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Professional Development Series 2025-2026 Academic Year

ACIS is pleased to announce the initial ACIS 2025-2026 Professional Development Series. While still being expanded and intentionally designed to allow for flexibility as the year unfolds, we already have a wide range of valuable learning and collaboration opportunities scheduled for the academic year.

For a **one-time \$1500 fee**, a school can register **unlimited participants to all listed webinars, selected in-person events, and the spring governance webinar as well as recordings of most webinars** (not including the fall leadership conference, ISACS collaborations, or other in-person events). Additional events will be added as part of the subscription offerings as unique needs and opportunities arise, and more specific dates and times will be determined in the coming months. A school subscription offers significantly discounted costs for multiple participants, unlimited staff/trustee access, access to webinar recordings, and simplified payment for the year.

More detailed information about each offering and unique registrations for each event will be provided prior to each event.

Payment Options-

1. **Annual Subscription-** any and all school employees/trustees can attend any and all listed and added events for a one-time \$1500 fee.
2. **A la Carte-** pay as you go per registrant. Most webinars will be \$50 per person; the spring governance webinar will be \$90 per person.

To register your school, click [HERE](#).

2025-2026 ACIS Professional Development Series Initial Offerings

1. **Division Heads Webinar Series-** Division Heads- (See attached flier for more information)
 - a. Presenter- Bill Wolf-Tinsman- Think Like a Principal Consulting
 - b. Topic—**Building your Team: Working with faculty and staff as a Division Head**
 - c. Location- via Zoom

Wednesday, October 22 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm (Zoom)
Wednesday, October 29 4:00 pm 5:30 pm (Zoom)
Wednesday, November 5 4:00-5:30 pm (Zoom)
Wednesday, November 12 4:00 - 5:30 pm (Zoom)

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$300 per person

2. New Heads Program (in conjunction with CAIS and ISAS)

- 8 webinars, dates TBD
- Information has been communicated to new, first-time heads

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$300 per person

3. Heads of School, Business Managers, Development Officers

- Topic: **Capital Planning, Building Reserves**
- Presenter: Chad Christoff, Stifel
- Date: Thursday, September 18th at 9:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$50 per person

4. DEI Directors, Division Heads, HR and Heads of School

- Topic: **DEI Master Class Part 1: What This Moment Affords You- Critique vs. Attack**
- Presenter: Andre Withers, Educators Collaborative
- Date: Monday, September 29th at 10 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$50 per person

5. Fall Admissions Meetings

- Topic: **Navigating Demographic Shifts: Enrollment Tools for Today**
- Presenter: Dana Nelson-Isaacs, Founder and Principal at DNI Consulting
- Date: Friday, October 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free for all Admissions folks

6. Heads of School, Division Heads, Deans of Faculty, Teaching Mentors

- Topic: **Observation Strategies, Coaching Techniques, Feedback Cycle**
- Presenter: Julie Eber, JL Visions Consulting
- Date: Thursday, October 23rd from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

7. Heads of School, Division Heads, Deans of Students, Learning Specialists, Directors of Admissions, School Counselors

- Topic: **Beyond the Headlines: Student Learning Growth and Well-Being in Independent Schools**
- Presenter: Kelly Bornmann, ERB
- Date: Thursday, November 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

8. DEI Directors, Division Heads, HR and Heads of School

- Topic: **DEI Master Class Part 2: What This Moment Affords You: Guidance for Creating a Revised Path (Compliance)**
- Presenter: Andre Withers, Educators Collaborative
- Date: Thursday, November 13th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

9. Heads of School, HR and Business Managers

- Topic: **HR/benefits-focused presentation, along with risk management for Independent Schools**
- Presenter: Smith & Howard
- Date: Tuesday, November 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

10. Heads of School, Board Members

- Topic: **Best Practices for Head Evaluation**
- Presenter: Cliff Kling, Senior Executive Compensation and Leadership Strategist at Mission & Data

- Date: Wednesday, December 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

