Frankfort, Ky. - More than 1,000 public school educators will converge on Louisville this week (July 17-19) for the Kentucky Association of School Administrators’ annual leadership institute at the Galt House.

This year’s gathering—entitled Love, Learn, Lead—will mark the 51st time the organization has offered leadership and development workshops for its members, which numbers more than 3,100 throughout the state. It also will mark the transition of leadership within the organization itself with the retirement of long-time executive director Wayne Young and “Securing KASA’s Next 50 Years,” the program being offered by new executive director, Dr. Rhonda Caldwell.

“KASA has established itself as the largest organization representing school administrators and that comes with some daunting responsibilities,” said Caldwell. “We have a reputation as a powerful voice for public schools in the halls of the capitol in Frankfort and in Washington D.C. My role will not be to maintain that voice, but to amplify it with our members to be an even mightier champion for public schools and public education in the commonwealth.”

The three-day institute offers attendees a wide selection of workshops and general sessions covering a gamut of subject matters—from harnessing the power of social media, to classroom management skills, to dealing with safety issues, including acts of violence.

“We draw on our own members in many cases to tap into the knowledge base they have developed through their own continuing education journey,” Caldwell said. “And we also have nationally and internationally renowned speakers to offer their perspectives on issues important to public schools today.”

Among the featured speakers are:

- Barry Posner (The Leadership Challenge®)
- Justin Skeesuck and Patrick Gray (I’ll Push You)
- Larry Bell
- Trish Rubin
- Steve Bollar
- Jon Akers
- KY Education Commissioner

The conference is also an opportunity for KASA to recognize award winners from its membership and from classified personnel with the popular Fred Award presented to a classified employee who consistently goes above and beyond to serve their school, their district, their community, and most importantly, the students.

In addition to being the premier professional learning and leadership gathering for Kentucky’s school leaders, KASA
has routinely used the Institute as a prime opportunity to hear from the state’s education and policy leaders.

Given the importance of policy initiatives and funding for elementary and secondary education as issues in the 2019 gubernatorial election, KASA extended an invitation to both candidates for governor to attend and share their respective views on the future of public education in Kentucky.

Attorney General Andy Beshear accepted the invitation and will speak to KASA attendees at 10:45 a.m. on Friday, July 19.

Governor Matt Bevin had a pre-existing schedule conflict and cannot attend.

KASA is the largest school administrator group in Kentucky, representing more than 3,100 education leaders from across the commonwealth. Formed in 1969, KASA connects education leaders to policymakers, legislators, and other interest groups and provides numerous benefits and services to Kentucky’s school administrators.

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