

2026

40th Annual



MNAFEE Family & Early Childhood Education Conference

APRIL 22-24

St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center



Register Now!
bit.ly/MNAFEE26



This conference is designed for: administrators, coordinators, teachers, students, legislators, researchers, and all others who care about and are concerned for the welfare of children.

Letter from Board Co-Chairs Stephanie Berwald Sarah Moline



Welcome!

Welcome to the 40th Annual 2026 MNAFEE Annual Family & Early Childhood Education Conference!

Reaching a four-decade milestone is no small feat; it is a testament to the enduring passion of our early childhood network. This year, we aren't just gathering for professional development; we are celebrating forty years of advocacy, connection and growth across Minnesota.

We owe our success to the tireless efforts of our committees and the trailblazers who paved the way before us. We extend a special note of gratitude to **Sarah Holmboe** and our incredible **Conference Committee**. Their commitment to volunteering their time, energy, and expertise is the reason we have such diverse offerings to enjoy this week.

As we look back on forty years of impact, MNAFEE's mission remains driven by a clear purpose as we adapt to the changing needs of the families we serve:

- **Our Mission:** To support and advocate for early childhood and family education professionals through leadership, professional development, and networking.
- **Our Vision:** We strive for a future where every Minnesota family is supported by a high-quality, accessible, and innovative educational community.

This year also marks a pivotal chapter as we officially welcome **Rachel Chrastil**, our new Executive Director. Rachel has already become a "breath of fresh air," infusing MNAFEE with modern innovations and a revitalized spirit. She possesses a natural ability to anticipate the needs of our members, ensuring we are always one step ahead. We are incredibly lucky to have her vision at the helm as we transition into our next decade.

Over the next few days, we encourage you to lean into the sessions, share your stories, and network with colleagues old and new. Here's to forty years of excellence and many more to come!

Warmly, *Stephanie Berwald* and
Sarah Moline

New This Year: Sched App



We're excited to be using the Sched app for the 2026 MNAFEE Conference! Sched is your all-in-one conference companion — browse sessions, build your personal schedule, and stay up to date with real-time updates, all from your phone or computer.

Visit mnafeeconference26.sched.com for the latest conference information and details.

What Can You Do with Sched?

Build Your Personal Schedule

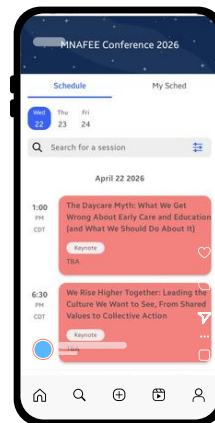
Browse all sessions and tap to add the ones you want to attend. Your custom agenda is saved and easy to access.

Get Real-Time Updates

Receive instant notifications if a session changes rooms, time, or is cancelled, so you're never caught off guard.

Access Speaker Bios & Session Materials

View speaker information and session details all in one place. No more digging through paper handouts.



How to Get Started?

Download the Sched App

Search "Sched" in the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android) and install the free app.

Find the MNAFEE Conference

Open the app and search for "MNAFEE Conference 2026" — or visit mnafeeconference26.sched.com on any browser.

Create a Free Account or Log In

Sign up with your email to save your personal schedule. Your schedule syncs across devices automatically.



Pro Tip: Set Up Sched Before You Arrive!

Download the app and explore the schedule before conference week. You'll hit the ground running, and spend more time connecting with colleagues instead of searching for sessions.

Conference Overview



Wednesday, April 22

River's Edge Conference Center - Glen Carlson Room (first floor)

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1-4 pm | Afternoon Pre-Conference Keynote* |
| 5:30-6:30 pm | Light Dinner for Evening Pre-Conference Keynote |
| 6:30-8 pm | Evening Pre-Conference Keynote* |

* Register for each Pre-Conference presentation separately.
These keynotes are not part of the total conference registration.

