



# Summer Leadership Conference 2016

June 19-22, 2016

Grove Park Inn

Asheville, NC



*Robert  
Putnam*



*Katherine Merseth*



*Steve Dembo*



*Donna  
Beegle*

*General Sessions – Concurrent Sessions – NCDPI, State Board Updates – Legal Update – Social Activities (Golf Tournament)*

## NCSSA Superintendents' Retreat and New Administrators' Institute

*June 19 (2:00 p.m.) – June 20 (12:45 p.m.)*

*Tentative agenda and keynote speaker information on the following pages.*

### Call for Presentations:

*Go to WRESA website and click on Summer Leadership Conference Call for Presentations and submit information requested by March 25, 2016.*

### Conference & Golf Registration

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [www.wresa.org](http://www.wresa.org)

#### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (NON-REFUNDABLE)

Summer Leadership Conference 2016 (June 20 – 22, 2016)	\$350 On/Before April 1, 2016 \$370 After April 1, 2016
Summer Leadership Conference & NCSSA Superintendents' Retreat (June 19-22, 2016)	\$450 On/Before April 1, 2016 \$470 After April 1, 2016
NCSSA Superintendents' Retreat (June 19-20, 2016)	\$160 On/Before April 1, 2016 \$180 After April 1, 2016
Summer Leadership Conference & New Administrators' Institute (June 19-22, 2016)	\$400 On/Before April 1, 2016 \$420 After April 1, 2016
New Administrators' Institute (June 19-20, 2016)	\$125 On/Before April 1, 2016 \$145 After April 1, 2016

#### GOLF TOURNAMENT

(June 21, 2016, 2:30 p.m.) (Registration at conference registration desk Sunday, June 19 – Monday, June 20.)

### Hotel Information

*All participants should arrange their own lodging. When you call the hotels listed below, please mention WRESA Summer Leadership Conference.*

HOTEL	ADDRESS	PHONE	RATE (tax not included)
Grove Park Inn	290 Macon Avenue, Asheville 28804	1.800.438.5800	\$189 Single/Double (Reservation Deadline: 5/18/16)
Homewood Suites by Hilton	88 Tunnel Road, Asheville 28805	1.828.252.5400	\$159 Queen/King Suites (Reservation Deadline: 5/19/16)
Hampton Inn	204 Tunnel Road, Asheville 28805	1.828.255.9220	\$139 Double/King (Reservation Deadline: 5/19/16)

#### QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION

Jan Webster, [jwebster@wresa.org](mailto:jwebster@wresa.org), 828.774.5681, ext. 21

Vicki Wilson, [vwilson@wresa.org](mailto:vwilson@wresa.org), 828.774.5681, ext. 22

*Sponsored By: NC Association of School Administrators (NCASA) & Western Region Education Service Alliance (WRESA)*

# SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2016

June 19-22, 2016 Grove Park Inn Asheville, NC



**Robert Putnam** is the Peter and Isabel Malkin Professor of Public Policy at Harvard, where he teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses. Professor Putnam is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a Fellow of the British Academy, and past president of the American Political Science Association. In 2006, Putnam received the Skytte Prize, the world's highest accolade for a political scientist, and in 2012, he received the National Humanities Medal, the nation's highest honor for contributions to the humanities. Raised in a small town in the Midwest and educated at Swarthmore, Oxford, and Yale, he has served as Dean of the Kennedy School of Government. The London Sunday Times has called him "the most influential academic in the world today." He consults widely with national leaders, including the last three American presidents, the last three British prime ministers, and the last French president. He has written fourteen books, translated into twenty languages, including the best-selling *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*, and more recently *Better Together: Restoring the American Community*, a study of promising new forms of social connectedness. Since 2010, he has been focused on one major empirical project: Inequality and opportunity: the growing class gap among American young people and the implications for social mobility. His book on this subject, *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* was published in March 2015.

