

Rural Policy SUMMIT



Education Summit Speakers



Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski

Rep. Pashinski serves the 121st District in Luzerne County. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2006 and is the Democratic chairman of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. Rep. Pashinski has B.S. in Music Education and a master's equivalency. He was a music teacher and choral director at the Greater Nanticoke Area School District in Luzerne County. Rep. Pashinski is the Center's Board Vice Chairman.



Dr. Michael Driscoll

Mike became Indiana University of Pennsylvania's 26th president in 2012. During his tenure, he has established many initiatives centered on student success: the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement; the Military and Veterans Resource Center; and the University College, which serves as a wayfinder for all students and encourages students to be explorers -- never "undeclared majors." Dr. Driscoll is a former Center board member.



Joanna Papada

Joanna is Vice President of External & Government Relations at Manchester Bidwell Corporation (MBC). In her role, she advocates on behalf of MBC subsidiaries, Bidwell Training Center and Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, as well as the network of affiliated Workforce & Opportunity Centers in PA and 14 Centers of Arts & Technology in the United States and one in Northern Israel. Joanna developed and designed the **Learner-Centered Arts Integration** (LCAI) whole school reform model, which was implemented in the Pittsburgh Public Schools from 2006-2009. She has an MFA from Penn State University and a B.A. in Communication Arts from Marywood University.



Katharine Pude

Katharine has served as Superintendent of the Bradford Area School District in McKean County since 2011. Prior to that, she served as Assistant Superintendent (in charge of Curriculum and Special Education), Elementary Principal for Curriculum, Assistant Principal, Instructional Support Teacher, and Second grade teacher. She was also a Special Education teacher for an Alternative Education Program. Katy has her K-12 Principal certification from St. Bonaventure University, and her Letter of Eligibility to serve as Superintendent, an M.S. from the University of Pittsburgh in Curriculum and Assessment, and a B.S. from Edinboro University with dual certification in Elementary/Special Education.



Robert Farinelli

Robert is Vice President of Academic Affairs at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College. In this role, he serves as the visionary academic leader for the full-time faculty, adjunct faculty, and academic staff. Robert has 30 years of experience in higher education. Prior to Penn Highlands, he was most recently the Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Services at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, CT. He has an M.S. in Education from Capella University, an M.A. in Mathematics from the University of Pittsburgh, and a B.S. in Mathematics from Penn State University.



Susan Snelick

Susan is president of the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College, which was established in 2017. She brings extensive workforce development expertise to the position, having most recently served as the executive director of Workforce Solutions for North Central PA, and holding various other workforce development leadership positions in the region spanning nearly three decades. Susan is a Center Board Member.