Thursday, April 23 **River's Edge Conference Center**

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 7:30-8:15 am | Vendors Open, Continental Breakfast & Conference Registration - across from Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |
| 8:20-8:30 am | Conference Welcome & Announcements - Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |
| 8:30-9:45 am | Keynote Speaker - Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |
| 9:45-10 am | Break & Vendors - Terry Haws Center C (first floor) |
| 10-11:15 am | Workshop Session A |
| 11:30 am-12:15 pm | Connect, Ponder & Learn and Vendor Fair - Terry Haws Center C (first floor) |
| 12:15-1:30 pm | Lunch - Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |
| 1:45-3 pm | Workshop Session B |
| 3-3:15 pm | Break & Vendors - Terry Haws Center C (first floor) |
| 3:15-4:30 pm | Workshop Session C |
| 4:30-6 pm | Beyond the Sessions: Connect & Celebrate - See pages 23 & 24
You don't want to miss these events! |

Friday, April 24 **River's Edge Conference Center**

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 7:30-8:05 am | Continental Breakfast and Conference Registration - across from Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |
| 8:05-8:15 am | Conference Welcome & Announcements - Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |
| 8:15-9:30 am | Keynote Speaker - Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |
| 9:45-11 am | Workshop Session D |
| 11:15 am-12:30 pm | Workshop Session E |
| 12:30-1:30 pm | Lunch & Adjourn - Glen Carlson Room (first floor) |

Pre-Conference Keynote



1-4 pm

River's Edge Conference Center

Glen Carlson Room (first floor)

The Daycare Myth: What We Get Wrong About Early Care and Education (and What We Should Do About It)

Dr. Dan Wuori, Author, *The Daycare Myth*

What if everything we've been told about early childhood is wrong?

For 100 years, we've treated child care and education as two separate things. This myth doesn't just hold back children during their most critical developmental window—it costs taxpayers billions.

In this session, you'll discover:

- Why the early years are more powerful than we ever imagined
- How our broken system is failing children AND families
- Practical ways to rethink early childhood from the ground up

Best-selling author Dr. Dan Wuori will challenge what you think you know and show you a better path forward—one that actually works for the children and families you serve every day.

This isn't theory. It's about transforming how we support the youngest learners in ways that matter.

About the presenter:

*Dr. Dan Wuori is the Founder and President of Early Childhood Policy Solutions, a non-partisan public policy consultancy focused on the needs of American children and families. He is the author of best-selling book, *The Daycare Myth: What We Get Wrong About Early Care and Education (and What We Should Do About It)*.*

“
This was exactly
what I needed to
hear! They were
amazing and
gave great
information!

- Participant 2025
Conference

”

Pre-Conference Keynote

6:30-8 pm

River's Edge Conference Center

Glen Carlson Room (first floor)

We Rise Higher Together: Leading the Culture We Want to See, From Shared Values to Collective Action

Joe Davis, Artist, Author, and Activator of Joy

We Rise Higher Together: Leading the Culture You Want to See Culture isn't only something we inherit—it's something we cultivate together.

In this dynamic, interactive keynote, award-winning author, artist, and activator of joy Joe Davis invites early childhood professionals into a powerful exploration of what it means to lead the culture we want to see, no matter our title or role.

Through poetry, storytelling, and empowering prompts, you'll:

- Reconnect with your purpose and recognize your collective power
- Gain practical tools for shaping workplace culture rooted in care, dignity, and belonging
- Reimagine leadership as daily relational practice, not just authority

Whether you're a teacher, program coordinator, parent educator, or support staff, this session affirms that every setting deserves an environment where staff feel valued, children thrive, and families are supported.

Grounded in the collaborative spirit of the early childhood community, this is both a call to action and a deep-rooted reminder: when we shape culture collectively, we don't just support Minnesota's youngest learners—we sustain the community of people who serve them.

About the Speaker:

Joe Davis is an award-winning spoken word artist and bestselling author who uses poetry to power possibility. He is the founding director of Finding Your Freedom Practice, teaching body-centered wellness through spoken word, writing, music, and dance. His work has been featured on BET, CNN, and MPR. Based in Minneapolis, Joe tours internationally with schools, nonprofits, and businesses to practice envisioning collective liberation and human flourishing. Learn more at JoeDavisPoetry.com.





Thursday Keynote

8:30-9:45 am

River's Edge Conference Center

Captain Your Culture: Lead with Clarity, Alignment, and Appreciation

Ann Vote, Culture Coach & Speaker

Your daily interactions shape your workplace culture. Are you steering it where you want to go?

In this energizing keynote, Ann Vote shows you how to align your beliefs with your actions and lead with purpose—no matter your role. Through engaging stories, relatable examples, and interactive moments, you'll discover how clear communication transforms the way you connect with colleagues, families, and children.

