

Southeastern Association of School Business Officials

2026-2027 Expert Exchange Series



Online Professional Development Series



- Members may purchase individual sessions at \$50 each or the entire series for \$200.
- Earn up to 12 CPE units (1 hour for each session)
- For more details and to register, visit resources at www.sasbo.org
- Live Presentations are at 2:00 p.m. Eastern / 1:00 p.m. Central

All sessions are recorded for future viewing

July 9, 2026 - “Beyond the Plastic: Safe and Effective School Credit Card Use”

Diane Allison, Diane B. Allison, CPA, Prairieville, Louisiana

Credit cards in a school and district setting are a great way to pay, in our age of making online purchases, monthly subscriptions, etc. Too often districts prohibit schools and individuals from having credit cards, though This session will review the pros and cons of school/district credit cards, bust open some myths, and share strong credit card internal controls, including what to include in a district credit card policy.

August 13, 2026 - “School Finance Meets Students Services: Medicaid in Schools”

Catina Claytor-Frye, Finance Director, Staunton City Schools, Staunton, Virginia

Designed for school finance professionals and administrators, this session will examine the operational and financial components of the Medicaid and Schools Program within public schools. Participants will gain insight into program oversight, compliance expectations, reimbursement optimization, and cross-functional collaboration necessary for successful program administration.

September 10, 2026 - “Actionable In-House Data Analysis On The Side”

Johnnie Odom, Systems Integration Manager, Escambia County School District, Pensacola, Florida

School districts have years’ worth of student and operational data but often lack the time and personnel to properly explore it for determining how best to deploy scarce resources. In this session we will provide a roadmap to using your existing reported data, GIS, and other common sources to do rich but minimally time-intensive in-house analysis with low-cost, secure tools controlled entirely by your organization.

October 8, 2026 - "Rain or Ransom: How School Districts Recover from Modern Disasters"

Chris Latimer, Comptroller, Coweta County Schools, Newnan, Georgia

School districts today face threats from both physical disasters and cyberattacks. Based on real-life experiences and lessons learned from actual recovery efforts, this session will explore practical strategies for recovering from hurricanes and ransomware attacks. Learn how to develop comprehensive recovery plans, coordinate response efforts, protect essential systems, and restore operations efficiently after a crisis.

November 12, 2026 - "CLICK. FLOW. FILED"

April Kingston, Assistant CFO, Bay Waveland School District, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi

A practical introduction to using Microsoft Power Automate to simplify everyday tasks in school business. This session will provide a broad overview of automation possibilities while demonstrating real-world workflows that save time, reduce manual filing, and improve organization. Attendees will learn how simple automations can streamline processes such as routing documents, organizing employee files, sending notifications, and creating more efficient digital workflows.

December 10, 2026 - "The Silent Opinion: Decisions Regarding Declining Enrollment"

Ashten Black, Chief Financial Officer, Jonesboro School District, Jonesboro, Arkansas

Pam McCammon, Chief Financial Officer, Greenbrier Public Schools, Greenbrier, Arkansas

Schools run on thousands of decisions that rarely get noticed until something goes wrong. When buses arrive, buildings open, payroll clears, and classrooms function as expected, the work behind that stability is mostly invisible. Yet those quiet financial and operational choices shape the daily experience of students and staff just as much as instructional programs do. This session looks at how school systems are actually held together through decisions about finance, facilities, staffing, technology, and risk. It uses a simple systems lens to show how these pieces connect and how they shape what a student's day feels like in real, practical ways. The focus is not on compliance or reporting, but on how business and finance decisions create the conditions for stable, predictable learning environments. A central theme of the session is declining enrollment and why it changes the rules of the game. Fewer students do not automatically mean fewer costs. Buildings, transportation systems, contracts, and long-term assets do not shrink at the same pace as revenue. Through clear visuals and real-world examples, the session shows why enrollment decline is a structural challenge, not a short-term problem, and how short-term fixes can quietly create bigger issues over time. A "waterfall" view of financial pressure helps explain how fixed costs, deferred maintenance, and one-time funding can combine to hide or worsen long-term gaps. The session also includes a realistic district case example focused on consolidation, reinvestment, and long-term planning. The emphasis is not on any single decision, but on how timing, sequencing, and transparency shape outcomes, trust, and stability.