11. Heads of School, HR, Division Heads

- Topic: **Managing and Documenting Difficult Employee Situations**
- Presenter: Angie DeVine, S&D Law
- Date: Thursday, December 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

12. Heads of School, Division Heads, CFOs

- Topic: **Implementing Strategic Projects**
- Presenter: Ross Wehner, World Leadership School
- Date: Tuesday, January 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

13. Heads of School, Deans of Students, School Counselors, Middle and Upper School Division Heads, Athletic Directors, Math Teachers

- Topic: **Exposing Sports Gambling: Correcting the Illusion of Control**
- Presenter: Arty Smith, Math Teacher at Kent Denver and Founder of Gambling Awareness Initiative
- Date: Tuesday, January 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

14. Heads of School

- Topic: **Are We Solving the Right Problem? A Case-Driven Framework for School Business Decisions**
- Presenter: Peter Baron, Founder at MoonshotOS
- Date: Wednesday, January 14th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

15. Heads of School, CFOs, and Leadership Team Members

- Topic: **Tap Dancing on Marbles: Key Concepts, Indicators & Strategies to Move from Viability to Financial & Organizational Sustainability**
- Presenters: Ari Betof, co-founder and partner of Mission & Data and Sadie Albertyn, Senior Organizational Effectiveness Strategist of Mission & Data
- Date: Thursday, January 15, 2026, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free for all ACIS member schools

16. Heads of School

- Topic: **Leading During Challenging Times**
- Presenter: Jennifer D. Klein, CEO at Principled Learning Strategies
- Date: Thursday, January 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

17. Heads of School, Division Heads, HR

- Topic: **Culture in Action: Tools for Measuring Trust and Leading Change in Schools**
- Presenter: Cara Gallagher, Founder of CGC
- Date: Tuesday, January 27th at 9:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

18. Heads of School, Board Members, CFOs, Development Officers

- Topic: **2026 Capital Markets Forecast: Opportunities and Risks Impacting your School's Investment Portfolio**
- Presenter: Jim Brauer, Managing Director at Syntrinsic
- Date: Tuesday, February 10th at 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription

A la Carte = \$50 per person

19. Heads of School (primary audience), CFOs/Business Officers, Enrollment Managers, Development Directors, and Board Finance leaders

- Topic: **Senior Leader Business Strategy Cohort: : Five Working Sessions to Strengthen the School Model**
- Presenter: Peter Baron, Founder, MoonshotOS
- Date: Beginning Thursday, February 12th from 11:00 a.m to 12:00 p.m. **Please view description**
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$150 per school

20. Division Heads, Deans of Faculty

- Topic: **AI and Curriculum: The Dynamics Duo**
- Presenter: Cindy Blackburn, Toddle
- Date: Tuesday, February 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$50 per person

21. Division Heads, Heads of School

- Topic: **The Neuroscience of Play: A Powerful Tool for Learning**
- Presenter: Mia Sundstrom, Director for Play Transformation at the National Institute for Play
- Date: Thursday, February 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Location: Via Zoom

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$50 per person

22. Spring 2026 Governance Workshop

- Remote
- Presenter- ?
- March

Free with subscription
A la Carte = \$90 per person

23. Spring 2026 Technology Workshop

- Topic: TBD
- Presenter: Mark Manners, Zoom Communications
- Date: TBD
- Location: in person, TBD

24. Spring Admissions Workshop

- Location-
- Presenter- ?
- Date- May

Currently In Development

Peter Baron (MoonshotOS)= Webinar on school finance related topic; possible heads cohort as well with a focus on financial topics

Anne-Marie Balzano (Mission and Data)= Topic TBD

Megan Mann (The Approach Group)= Topic TBD

ATLIS (Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools)= Technology directors focused

Fundraising topic TBD

Syntrinsic= Endowment related topic

Hiring topic TBD

HR related webinar TBD

Deans of Students related topic TBD

Instructional/curriculum focused topic TBD

Andre Withers (Educators Collaborative)= Governance-related topic

Additional offerings will be added as the school year unfolds