You'll leave with:

- Practical tools to strengthen communication
- Strategies to ensure your daily actions reflect your values
- A renewed commitment to appreciate the people you serve and work alongside

Get ready for a keynote that blends humor, insight, and motivation—leaving you empowered to build a positive, thriving culture every day.

About the Speaker:

Ann Vote is a leadership speaker and culture coach who helps leaders strengthen workplace environments through clarity, connection, and intentional leadership. She spent 11 years in the classroom, where her experience leading students and working on collaborative teams shaped her passion for building safe, inclusive, and thriving environments. Known for her engaging and accessible approach, Ann combines academic insight with real-world application to help leaders create meaningful, lasting change.

**Thursday,
April 23**
10-11:15 am

Workshop Session A

River's Edge Conference Center

A-1 Building the Future of ECE: A New Path to Fair Pay and Professional Careers.

Audra Nissen Boyer, Community Education Director, Mankato Area Public Schools
Jessica Richards, Child Care Wage Specialist | Provider and Workforce Supports, DCYF

Kelly Kazeck (she/her) Early Childhood Workforce Collaboration Specialist | Early Learning Services, DCYF

This session shares insights from direct participation in a multi-state Action Research Partnership (ARP) Action Lab conducted in response to a request from the Minnesota Legislature to inform expectations associated with the Great Start Grant. The session is designed for stakeholders who have a vested interest in its outcomes. Drawing on first-hand experience, the session translates how structured systems-change processes were used to examine workforce compensation and career pathway alignment, and what this work reveals for policy, governance, and implementation efforts tied to legislative expectations and future legislative opportunities.

A-2 From Standards to Storytime: Using the Revised 2028 ECIPs in Practice

(repeat D-10)

Alex Verhoye, PhD, Assessment & Standards Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families, Early Learning Services

Shoua Faith Moua, ED.S, Program and Collaboration Specialist, Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families, Early Learning Services

Hear how community feedback is shaping the Early Childhood Coaching Framework as it aligns and supports the tenets of the Successful Learner Equation. This session will overview Minnesota initiatives and opportunities to increase professional knowledge individually and collectively as a community.

A-3 Difficult Conversations Made Doable: How to Solve Problems Without Creating Conflict

Ann Vote, Culture Coach & Speaker

This interactive breakout equips leaders with a simple 2-minute problem-solving script they can use to quickly and respectfully address issues with staff, students, and parents. Participants will identify a real challenge and practice a collaborative solution-focused approach that builds trust, creates buy-in, and leaves people feeling valued, included, and confident to take action immediately.

“

Very well organized and presented. I thought we had tried everything in our program, but I got a few new ideas.

- Participant 2025 Conference

”

Workshop Session A

River's Edge Conference Center

10-11:15 am

A-4 What is the Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework? An Introduction

Eric Hansen, EdD, LICSW, CFLE, and IECMH-E

Participants will gain an understanding of the Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework through discussion and individual and/or group experiences.

A-5 Advocating for ECFE with Administration

Michelle Smith, M. Ed, ECFE teacher ISD 197

Sara McKeever, MS, IMH-E®

Adam Janiak, Negotiations Specialist EdMN

How much time are you given to prepare your lesson plans and environment? Join us along with Adam Janiak, Negotiations Specialist from EdMN to discuss advocating for ECFE needs with administration. We will explore ways teachers can work together to advocate, share experiences, and collaborate with their districts to support ECFE teachers' unique needs.

A-6 Rethinking Early Childhood Support Through a Neurodiversity-Affirming Lens

Bri Ciaccio, M.S., SLP-CCC (Master of Science, Speech-Language Pathologist, Clinical Certificate of Competence)

Rebecca Vold, M.S., SLP-CCC (Master of Science, Speech-Language Pathologist, Clinical Certificate of Competence)

This presentation will explore how early childhood support can shift from compliance-based practices to connection-centered, neurodiversity-affirming approaches. Participants will gain practical strategies to support neurodivergent children's communication, regulation, and participation while honoring autonomy, strengths, and diverse developmental pathways in early childhood settings.

A-7 Building Bridges Through Books: Engaging Families & your community with Children's Books

(repeat E-7)

Rebecca Chrystal, M.S., Managing Director of Programs, Raising a Reader

Deborah Berry, Raising a Reader Coordinator, Brandon-Evansville School District

Join Raising a Reader and 2024 MNAFEE Innovative Programming Award winner, Deb Berry for a dynamic workshop where we delve into the transformative potential of children's books in fostering family engagement across early childhood development. Through interactive discussions, real-life examples, and practical strategies, participants will gain a deep fresh understanding of how to create situations where early literacy can be shared throughout families, intergenerational groups and communities.