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**Katherine Merseth's** work concentrates on teacher education, mathematics education, charter schools and the case-method of instruction. At Harvard, she founded the Harvard Children's Initiative and the School Leadership and the Teacher Education Programs at the School of Education. In mathematics education, she was the principal investigator of the Mathematics Case Development Project funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Massachusetts Math and Science Partnership working with middle school mathematics teachers using classroom based cases; she also served as co-principal investigator of the Teacher Education Addressing Mathematics and Science in Boston and Cambridge Project. Her book, *Windows on Teaching Mathematics: Cases of Secondary Mathematics Classrooms*, represents work in mathematics education and the case method while her involvement as a case method teacher of school administrators exists in her *Cases in Educational Administration*. In the charter field, she recently concluded a two year study examining best practices in high performing urban charter schools which culminated in the award winning book, *Inside Urban Charter Schools*. Merseth was awarded a Harvard Initiative on Teaching and Learning (HILT) award to explore the use of a new technology platform to enhance the teaching of controversial topics. In addition, she teaches in the General Education Program of Harvard College. Her course, the Dilemmas of Excellence and Equity in K12 American Schools, has drawn the interest of over 450 Harvard College students each semester. Merseth has served as a curriculum developer, teacher, and administrator in K12 schools. In addition to her Harvard doctorate, Merseth holds a bachelor's in mathematics from Cornell University, a master's in mathematics from Boston College, and a master of arts in teaching secondary mathematics from Harvard. The Harvard New Teacher Fellows Program is an innovative new pathway for Harvard College undergraduates to enter a teaching career. This selective program offers free, world-class teacher preparation for Harvard College seniors to become middle school and high school mathematics, science, history, and English teachers.

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**Steve Dembo** is a former kindergarten teacher and school Director of Technology. Currently serving as Discovery Education's Director of Social Media Strategy and Online Community, Dembo was among the first educators to realize the power of blogging, podcasting, Twitter, and other Web 2.0 technologies in connecting educators and creating professional learning communities. Dembo is the co-author of the book *Untangling the Web: 20 Tools to Power Up Your Teaching*. The National School Board Association named him one of 2010's "Twenty to Watch," a list honoring individuals finding innovative ways to use technology to increase classroom learning. During Dembo's presentation, we'll explore the risks, benefits, and transformations that can occur when a school embraces risk and is willing to step up and be first. Schools seem to be terrified of being the first ones to adopt new ideas in technology. Somewhere between kindergarten and our last faculty meeting, the role of line leader seems to have gone from the best job on the board to a position that's just a little terrifying.

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**Donna Beegle** is a highly experienced National public speaker and the author of *See Poverty, Be The Difference*, a resource book for professionals who work with people in poverty. Donna has worked and written articles providing insights and strategies for communicating more effectively across race, class, gender and generational barriers. Donna is the only member of her family who has not been incarcerated. After growing up in generational migrant labor poverty, leaving school for marriage at 15, having two children and continuing to cope with poverty, she found herself, at 25, with no husband, little education, and no job skills. What followed in 10 short years were: self-confidence, a G.E.D., an A.A. in Journalism, a B.A. (with honors) in Communications, a Master's Degree in Communication with a minor in Gender Studies (with honors), and completion of a Doctorate Degree. Donna completed her Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Portland State University in 2000, where she taught speech communication courses for eight years. She is currently president of Communication Across Barriers, a consulting firm devoted to improving communication and relationships. Donna is also founder of the new nonprofit, Poverty Bridge which is dedicated to changing lives for people in poverty.

# Summer Leadership Conference 2016 TENTATIVE AGENDA

## Sunday, June 19

- 1 p.m. **Superintendents' Retreat Registration**  
*Grand Ballroom C*  
**New Administrator's Institute Registration**  
*TBD*
- 2 p.m. **Superintendents' Retreat**  
*Grand Ballroom C*  
**New Administrator's Institute**  
*TBD*
- 3 p.m. **Summer Conference Registration**  
*Grand Ballroom Registration Desk*

## Monday, June 20

- 8 a.m. Conference Registration  
*Grand Ballroom Registration Desk*
- 8:30 a.m. Superintendents' Retreat (Buffet Breakfast Provided – 7:15 a.m.)
- 10 a.m. Superintendents' Quarterly (Lunch Provided)
- 1 p.m. **Summer Conference Kickoff/General Sessions**  
\***June Atkinson, State Superintendent**  
\***Steve Dembo, Discovery Education**  
*(Building Bolder Schools: It Doesn't Hurt to be First*  
\***Robert Putnam**  
*(Our Kids: American Dream In Crisis)*  
\***Katherine Merseth**  
*(New Harvard Teacher Fellows Program)*  
\***Gubernatorial Candidates to be Invited**

## Tuesday, June 21

- 7:30 a.m. Buffet Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions
- 12 noon Lunch  
**Speaker Invited**
- 2 p.m. Alternative Activities  
Golf Tournament

## Wednesday, June 22

- 8 a.m. Buffet Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. **General Sessions**  
-**Donna Beegle (Poverty)**  
-**Legal Update with Chris Campbell**  
-**Apple Presentation**  
-**Legislative/NCDPI Updates**
- 12 noon Adjournment