



## Missouri District Administrators Conference Leading with Humility, Purpose, and Vision

Philippians 2:3-4

**When:** July 17-18, 2025

**Who:** Administrators  
Early Childhood Directors

**Where:** Campus Lutheran Church  
304 S. College Ave.  
Columbia, Missouri 65201

**Cost:** Administrators: \$130  
Early Childhood & Other Professional Staff: \$130  
Guests (meals only, no program): \$ 45  
Emeritus: No Charge

**Registration:** Please email District of Schools Josh Swartz at [josh.swartz@mo.lcms.org](mailto:josh.swartz@mo.lcms.org), or Events Assistant Sue Thompson at [sue.thompson@mo.lcms.org](mailto:sue.thompson@mo.lcms.org).

**Deadline:** Please register online by Monday, July 7, 2025.

**Lodging:** You will need to make your own housing reservations

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Drury Plaza Hotel Columbia East. Drury Plaza Hotel Columbia East, 3100 Interstate 70 Dr. SE, Columbia, MO 65201.

Room rates are \$136.00 (plus tax) per night. If you pay with a church or school credit card or check and present a tax-exempt letter, the hotel can take the state tax off your bill.

Deadline for hotel reservations: Wednesday, June 18, 2025, subject to availability.

Reservations may also be made by calling 1-800-325-0720 and refer to Group number 10149824.

A full hot breakfast is included for those staying at the hotel (weekdays from 6:00-9:30 a.m., weekends from 7-10 a.m.), all rooms are non-smoking.

**Refunds:** If there are changes of any kind (additions, cancellations or substitutions) please make them before the registration deadline of Monday, July 7, 2025. We will not be able to issue refunds after the deadline. No shows will still be responsible for paying their registration fee.

## **Schedule**

### **Thursday, July 17**

8:00 a.m. New Administrators

9:30 Registration

10:00 Opening Worship w/Holy Communion  
Campus Lutheran Rev. Rich Steensma

11:10 Effective Servant Leadership: Dr. Kent Schlichtemeier

12:20 p.m. Lunch (Sponsored by LCEF)

1:20 5 Timeless Leadership Principles: Dr. Kent Schlichtemeier

2:30 Break

2:40 District Report – NLSA  
Early Childhood Breakout 1 & 2: Cheryl Haun  
    Setting the Stage: Defining a Culture of Play  
    Making it Happen: Strategies for Deepening Play

3:40 Break

3:45 Table Talk Discussions

4:45 Check Into Hotel

5:30 Dinner-on own

6:30-9:30 Social Time at Shakespeare's Pizza - hors d'oeuvres (provided)  
Party room reserved at 225 S. 9th St., Columbia, MO 65201

### **Friday, July 18**

7:00 a.m. Breakfast: on your own or at the Drury Inn (for those staying there)

8:30 The Anxious Generation: Chris McKenna, Protect Young Eyes

9:30 Break

9:40 The Anxious Generation: Chris McKenna, Protect Young Eyes  
Early Childhood Breakout 3: Cheryl Haun  
    Naming the Learning: Observing and Documenting Play

11:00 Depart

***Thank you to our lunch sponsor***



## **About our Presenters**



### **Dr. Kent Schlichtemeier Ed.D.**

#### **Director, Servant Leadership Institute - Concordia University Irvine**

Dr. Schlichtemeier has enjoyed serving for over four decades as a leader in education. He began his career teaching 6th-8th grades. After completing his Master's degree at the University of Denver, he taught and coached at the high school level in Orlando, FL. Kent served as a Professor in the School of Education at Concordia University Irvine from 1988-2003 where he mentored future teachers. In addition to teaching at Concordia, Kent was the women's basketball coach until retiring from coaching in 1993 to pursue his doctoral degree. During the final two seasons of Kent's tenure as coach, the Lady Eagle basketball

team made two consecutive appearances at the NAIA National Basketball Tournament after winning the Golden State Athletic Conference Championships. Kent was named the District Three NAIA Coach of the Year in 1992 and 1993 and was inducted into the Concordia Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.