A-8 Early Childhood Education During Polarizing and Stressful Times

(repeat D-6)

Shannon Rader, PhD, Parent and Family Education Director, University of Minnesota

Sara Erickson, MEd, Parent Educator Stillwater Public Schools and Adjunct Lecturer University of Minnesota

Early Childhood Educators are tasked with showing up for children with joy and energy, even when children, their caregivers, and educators themselves are feeling the strain from challenging times locally, nationally, and globally. Early Childhood Educators are faced with creating an environment that welcomes all families and supports children as they learn and process through play. How are we handling what can be varied and difficult roles in our work? Together we will share our wisdom and support each other through a guided, informal conversation

**Thursday,
April 23**
10-11:15 am

Workshop Session A

River's Edge Conference Center

A-10 Tackling Tough Topics with Diverse Caregiver Groups

Danny O'Brien, M. Ed., Early Learning Support Specialist and Parent Educator, ISD 191-Burnsville Eagan Savage

How do we engage caregivers in deep and meaningful discussions around potentially taboo topics in 2026?!?

A-11 GOLD® for Leaders: Using Data to Guide Implementation and Improve Outcomes

Nate Schleicher, M. Ed. Business Development Manager, Teaching Strategies
Jenika Carmouche, Subject Matter Expert, Teaching Strategies

Designed for administrators, coaches, and leaders, this session focuses on using GOLD® data to support teachers and strengthen implementation. Participants will learn how to interpret reports, identify patterns, and use data for coaching, goal-setting, and program-level decisions that lead to stronger child outcomes.



AWARDS LUNCHEON

12:15-1:30 pm | Glen Carlson Room

The MNAFEE 2026 Annual Awards celebrate the people and programs who inspire, innovate, and lead in our ECFE community.

Connect, Ponder & Learn



11:30 am-12:15 pm

Terry Haws Center C (first floor)
formerly Eat, Ponder and Learn

Early Childhood Education Roundtables

Join fellow educators for dynamic discussions on pressing topics in early childhood education. Share experiences and gain fresh perspectives from colleagues across Minnesota during these interactive roundtables. Whether you're new to the field or a seasoned educator, you'll leave with valuable insights and connections.

These are condensed, high-impact 45-minute versions of our deep-dive sessions, designed to spark immediate reflection and provide actionable strategies you can implement in your program right away.

CPL-1 **Preventing the Development of Bias in Early Childhood: Foundations and Reflection**

This session explores the origins of racial bias in young children and the influence of implicit and explicit bias in adults. Participants will reflect on their own cultural identities, discuss developmentally appropriate strategies for addressing bias, and practice intentional language for discussing differences with children and families.

CPL-2 **Advocating for ECFE with Administration**

How much time are you given to prepare your lesson plans and environment? Join this discussion with a negotiations specialist to explore strategies for advocating for ECFE needs with administration. Participants will share experiences and collaborate on ways teachers can work together with their districts to support the unique requirements of ECFE programs.

CPL-3 **From Standards to Storytime: Using the Revised 2028 ECIPs in Practice**

Hear how community feedback is shaping the Early Childhood Coaching Framework to align with the Successful Learner Equation. Gain an overview of current Minnesota initiatives and facilitates a discussion on collective opportunities to increase professional knowledge. Participants will explore how these frameworks can be applied individually and across the community to support student success.

Connect, Ponder & Learn

Formerly Eat, Ponder & Learn

11:30 am-12:15 pm

CPL-4 **How are the Successful Learner and Unifying Mixed Delivery Coaching Frameworks Supporting State and Local Connections, Collaboration, and Comprehensive Integration?**

Explore how community feedback is shaping the Early Childhood Coaching Framework to align with the Successful Learner Equation. This interactive roundtable provides an overview of Minnesota-led initiatives and facilitates a collective discussion on professional growth. Participants will examine how these frameworks can be applied to elevate both individual practice and community-wide impact.

