at 5:30pm on September 21, 2021. As Affiliate programs make plans for the year, please share information with Gabby Ryman and Shauna Mayo so that we can support your program and highlight how you support the WELV mission.

**Gabby Ryman**

# WELV Regional Representatives

[garyman@shenandoah.k12.va.us](mailto:garyman@shenandoah.k12.va.us) Shauna Mayo [smayo@jtcc.edu](mailto:smayo@jtcc.edu)

## Region I

Tracy Lee, Family Engagement Specialist,  
Virginia Department of Education  
[tracy.lee@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:tracy.lee@doe.virginia.gov)

Charles City	Henrico	Richmond (City)
Chesterfield	Hopewell	Sussex
Colonial Heights	New Kent	Surry
Dinwiddie	Petersburg	
Goochland	Powhatan	
Hanover	Prince George	

## Region II

Shonda Harris-Muhammed, Assistant  
Principal, Franklin City High School,  
Franklin City  
[shonda.harrismuhammed@gmail.com](mailto:shonda.harrismuhammed@gmail.com)

Accomack	Norfolk
Chesapeake	Poquoson
Franklin City	Portsmouth
Hampton	Southampton
Isle of Wight	Suffolk
Newport News	Virginia Beach
Northampton	Williamsburg/James York

## Region III

Sarah Cleric, Superintendent, Caroline  
County  
[scalveric@ccps.us](mailto:scalveric@ccps.us)

Caroline	Mathews
Colonial Beach	Middlesex
Essex	Northumberland
Fredericksburg	Richmond (County)
Gloucester	Spotsylvania
King and Queen	Stafford
King George	Westmoreland
King William	West Point
Lancaster	

## Region IV

Jennifer Cavanaugh, Assistant Principal,  
Rock Ridge High School, Loudoun County  
[jennifer.cavanaugh@lcps.org](mailto:jennifer.cavanaugh@lcps.org)

Arlington	Fauquier	Page
Alexandria	Frederick	Prince William
Clarke	Loudoun	Rappahannock
Culpeper	Madison	Shenandoah
Falls Church	Manassas	Warren
Fairfax (City)	Manassas Park	Winchester
Fairfax (County)	Orange	

## Region V

Katrina Lee, Supervisor Sp. Education  
Charlottesville City  
[LeeK1@charlottesvilleschools.org](mailto:LeeK1@charlottesvilleschools.org)

Albemarle	Charlottesville	Louisa
Amherst	Fluvanna	Nelson
Augusta	Greene	Rockbridge
Bath	Harrisonburg	Rockingham
Bedford	Highland	Staunton
Buena Vista	Lexington	Waynesboro
Campbell	Lynchburg	

## Region VI

Jeanette Warwick, Superintendent  
Craig County  
[jwarwick@craig.k12.va.us](mailto:jwarwick@craig.k12.va.us)

Alleghany	Franklin County	Roanoke City
Botetourt	Henry	Roanoke County
Craig	Martinsville	Salem
Covington	Montgomery	
Danville	Patrick	
Floyd	Pittsylvania	

## Region VII

Gina Wohlford, Superintendent, Norton City  
[gwohlford@nortoncityschools.org](mailto:gwohlford@nortoncityschools.org)

Bland	Grayson	Smyth
Bristol	Lee	Tazewell
Buchanan	Norton	Washington
Carroll	Pulaski	Wise
Dickenson	Radford	Wythe
Galax	Russell	
Giles	Scott	

## Region VIII

Krystal Pearson, Director Technology  
Brunswick County  
[pearsonk@brunswickcps.org](mailto:pearsonk@brunswickcps.org)

Amelia	Halifax
Appomattox	Lunenburg
Brunswick	Mecklenburg
Buckingham	Nottoway
Charlotte	Prince Edward
Cumberland	
Greensville	

## Higher Education Representative

Shauna Mayo, Professor, John Tyler  
Community College  
[smayo@jtcc.edu](mailto:smayo@jtcc.edu)

Christopher Newport University	UVA College at Wise
College of William and Mary	Virginia Commonwealth
George Mason University	Virginia Military Institute
James Madison University	Virginia State University
Longwood University	Virginia Tech
Norfolk State University	
Mary Baldwin University	
Old Dominion University	
Hampton University	
Radford University	
University of Mary Washington	
University of Richmond	
University of Virginia	
George Washington University	

Please email your WELV Regional Representative to see how you can  
become more involved with WELV!



## A Time for Lift: Inspiring and Empowering Yourself and Others

March 3 and 4, 2022  
Omni Hotel, Downtown Charlottesville  
Call for Proposals to Present

The WELV Board is seeking proposals to serve as a presenter for one of 10 concurrent sessions on Thursday or facilitate a tabletop Practicing Exchange on Friday. Proposal forms can be found

### **\*\*Important Information:\*\***

- Conference concurrent learning sessions will be **1 hour and 15 minutes** in length. The final 15 minutes are designed for participant discussion.
- Conference round table presentations/discussions are 1 hour in length. Suggested presentation time 30 minutes followed by 30 minutes of discussion.
- All presenters are **EXPECTED TO REGISTER** for the conference and to pay registration fees.
- Please provide your presentation materials electronically and send them to [womenedleadersva@gmail.com](mailto:womenedleadersva@gmail.com)
- A-V: Presenters provide the laptop and projector. WELV will provide the screen.

**Important Dates:** *You will be notified via email if your proposal is accepted.*

<b>Deadline for Proposal:</b>	<b>November 10, 2021</b>
<b>Invitation to Present:</b>	<b>December 1, 2021</b>
<b>Acceptance of Invitation to Present:</b>	<b>December 15, 2021</b>
<b>Registration Due:</b>	<b>Upon acceptance of invitation</b>

Conference information, to include online registration can be found at <http://welv.org> All presenters are eligible to receive the early bird registration rates regardless of when they register.

Please save your proposal as Word Document or PDF and e-mail to the Executive Director, Elaine Fogliani @ [afogliani@aol.com](mailto:afogliani@aol.com)

# 2022 CONFERENCE INFORMATION

## REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

The conference registration fee covers parking, buffet breakfast and luncheon, evening reception on Thursday, all conference resource materials, and a copy of Dr. Jill Siler's book, *Thrive Through the Five: Practical Truths to Powerfully Lead Through Challenging Times*.

Your registration fee for the conference also includes a year's membership in WELV, a savings of \$40 (standard membership) or \$25 (retired member or full-time graduate student).

**Note: There are rate differences for the Private Sector and Public Sector**

Public Sector			Private Sector		
	Early Bird January 7, 2022	After Early Bird		Early Bird January 7, 2022	After Early Bird
Both Days	\$325	\$350		Both Days	\$500 \$550
Thursday Only	\$22	\$275		Thursday Only	\$400 \$450
Friday Only	\$200	\$250		Friday Only	\$300 \$350

## REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

You must be a member of WELV to participate in the WELV 2022 Annual Conference.

The Registration Fee is non-refundable. If you are unable to attend the conference, please send someone in your place and notify Judy Lam [womenedleadersva@gmail.com](mailto:womenedleadersva@gmail.com)

**\*REGISTRATION is Open**  
**CHECK [www.welv.org](http://www.welv.org) for more information!**

*We hope to see you there!*

## WELV TAX-DEDUCTIBLE LEVELS OF GIVING

A great way to support WELV and demonstrate your commitment to the development of women education leaders in Virginia is to make a tax-deductible contribution. Contribute as a **Friend of WELV** (up to \$50), a **Collaborator with WELV** (\$51 - \$100) or a **Leader for WELV** (\$101 and up). Contact [Elaine Fogliani](#) for more information.