



2016 NACSA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

If I Knew Now What I Knew Then...Building a Closure Plan Focused on Kids

Making the difficult decision to close a school is only the first step in the closure process. Effective school closure requires authorizers to oversee and work with a charter school's governing board and leadership to carry out a detailed closure plan. A clear closure plan that includes timely notification to parents, a focus on student reenrollment, and a system to ensure proper disposition of school funds and assets, can help authorizers minimize the negative impact of a school closure. Join us to share lessons, techniques, and tools for putting an effective school closure plan into action.

Session Title: If I Knew Now What I Knew Then...Building a Closure Plan Focused on Kids

Session speakers: Gail Greely (Alameda County Office of Education - CARSNet)
Adrienne Woods (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
Jason Moore (Buckeye Community Hope Foundation)
Kristen Stolpa (The Gov. John Engler Center for Charter Schools at CMU)

Context: *Panel Discussion with great opportunity for audience involvement, questions and participation*

Key Takeaways:

1. *Closure is challenging whether it is contentious or not. Planning and communication are essential to ensuring a smooth process and the best possible outcomes for all stakeholders.*
2. *As a sector, we need to discuss the financial implications of closure on the authorizer. Some ideas and resources to explore further include: escrow accounts, independent trustees, bond and mortgage possibilities.*
3. *Making the high stakes decision to close a school is only one part of the issue authorizers face. Political mapping, communication strategies, stakeholder responsibilities and clear strategies all need to be developed for each unique situation. Tools, templates and resources should be better shared amongst authorizers, but time needs to be dedicated to figure out each scenario and the best plan for the particular case.*

Additional Resources: *(Where can attendees receive additional information? Resources on the Knowledge Core? Other publications? NACSA consulting services or other member*



benefits? These will be published on the website alongside the PowerPoint and any handouts you send me, so no need to attach those resources. However, feel free to share links to pages on the NACSA website, contact information for speakers/facilitators, links to topical news articles or videos you may have shared.