CPL-5 **Building the Future of ECE: A New Path to Fair Pay and Professional Careers.**

Explore first-hand insights from the multi-state Action Research Partnership (ARP) Action Lab, a project commissioned to inform the Minnesota Legislature's Great Start Grant. In this 45-minute session, we will examine how systems-change processes address workforce compensation and career pathway alignment. Stakeholders will gain a clear understanding of how this research shapes current policy, governance, and future legislative opportunities for the early childhood field.

CPL-6 **Building Connections: A Marketing & Communications Collaborative**

This roundtable invites you to an energizing exchange on marketing and family engagement. Beyond sharing wins and troubleshooting social media, we will envision a statewide collaborative, a network where programs pool resources and align messaging to elevate the field. Whether you are a marketing lead or an educator wearing many hats, you'll leave with fresh inspiration and a vision for collective outreach.

Not attending a Connect, Ponder and Learn session? This is the perfect opportunity to explore the vendor exhibits! Visit the vendors to get your conference passport marked for a chance to win exclusive raffle prizes during BINGO! (Must be present to win)

Connect, Ponder & Learn

Formerly Eat, Ponder & Learn

11:30 am-12:15 pm

CPL-7 Refocusing on What Matters: Using Data to Elevate Teaching and Learning

In the whirlwind of early childhood leadership, competing demands often pull us away from the core work of supporting high-quality teaching. This roundtable offers a focused space for leaders to exchange strategies on using assessment data with purpose. Through collaborative problem-solving, we will explore how to leverage data to drive equitable practices and reflective decision-making. Join this interactive conversation to share how you cut through the noise, refocus your energy, and lead your program with the clarity and confidence that your educators and students deserve.

CPL-8 Leading with Story: Effective ways to share about early learning with district leadership

How do we ensure early learning isn't just a footnote in district goals? This roundtable offers a strategic space to discuss weaving family stories and program data into powerful narratives that resonate with district leadership and school boards. Join us to share successes and challenges in strengthening administrative relationships, and leave with a vision for how to make the value of your program undeniable to those at the decision-making table.

CPL-9 Family Voice: ECFE MN Story Collective Initiative

What do families truly gain through participation in Early Family Childhood Education (ECFE), and how can we maximize those benefits? Join us as we welcome the MN Story Collective for an interactive "sense-making session." Together, we will dive into authentic family stories to identify emerging themes and draw critical connections to quality programming structures. This collaborative roundtable is designed to help leaders and educators translate raw family experiences into actionable insights that strengthen program impact and elevate the parent-child bond across Minnesota.

**Thursday,
April 23**
1:45-3 pm

Workshop Session B

River's Edge Conference Center

B-1 Early Childhood Teacher Licensure in Transition: Data, Dialogue, and Next Steps

Kelly Kazeck, Early Childhood Workforce Collaboration Specialist, DCYF
December Lynch, Early Learning Services, Supervisor, DCYF
Darcy Rodriguez, ECFE Educational Consultant, DCYF
Mike Brown, Education Specialist, DCYF

Learn about upcoming licensure changes and what they mean for early childhood programs. This session shares information about the 2028 licensure survey findings, DCYF's convened workforce workgroups, and available scholarships and grants, while offering space to discuss workforce impacts, questions, and concerns.

B-3 How are the Successful Learner and Unifying Mixed Delivery Coaching Frameworks Supporting State and Local Connections, Collaboration, and Comprehensive Integration? (repeat D-3)

Cha Txab Yang, Mixed Delivery Coaching Network Lead, DCYF
June Reineke, Mixed Delivery Specialist, DCYF

Hear how community feedback is shaping the Early Childhood Coaching Framework as it align and supports the tenets of the Successful Learner Equation. This session will overview Minnesota initiatives and opportunities to increase professional knowledge individually and collectively as a community.

B-4 Building ILPs in Community using the Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework (PECCF): Intermediate Level

Shannon Rader, PhD, Parent and Family Education Director, University of Minnesota

This workshop will take a deeper look at the parent educator's use of the PECCF through the use of a PE self assessment and developing a personal stretch plan in using the PECCF with their classes. We will explore how to develop a scope and sequence using the PECCF as a foundation, along with developing lesson plans that include PECCF indicators.

“
One of the best
PDs I have had! I
am still thinking
about it!
Very engaging
activities,
discussion, and
information that
is relevant to my
work!

