Superintendents, administrators, early childhood specialists, and elementary school teachers from 26 northeastern Minnesota districts participating in Early Childhood Summit on April 19

The Northland Foundation will host the Regional Early Childhood Summit on Thursday, April 19 at the Holiday Inn & Suites Duluth Conference Center, Great Lakes Ballroom, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Summit offers a day of learning and small-group discussion time to district teams comprised of superintendents, principals, teachers, early childhood specialists, school board representatives, and others who work with young learners and families. This year, 26 school districts from all across northeastern Minnesota are registered to participate.

Duluth Public Schools Academy    St. Louis County Schools
Barnum                      McGregor
Mesabi East                  Moose Lake Community Schools
Carlton County Collaborative Cloquet
Fond du Lac                  Duluth
Mt. Iron                     Proctor
Chisolm                      Hermantown
Hibbing                      Cook County Schools
Hill City                    Nashwauk
Silver Bay                   Marble
Virginia                     Cohasset
Esko                         Vandyke
Ely                           Wrenshall

The agenda opens at 9:30 a.m. with a welcome from Tony Sertich, Northland Foundation President, and Lynn Haglin, Vice President/KIDS PLUS Director, followed by Bobbie Burnham, Director of Early Learning Services, Minnesota Department of Education, and Kelly Monson, Minnesota Children’s Cabinet Executive Director, providing updates from the State of Minnesota.

Sara Langworthy, Ph.D. an award-winning author, consultant, and founding partner of The Exchange Loop, will present “Bridging the Relationship Gap: Becoming an Ally for Children Facing Adversity.” Langworthy will offer practical strategies for adults to work one-on-one with children who have endured traumatic experiences, as well as shape school environments that support successful learning.

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“The pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade years lay the framework for future educational achievement,” stated Lynn Haglin. “The Early Childhood Summit gives administrators, teachers, counselors, and others a full day together, learning and sharing ideas as a team, to take back to their work in schools and communities.”

The Northland Foundation offers the Summit at no charge to attendees, with support from the Blandin Foundation, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation, Mardag Fundation, McKnight Foundation, Great River Energy, and Medica Foundation.