January 14, 2027 - "Boards and Budgets: What to Say...When to Say it...How to Say it"

Mellanie Jinnette, SCASBO Executive Director and Retired CFO, Blythewood, South Carolina

Melissa Campbell, CFO, Spartanburg 7 School District, Spartanburg, South Carolina

With challenging financial times, it is imperative that accurate and transparent communication happens with the school board, especially related to budgets and finance. Hear two seasoned chief financial officers share policies and procedures on what works for them in presenting information to their school board.

February 18, 2027 - “Protect, Prevent, Respond: A District Guide to Title IX”

Checovaia Foster-Bruce, Title IX Coordinator & Compliance Officer, Knox County Schools, Knoxville, Tennessee

Join us for an overview of Title IX requirements as they apply in K–12 education settings. Beyond basic compliance, the session emphasizes real-world implementation strategies and district-level best practices for preventing, identifying, and responding to Title IX concerns.

March 18, 2027 - “Sustaining Success: Intentional Mentoring in School Business Offices”

Avery Johnson, Executive Director of Business Services, Hinds County School District, Raymond, Mississippi

As seasoned school business officials retire, school districts face a critical gap in institutional knowledge and leadership readiness. This session will explore intentional mentorship-structured, strategic approach to onboarding, developing, and retaining school business staff. Participants will learn how to design and execute a mentoring framework that moves beyond informal advice to deliver measurable, sustainable success. Cross training plays a vital role in this type of organizational culture. Join us to discuss real-world strategies for matching mentors, establishing core competencies, and safeguarding a district’s financial operations through proactive succession planning.

April 8, 2027 - “Resourcing Solutions = Better Schools”

Sandra Spivey, Chief Financial Officer, Asheboro City Schools, Asheboro, North Carolina

This session will focus on the benefits of resourcing support services for schools versus traditional outsourcing options and will clearly contrast the two methods. Outsourcing is defined as: a client obtaining goods or service from an outside or foreign supplier, especially in place of an internal source. Resourcing is defined as: a partner providing a person or organization with complementing resources to include management, staff, materials, money, and other assets and services necessary for effective operation. Outsourcing typically involves wholesale surrender of management, human capital, and all other resources to a foreign entity or third party for the provision of stated services, whereas resourcing, through gap analysis, will identify critical needs and complement those areas of need for an organization to ensure those gaps are filled to achieve efficient, effective, and successful outcomes with less controversy, chaos, uncertainty and doubt, while maintaining organizational control, and collaborative partner involvement for the life of the relationship.

May 13, 2027 - “Closing the Gap: Staying Ahead of GASB Changes in Education Finance”

Josh Harner, School Financial Manager, West Virginia Department of Education, Charleston, West Virginia

Uriah Cummings, School Financial Operations Officer, West Virginia Department of Education, Charleston, West Virginia

This session will provide an up-to-date overview of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements and explore how these changes directly impact K–12 financial reporting, budgeting, and audit preparation. Participants will gain practical guidance on interpreting new standards, implementing required changes within district systems, and avoiding common compliance pitfalls.

June 10, 2027 - “Fraud Prevention in Athletic Ticketing/Petty Cash”

Staci Longest, Deputy Superintendent of Budget and Finance, Virginia Department of Education, Richmond, Virginia

From Friday-night football games to weekend tournaments, athletic events move fast—and so do the dollars. This session breaks down the most common fraud risks in athletic ticketing and petty cash handling, then shows participants how to close the gaps with simple, repeatable controls. Attendees will walk away with ready-to-use information, cash-handling workflows, and reconciliation practices that protect staff, ensure transparency, and keep school finances audit-ready. Ideal for principals, athletic directors, bookkeepers, and event staff.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



The companies and organizations listed are paid sponsors of SASBO. Any display or description of their logo, company name, or services is not an endorsement of their products or services, but an acknowledgment of our appreciation of their sponsorship support of SASBO.