- Participant 2025
Conference

Workshop Session B

River's Edge Conference Center

1:45-3 pm

B-5 The Little Ranger Roadster: Taking Early Childhood Learning on the Road (repeat E-3)

Bethany Hardy, Early Childhood Coordinator, Forest Lake Area Schools

Rachel Kaiser, Early Childhood Assistant Coordinator, Forest Lake Area Schools

Pattie Jents, Preschool Educator, Forest Lake Area Schools

When families can't come to us, we go to them! The Little Ranger Roadster is a mobile outreach initiative designed to connect with families across our community through play and learning. This session will highlight how the project was funded and implemented, the impact it's had on family engagement and equity, and lessons learned along the way. Come ready to brainstorm how mobile learning could transform your own early childhood program.

B-6 It's All About the Brain! How to Use Music to Prepare Young Brains for Reading (repeat C-6)

Ann Kay, Co-founder and Education Coordinator, Rock 'n' Read Project

Have fun singing and learning how to help parents and their children develop basic music skills. No prior music training necessary! Learn about research that has revealed that auditory processing is the key to language and literacy, and singing and basic music skills are highly effective ways to develop it.

B-7 Receipts, Please: Teaching Parents (and Ourselves) to Spot Real Science in a Clickbait Era

Jennifer George, PhD, Associate Teaching Professor, University of Minnesota

It is estimated that on a daily basis, we take in digital and physical information that is equivalent to 16 movies. What?!! Parents and educators face a constant barrage of viral tips, scientific claims, and contradictory advice. What's real and what's not? What is worth passing on and what's not? This lively, hands-on session offers practical tools for evaluating information, spotting red flags, and confidently sharing credible, accessible guidance with families in a noisy digital world.

B-8 Leading Instruction with Intention: Strengths-Based Feedback and Reflective Practice

Elizabeth Fields, COMPASS Statewide EC/ECSE Lead, BrightWorks

Jodi Altringer

We heard you! You're ready to level up your leadership game. This session will expand your toolbox with strategies that will enhance your conversations about effective teaching moments. You'll learn to use reflective practices and strength-based feedback to spot magic teaching moments, reflect on why they matter and connect feedback to effective practices-making instructional decisions intentional and exciting!

**Thursday,
April 23**
1:45-3 pm

Workshop Session B

River's Edge Conference Center

B-10 Building Connections: A Marketing & Outreach Collaborative

Lesa Aman, ECFE/Preschool Outreach Facilitator, Anoka-Hennepin Schools Early Learning Programs

Jessica Rehfeld, Early Childhood Outreach Facilitator, Mahtomedi Public Schools

Mischelle Squire, Marketing & Outreach Specialist, Osseo Area Schools

Jennifer Wenner, Licensed Family Educator, Minnetonka Public Schools

Mi Yang, ECFE Education Consultant, DCYF

Join fellow early childhood professionals for an energizing and collaborative session on marketing and outreach! Connect with peers, exchange ideas, and share wins and challenges in reaching and engaging families. Whether you're focused on social media, community partnerships, or wearing many hats, you'll leave with new inspiration, practical tools, and valuable connections to elevate your work.

B-11 GOLD® for Teachers: Using Data to Strengthen Instruction

Nate Schleicher, M. Ed. Business Development Manager, Teaching Strategies

Jenika Carmouche, Subject Matter Expert, Teaching Strategies

This session helps teachers turn everyday GOLD® data into meaningful instructional decisions. Participants will explore how observations, checkpoint data, and reports can guide planning, individualization, and small-group instruction, making assessment a practical tool that supports children's growth without adding to teacher workload.

“

*This was THE
BEST
Presentation & I
took away SO
many tools!*

**- Participant 2025
Conference**

”

**Thursday,
April 23**
3:15-4:30 pm

Workshop Session C

River's Edge Conference Center

C-1 Family Voice: ECFE MN Story Collective Initiative

Mi Yang, ECFE Educational Consultant, DCYF

Darcy Rodriguez, ECFE Educational Consultant, DCYF

What do families gain through participation in ECFE? How can we maximize those benefits? Help us welcome the MN Story Collective who will engage us in a "sense making session" where we look at family stories, identify themes, and draw connections to quality programming structures that can maximize positive impact for families.

C-2 Refocusing on What Matters: Using Data to Elevate Teaching and Learning

Shoua Faith Moua, ED.S, Program and Collaboration Specialist, DCYF, Early Learning Services

Alex Verhoye, PhD, Assessment & Standards Coordinator, DCYF, Early Learning Services

Early childhood leaders frequently navigate competing demands that pull them away from the core work of supporting high-quality teaching and learning. This interactive session helps leaders refocus by using assessment data with purpose, strengthening equitable practice, reflective decision-making, and collaborative problem-solving to lead early learning with clarity and confidence.

