

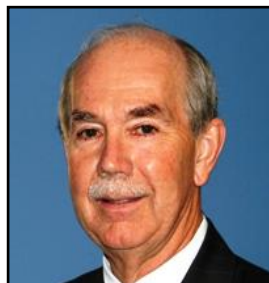
WELV 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE PRESENTERS



Carol Ann Tomlinson is the William Clay Parrish, Jr. Professor and Chair of Educational Leadership, Foundations, and Policy and co-director of the Institutes on Academic Diversity at the Curry School of Education, University of Virginia. She was named Outstanding Professor at Curry School of Education in 2004 and received an All-University Teaching Award in 2008. She was a public school teacher for 21 years, working with preschoolers, middle school students, and high school students. At the secondary level, she taught English, language arts, German, and history. In 2014's EducationNext Edu-Scholar Public Presence rankings, Dr. Tomlinson was named one of the two most influential higher education voices in the United States in Psychology. Dr. Tomlinson has written more than 300 books, articles, and other materials for educators, and her books have been translated into 12 languages.



Noelle Ellerson directs the legislative and advocacy efforts of AASA in Congress and the U.S. Department of Education. Ms. Ellerson also maintains AASA's advocacy network and social media. She regularly speaks on federal education policy to school leaders across the country. Ms. Ellerson graduated from Nazareth College of Rochester with a political science degree and completed her master's degree in public policy and education administration and policy at the Rockefeller College at the University of Albany (SUNY). Ms. Ellerson began her career as a high school special education teacher in Central New York, then worked in state-level advocacy for the College Board while earning her master's degree. In 2010, she completed the Institute for Educational Leadership Education Policy Fellowship Program, and was selected as a member of the Emerging Leaders Class of 2013-14, through PDK.



Steven Staples is Virginia's 24th State Superintendent of Public Instruction. As the state superintendent, he serves as the executive officer of the Virginia Department of Education. He began his career in 1976 in Prince George County. In 1988, he became an assistant superintendent in Montgomery County, and from 1991 to 2008, he was the superintendent of York County. Prior to his appointment as the Commonwealth's chief school officer, Dr. Staples served for nearly two years as the Executive Director of VASS, was a faculty member at the College of William & Mary, and worked in various capacities in four Virginia school divisions. Dr. Staples received his doctorate in Education Administration and Supervision from Virginia Tech, and a masters degree in Education Administration and Supervision as well as a bachelor's degree in History and English from the College of William and Mary.



Pamela Baldwin has had a rich and varied career in education. Currently the Superintendent of Asheville (NC) City Schools, she earned her undergraduate degree at UNC-Wilmington and then taught high school math and science, winning a Teacher of the Year award in 2003. She also served as a principal at both the middle school and the high school levels. When she earned her doctorate in Education at UNC-Wilmington in 2010, she was the first African-American to graduate with a terminal degree from the university. Dr. Baldwin has focused her research on teacher licensure and the student achievement gap, transition years, the "opportunity gap," student voice initiatives, and AVID. Despite her many professional achievements, Dr. Baldwin believes that her greatest accomplishments are her twin daughters, who are currently attending North Carolina State University.