

Nazarene Educators Worldwide

To embrace, encourage, and empower through a network of Christian educators.



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THE NEW

NEW Will Be Looking for YOU in Indianapolis

On Friday, June 23, Nazarene Educators Worldwide will host a meeting of Nazarene educators. This meeting will take place from 12:15 until 4:30 pm—during the lunch time and the Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International workshop periods. All three sessions will be in Room 111-112 of the convention center in Indianapolis, IN.

These events will include:

12:15–1:00 Lunch Chat

Bring your own lunch (Lunch must be purchased from the ICC concessions. No outside food can be brought in.) Enjoy fellowship and networking with Nazarene educators from all areas of education during this lunch period.

1:00–1:45 General Session for Nazarene Educators

Led by Lance Howard and Marilyn Dominick

Meet the newly-elected council and co-chairs for 2017-2021. Learn about Nazarene Educators Worldwide.

2:00–3:00 Current Issues and Events Affecting Nazarene Educators

Led by Lance Howard and Marilyn Dominick

This workshop features a panel of educators who will discuss current issues and events that affect educators today. We welcome your input on these issues. All areas of education will be represented.

3:30–4:30 Nazarene Preschool Has an Amazing Effect on the Church and the Community

- Led by Beula Postlewait, Deb Hughes, and Rev. Brady Wisheart
Learn about the amazing impact the Kiddie Prep School has been on the Grace Point Church of the Nazarene and the community of Fort Wayne, IN. The pastor and the director of the school will testify to God's work through the school to impact the church and the community.

NEW representatives will be found in the USA/Canada Regional Exhibit from Wednesday, June 21–Sunday, June 25. Please come to the exhibit and say hello.

More details will be added as General Assembly gets closer. Watch for more news about these events. We hope to see YOU in Indianapolis!



NAZARENE EDUCATORS WORLDWIDE
17001 PRAIRIE STAR PARKWAY
LENEXA, KS 66220



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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2017-2021 Nazarene Educators Worldwide Council

Co-Chairpersons

Marilyn Dominick
Lance Howard

Public School Educators

Yolanda McHodgkins
Becky Ramsey

Preschool/Early Childhood Learning Centers

Midge Simpson
Deborah Hughes

Christian School Educators

Joe Davis
Beth Denhart

Homeschool Educators

Tracy Gosnell
Jan Wilton

University/College Education Departments

Dr. Robert Hull
Dr. Mark Taylor

Global Schools Representative

Wes Eby

Communications

Beula Postlewait

Melodee Simmons will serve as an advisor for the Preschool/Early Learning Center representatives.

Nancy Shonamon will serve as an advisor for the Christian School representatives.

Dr. Nancy Quinones will serve as an advisor for the University/College Education Department representatives.

When Life Gives You Water, Build a Boat

By Tracy Gosnell, Homeschool Representative

The other day, a homeschooling friend was frustrated. It had been raining for a while. She was trying to find new curriculum for her children.

In frustration, she said, "I think I'd have better luck building a boat."

My reply was, "That would be great! You can teach your children about math, physics, and even literature in the process. After the rain stops and the ground dries out, the children can plant a garden and learn about biology and the plant life cycle. If you could build raised garden beds, the children could learn geometry as well." She proceeded to laugh and ask if I wanted to homeschool her children.

Sometimes we forget that we can teach our children and help them learn with everyday life skills. Realizing how to apply the knowledge learned from books helps inspire children to learn more. My own children constantly fought me to learn Algebra until someone showed them how it is used in everyday life--not just for word problems such as, If train A leaves the Dallas station 20 minutes ahead of train B in Chicago, etc.

Helping children put to work what they have learned is one of the great advantages to homeschooling. And taking a break from the book learning is also a great break for the homeschooling parent as well. Enjoy the fun time with your children. They will be college-bound in a blink of an eye!

Even if you are not a homeschooling parent, take advantage of the longer summer days to explore with your child and help them apply what they have learned throughout the past school year to their own life experiences. We need to help our children become excited about what they are learning through personal experiences. So pick a project, and Google how to do whatever it is. Then, set aside the electronics. Go, have fun, and make some memories!





Meet the NEW COUNCIL for 2017-2021

Co-Chairpersons

Marilyn J. Dominick - From Syracuse, NY

She retired as the Superintendent of Schools for the Jordan-Elbridge School District in 2010 after 34 years in public schools. She currently serves as Administrative Consultant for Public Charter Schools in the Syracuse area. She has served two terms as NEW Public School representative.

Lance Howard - From Castle Rock, CO

He previously served as a NEW Vice-Chair, and as a Public School and a Christian School representative (5 terms—since 2001). He is the Principal of World Compass Academy.

Public School Educators

Yolanda McHodgkins - From Pasadena, CA

She taught in public schools for 37 years—preschool—first grade in Spanish and English. She has also taught English as a Second Language to adults. She is very actively teaching in both her local church and on the district level.

Becky Ramsey - From Columbus, OH

She has taught in the classroom for 43 years in both public and Christian school settings—every level K-12, except first grade. She has served two terms as a member of the NEW Council. This fall she will be a Reading and Math Intervention Specialist at a local charter school.

Preschool/Early Childhood Learning Centers

Deborah Hughes - From Fort Wayne, IN

Deb has been the Director of Grace Point Church of the Nazarene's Kiddie Prep School for 28 years. The preschool is fully accredited with the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). She serves on the ACSI accreditation commission, the Early Childhood Advisory Committee, and conducts accreditation visits. She presents workshops at ACSI conventions. She served on the Nazarene International Education Association Council from 1968-2009. She has helped other churches organize a preschool/early childhood learning center. She has a desire that young children would receive a quality Christian education.