C-3 Journey from referral to services; Understanding Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education services

Eric Hansen, EdD, LICSW, CFLE, IECMH-E

This workshop will walk participants through from referral to evaluation to early intervention or early childhood special education services.

“
Very engaging,
great
information,
validated a lot
of what we are
currently doing
and got a few
new ideas too!

- Participant 2025
Conference

Workshop Session C

River's Edge Conference Center
3:15-4:30 pm

C-4 Beyond the Classroom with The Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework (PECCF): How Program Leaders Can Expand Use of the PECCF to Enhance Programs

Nancy Wallace, St. Francis Area Schools Early Childhood Program Supervisor, Retired

Betty Cooke, University of Minnesota Adjunct Faculty

The Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework (PECCF) can support your entire ECFE program. Learn how you, as a program leader, can use the PECCF to enhance professional development, guide evaluation, support a program-wide scope and sequence, identify community needs, and communicate the impact of your program. You'll leave with ideas and next steps for using the PECCF more fully in your setting.

C-5 Small but Mighty: Facilitating Honest Conversations About the Joys and Challenges of ECFE and Early Childhood Programming in Rural and Small School Districts

Kim Siedlecki, M.A. Parent Educator, Moose Lake School District 97

Kaitlin Warpala & Tina Kauma, Licensed Early Childhood Educator, Moose Lake School District 97

Julie Duesler, Early Childhood Coordinator, Moose Lake School District 97

Facilitated by licensed parent and early childhood educators and a program coordinator who has done all of the roles, this interactive session invites honest conversation about the joys and challenges of ECFE and early childhood programming in small and rural districts. Participants will share experiences, explore solutions, and leave with practical strategies and peer connections.



Why Attend the MNAFEE Conference?

- **Learn from inspiring speakers** who blend research, storytelling, and practical strategies
- **Connect with peers** who understand the joys and challenges of early childhood work
- **Discover fresh ideas** you can implement right away in your setting
- **Renew your energy** and recommit to the work that matters most

**Thursday,
April 23**
3:15-4:30 pm

Workshop Session C

River's Edge Conference Center

C-6 It's All About the Brain! How to Use Music to Prepare Young Brains for Reading (repeat B-6)

(repeat B-6)

Ann Kay, Co-founder and Education Coordinator, Rock 'n' Read Project

Have fun singing and learning how to help parents and their children develop basic music skills. No prior music training necessary! Learn about research that has revealed that auditory processing is the key to language and literacy, and singing and basic music skills are highly effective ways to develop it.

C-7 Preventing the Development of Bias in Early Childhood: Foundations and Reflection

Rebecca Sorensen, Coach Facilitator for Young Hearts Open Minds

This session introduces early childhood professionals to the origins of racial bias in young children and explores implicit and explicit bias in adults. Participants reflect on their own cultural identities, discuss developmentally appropriate strategies for addressing bias, and practice language for talking about differences with children and families.

C-8 Leading with Story: Effective ways to share about early learning with district leadership

Margo Chresand, Early Childhood Screening Specialist

Mike Brown, ECFE, SR, and Early Learning Administration Specialist

Discussion on weaving family stories and program data into powerful narratives for district leadership including the school board. We will explore templates for creating presentations, program one-pagers, and ways to strengthening your relationship with district leadership

“
Great presenters,
great content
and super helpful
information. Gave
us some great
ideas to
implement in our
program.

- Participant 2025
Conference

Workshop Session C

River's Edge Convention Center

3:15-4:30 pm

C-10 Building ILPs in Community using the Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework (PECCF): Advanced Level

Melissa Denning, M.Ed. ECFE, Parent Education, Outreach , Early Childhood Screening St. Francis Area Schools

Nicki Murphy, M.Ed. Parent and Family Educator & Home Visitor Robbinsdale Area Schools

Come join a community of educators to transform your current parent education lesson plans into the Integrated Parent Education Lesson Plan Format that the PECCF suggests. This session is for Parent Educators that are seasoned in writing lesson plans and want to transform them to meet the standards of the PECCF. We will support your work by providing examples, helping to add any missing components to your current lesson plan so that you will leave the session with at least one integrated lesson plan. Our goal is to support your work and empower you to feel confident in the ILP process within your role as a parent educator. Copies of the PECCF and ECIPs will be available for you to view. Please bring your fully charged electronic device and one or several lesson plans to work with. There will be time to share and submit your completed ILP with colleagues, if you wish.