Kent completed his Ed.D. at UCLA in Educational Leadership. Kent served as a teacher and Assistant Principal at Orange Lutheran High School from 2003-2007 before returning to teach at Concordia University Irvine and most recently serve as the Dean of the School of Education. Today, Kent is thrilled to serve as the inaugural Director of the Servant Leadership Institute. Kent enjoys frequent opportunities to speak at sports banquets, school graduations, teacher conferences, leadership retreats, and business seminars. Kent is a co-author of the book *Timeless Leadership Principles: Building Champions for Life*.

Kent and his wife Cindy, are blessed by God with two children - Aaron and Kayla.

### **Presentations:**

#### **Effective Servant Leadership**

There is a difference between leadership and servant leadership. This session will examine this difference and identify fundamental truisms of effective servant leadership. Each participant will have the opportunity to pause – reflect – and reboot their commitment to maximize their impact as servant leaders in shaping the lives of countless students.

#### **Five Timeless Leadership Principles**

The context for leadership is much different today as society continues to change. However, the content of effective leadership remains the same. This session will highlight five timeless principles that will enable dedicated leaders to establish positive changes and respected legacies.



### **Chris McKenna**

Founder, Protect Young Eyes

My story: I believed the lie that I was strong enough. That I had enough willpower. I pride myself on having a strong work ethic and for being a self-starter. I've always enjoyed accomplishing a list of to-dos, even adding things that I've already accomplished to a list just so I can cross them off.

In Strengths Finder, "Achiever" is at the top of my list. Varsity athlete. Summa Cum Laude and Presidential Scholar in college. Learned a foreign language. Accomplished CPA and business advisor for Fortune 500 companies. Loving husband. Father of four amazing children.

But I was powerless against a childhood exposure to porn that plagued me into adulthood. It wasn't until a Holy conviction, coming clean, speaking honestly, and inviting others into my internet use that I found freedom (thank you Covenant Eyes).

It might not be porn for you. Maybe it's shopping. Candy Crush. Fantasy Football. Gambling. Scrolling. The algorithm is a relentless detective. Always, eventually figuring us out. And whether you're age 4, 14, or 40, one-on-one with the internet, we eventually all lose.

And so, the drive behind Protect Young Eyes is my relentless desire to prevent your son or daughter from becoming me. And while companies, Congress, places of worship, and classrooms continue to fail our children in digital spaces, it's up to us to protect them.

To protect this one, precious childhood. And our practical guidance will show you how.

## Early Childhood Presenter:



### Cheryl Haun

Cheryl has served as an Early Childhood Educator and Administrator in Lutheran schools for 39 years. Specific ministry opportunities included teaching children ages 2 through kindergarten; program development and growth; parent education; and administrative leadership for teacher support, supervision and professional development.

She serves as an Early Childhood Consultant for the Missouri District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and an adjunct professor for Concordia Nebraska. She enjoys serving in ministry together with her husband, spending time with family (4 grand-girls), camping and a

good book.

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### **Presentation: Let's Play! Reigniting Joy and Purpose in Play-Based Learning**

Rediscover the power of play in early childhood education through this hands-on, reflective training designed to inspire creativity and deepen your understanding of play-based learning. Explore practical strategies, engage in meaningful conversations, and leave with ready-to-use resources for your team.

#### **Session Breakouts**

##### **1. Setting the Stage: Defining a Culture of Play**

Reflect on your understanding of play-based learning and assess how your classroom environment fosters a playful, child-centered culture.

##### **2. Making It Happen: Strategies for Deepening Play**

Learn how to intentionally support play through your role as a teacher, by recognizing play intentions and cultivating a storytelling-rich environment.

##### **3. Naming the Learning: Observing and Documenting Play**

Explore how to move from playful interactions to authentic documentation. Learn how to observe meaningfully, spark rich conversations, and connect children's play to developmental goals

***Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. Phil. 2:3-4 (NIV)***