Midge Simpson - From Greenville, SC

She has been involved with childcare for 45 years. From a daycare in her home for 10 years, she taught 10 years and became the administrator of a K-4 preschool. In 1992 she founded and served as director of Sonshine Learning Center. She retired last year, but she continues to work part-time at the school. She has helped many churches begin a preschool ministry. She served on the Nazarene International Education Association Council (now NEW) from 1993-2010. She has served on the Greenville County Child Care Association for 28 years and continues to serve there.

Christian School Educators

Joe Davis - From Northglenn, CO

He has worked in Christian School administration and teaching for the past 10 years. He currently serves as the Administrator at Thorn Creek Christian School. He has a passion for helping churches develop a vision for a biblically-based, whole-child philosophy of student development and loves to assist churches to create an educational program that includes a Christian school ministry. He likes to assist schools to develop leadership skills throughout all staff levels.

Beth Denhart - From Warren, MI

She currently serves as the Administrator of Warren Woods Christian School, (A ministry of The Woods Church of the Nazarene) in Warren, Michigan. She has teaching experience in Grades 1 & 2, and is working to complete her Masters in Educational Leadership. Her experience in teaching, as well as being administrator, gives her insight into both the life of a teacher in a Christian School and leading a Christian School.

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Meet the NEW COUNCIL for 2017-2021 (Continued)

Homeschool Educators

Tracy Gosnell - From Killeen, TX

She has been a homeschooling mom for 19 years and has homeschooled all ages from preschool through high school graduation. She is currently mentoring new homeschooling families as they start their journey in educating at home and encouraging those who have been home educating for a while. She also serves as the Regional/District Bible Quiz leader, District Children's Ministry co-director and is an ordained elder. She is attending Texas A&M University Central Texas' School of education, majoring in psychology.

Jan Wilton - From Lancaster, TX

She homeschooled her youngest daughter and found the joy of observing her daughter begin to thrive and grow academically. Witnessing firsthand the challenges and rewards of homeschooling brought to her the awareness of the need for and importance of the homeschooling option. She is currently a homeschooling "coach" for her daughter who home schools her autistic 5-year-old son. Jan has served on the council for NEW in several capacities for the past 8 years. Her passion is to resource, inspire, encourage, and motivate homeschooling parents in the education of their children.

University/College Education Departments

Dr. Robert Hull - From Kankakee, IL

He serves as the Dean of the School of Education at Olivet Nazarene University. He has served as a high school teacher and coach and Superintendent of Schools in Osawatimie, KS and Blakesburg, IA. He was the Assistant Superintendent of the Olathe, KS District schools. He was an adjunct professor for the School of Education at Mid-America Nazarene University. He was the Founding Director of the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools. He has extensive teaching experience at the university level, as well as a reputation for bringing people together to promote organizational health. He is a well-published author and has served in many public service positions.

Dr. Mark Taylor - From Ferguson, MO

He has worked in education for 39 years and has served as a former Chair of the Nazarene International Education Association. He is a Professor of Education serving as the Department Chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences/Teacher Education at St. Louis Community College. He has served as the President of the Missouri Association of Colleges in Teacher Education. Mark Taylor has worked in education for 39 years. His teaching experience includes special education and elementary education. Mark is also an experienced school administrator.

Global Schools Representative

Wes Eby - From Lake Alfred, FL

He has taught in both public and Christian schools, as well as at the university level. He served at the Nazarene Global Ministry Center in the Publications International Office, the Herald of Holiness Office, and the Global Nazarene Missions International Office (1987-2006). He is the author of 2 NMI adult mission books and 8 children's mission books. He edited 42 Nazarene Missions International mission books, 7 volumes of Adult Mission Education curriculum, and 7 years of International Mission Education Journals. He has served as a NMI president on both local and district levels for many years. He has participated in 13 missions-related trips to 14 different countries.

Communications

Beula Postlewait - From Leawood, KS

She served in Children's Ministries at the Global Ministry Center for 31 years. In 1998, she became the Coordinator of Nazarene Christian Schools and liaison to Nazarene International Education Association, now known as Nazarene Educators Worldwide. She served in that position until she retired in 2011. She currently serves as the editor of NEW's monthly newsletter and writes the monthly devotional for www.naznew.net.



Meet the NEW COUNCIL for 2017-2021 (Cont.)

Advisors to the Council

Melodee Simmons - From Houston, TX

Melodee has worked in Early Childhood Education for more than 25 years. She has worked in private and corporate-owned centers and in Christian and secular preschools, both large and small. She currently is the Preschool and Christian School Director of Champions Christian Academy. She is a registered trainer for the state of Texas. She has served one term on the NEW Council.

Nancy Shonamon - From Crowley, TX

She was a fourth and sixth grade teacher in an elementary school (1992-2004) and a seventh-grade language arts teacher in a middle school (2005-2007). She currently is an assistant principal and academic advisor at the Nazarene Christian Academy. She has served as an academic advisor for 10 years and as an assistant principal for 2 years. This fall, she will serve as an elementary principal. Her passions are: Jesus Christ, community service, hands-on teaching, and learning new things.

Dr. Nancy Quinones - From Upland, CA

She has a Masters Degree in Education in College Student Development and a Ph.D. in Cultural Studies. She has worked in higher education for twenty years. She worked as a Student Development Administrator overseeing offices like First Year Experience (Student Transition), Health Services, Career Services, Women's Center, Multi-Ethnic Programs and worked with student leaders. On the academic side, she has worked with Institutional Research and as teaching faculty. In her 20-year career, she has worked in Christian higher education, private four-year liberal arts colleges, community colleges, and public four-year institutions. She teaches at one of California State University's campuses and at one of California's community colleges

Please pray for our council as they begin to cast a new vision and set goals for the next four years.

