

Dear Watershed Community,

I'm writing today from the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) conference – being held this year in Las Vegas (never been to Vegas before, pretty overwhelming!). This is the first in-person NAIS Annual Conference since February 2020, and it's nice to be together again.

Yesterday, Hannah N., Jen C., and I presented a 3-hour workshop on challenges and opportunities in staff meeting structures. One of the great joys of that time was getting to know, and learning from, the other educators and administrators in the room. This year as I attend workshops, I'm paying particular attention to implementation, not just great ideas. These days in education, I feel there is no shortage of great ideas, but there is a shortage of effective implementation.

Workshops that I've attended (or plan to tomorrow) include:

- Partnership in Action: Bridging DEIJ and Social Impact Programs for Maximum Impact
- Leveraging Love and Partnership to Build Belonging in Your Community
- Reimagining Wellness: A Panel Discussion on Transforming School Culture Toward Well-Being for All
- How Students Deliver on a Global Call to Action
- Liberatory Education and the Role of Independent Schools: Four Possible Futures to Guide Strategy

I know I am lucky to be here. There are over 2700 educators at the conference – it is inspiring to be among so many people committed to the learning and growth of young people. It feels good to be sharing and learning. And it feels good to be hearing from others about things we at Watershed are doing and planning to do as we work to implement our Strategic Vision.

Thanks for reading, and see you all next week!

Warmly,

Tim