

SESSIONS

AM Breakout Sessions (11:10-12:15 pm):

- ***An Invitation to the World's Most Important Profession***

Join us to learn why teaching is the most rewarding, most important, and greatest job in the world. It's time to dream about the impact you can have as a teacher and examine the possibilities of a career in public education.

Presented by Mike Soskil, 2017 PA Teacher of the Year

- ***Issues to be Aware of in Your Future Career as an Educator: What You Should Know About Being an Educator and Getting Involved in Your Union as a Future Teacher***

In this workshop, the presenter will outline some issues in contemporary K-12 classrooms. Participants will examine individual issues in small groups and then share their findings in discussion with all participants moderated by the presenter.

Presented by Jennifer Wahl, 2018 PA Teacher of the Year

- ***What is it Like to be in a College Teacher Preparation Program?***

Come to this session and ask our incredible Student PSEA Panel any questions you might have about the college and teacher preparation process. If you're wondering about college selection, admissions, what classes are like, what Student PSEA is, etc., then this is the session for you!

Presented by Student PSEA Panel

- ***Will You Be a First-Generation College Student? The First-Gen Survival Guide***

The transition to college is hard for everyone, but it can be especially difficult if you are the first in your family to enter higher education. This session will provide advice and resources to help first-generation students navigate the academic, financial, and social aspects of life on campus.

Presented by Ashlie Crosson, 2024 PA Teacher of the Year

- ***Breaking Barriers: Building Your Path as a Future Educator***

Are you dreaming of becoming a teacher and making a difference in the classroom? This session will inspire and empower high school students to embrace the challenges and rewards of the teaching profession. Discover why diverse voices are essential in education, explore strategies to succeed as a future educator, and learn how teachers from all backgrounds can create inclusive, impactful classrooms for all students. Start building your path to success and become the change-maker your future students need.

Presented by Leon Smith, 2025 PA Teacher of the Year

PM Breakout Sessions (1:45-3:00 pm):

- ***PA Teacher of the Year Panel***

Come to this session and ask the 2017, 2018, 2024, and 2025 PA Teachers of the Year questions about being an educator.

Presented by Mike Soskil, Jenn Wahl, Leon Smith, Ashlie Crosson

- ***Penn State Student Panel***

Interested in possibly going to Penn State? Well, in this session, a panel of Penn State fourth-year education majors will share their experiences, offering insights from their time in coursework and student teaching. Each panelist represents a different path within the education field, including elementary, secondary, arts, and special education. They will reflect on the challenges they faced, the lessons they've learned, and the skills they've developed to prepare for impactful careers in education.

Presented by Penn State Ed. Students: Giani Clarke, An Lai, Cassie Robertson, Derek Troxell, Kaylin Shewmake

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Presented by Student PSEA Panel

- ***So, You Wanna Be an Ed Major? A Guide to Thriving as a Future Teacher***

Are you ready to embark on the journey to becoming an educator? In this dynamic and interactive session, future educators will explore what it means to be a teacher and how to thrive as an education major from day one. Dr. Sam Fecich, author of *EduMagic: A Guide for Preservice Teachers* and host of the *EduMagic Future Teacher Podcast*, will share practical tips, strategies, and insights to help you slay your freshman year, focus on your "why," and start building habits of excellence—right now!

Presented by Dr. Samantha Fecich

- ***Why Teaching Is the Best Profession!***

Learn why teachers love to teach from the 2019 PA Teacher of the Year! In this session, we will discuss the activities, experiences, and moments of growth that make teaching such a fulfilling life choice. Bring a notebook and your goals, hopes, and dreams about being the best teacher you can be for your future students!

Presented by Dr. Marilyn Pryle, 2019 PA Teacher of the Year