C-11 Empowering Early Literacy with Integrity

Nate Schleicher, M. Ed. Business Development Manager, Teaching Strategies

Jenika Carmouche, Subject Matter Expert, Teaching Strategies

As literacy expectations rise under Minnesota's READ Act, early childhood programs are increasingly evaluated through Kindergarten readiness data. This session explores how ECFE and preschool leaders can interpret literacy metrics with context and integrity, while applying science-of-reading research through developmentally appropriate, play-based practices that support strong birth-to-five foundations.



You don't have to figure it out alone. At the MNAFEE conference, every hallway, every meal, and every session is an opportunity to find your people - early childhood educators who share your passion, your frustrations, and your drive to do better for children and families. The conference schedule is just the starting point. Sit down next to someone new and you just might find a colleague for life.

**Show up. Engage.
Watch what happens.**

Beyond the Sessions: Connect & Celebrate

Thursday, April 23

The learning doesn't stop when the sessions end! Join us for an evening of **networking, celebration,** and **community building.** Choose your path, grab a snack, and make some lasting Minnesota connections.

UMN Alumni & Student Reception

4:30-5:30 pm

Connection • Conversation • Prizes

Join University of Minnesota alumni and current Parent and Family Education students for an hour of snacks and networking. Whether you are a graduate or currently in the program, come share your journey, meet fellow Gophers, and learn more about the **CEHD Alumni Society.** Stick around for door prizes!

RSVP: Scan the QR code to let us know you're coming!



Parent and Family Education

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Regional Coordinator Meeting

4:30-5:30 pm

Bell Room - 1st Floor

Network • Updates • Advocacy

The **MN Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)** is hosting a vital meeting for all regional coordinators. This is your time to connect with peers from across the state and hear the latest departmental updates that impact your work and community.

No need to RSVP, just come join the conversation.

Beyond the Sessions: Connect & Celebrate

Thursday, April 23

The learning doesn't stop when the sessions end! Join us for an evening of **networking, celebration, and community building**. Choose your path, grab a snack, and make some lasting Minnesota connections.



Teaching Strategies BINGO Reception

4:45-6 pm

Glenn Carlson Room

Snacks • Drinks • BINGO!

Unwind after a full day of learning with this high-energy, free event sponsored by **Teaching Strategies**. It's the perfect way to network and have some fun in a relaxed atmosphere.

New for 2026: Submit your marked **Vendor Fair Passport** here for a chance to win exclusive raffle prizes during BINGO!. (Must be present to win).



Teaching
Strategies®

A huge thank you to **Teaching Strategies** for sponsoring Bingo Fun! Be sure to **stop by their booth** at the Vendor Fair!

Friday Keynote

8:15-9:30 am

River's Edge Conference Center

Partnering With Parents: An approach to collaborating with families to best meet children's need

Claire Lerner, LCSW-Child Development and Parenting Expert

Strong family partnerships don't happen by accident—they're built through intentional communication and trust.

In this practical workshop, you'll learn an approach to connecting with parents that helps them truly hear and act on what you're sharing about their child's development. This model is especially powerful for navigating challenging conversations about behavior, learning concerns, or developmental needs.

You'll discover how to:

- Build trust that reduces parental defensiveness and denial
- Frame difficult information in ways parents can absorb and act on
- Transform uncomfortable conversations into effective collaboration

Strengthen partnerships that help children thrive

Whether you're discussing a concerning behavior or celebrating progress, you'll leave with strategies to make every parent conversation more productive and partnership-focused.

About the Speaker:

*Claire is a nationally recognized child development and parenting expert with more than three decades of experience. She partners with parents to decode their children's behavior and solve challenging childrearing issues, and provides mental health consultation at DC area preschools. Claire led the parenting division of Zero to Three for nearly 20 years, translating early childhood science for parents. She is the author of hundreds of parenting resources and two books: *Why Is My Child in Charge?* (2021) and *Big Reactors: Practical Strategies for Supporting Highly Sensitive Children* (2025).*

**Friday,
April 24**
9:45-11 am

Workshop Session D

River's Edge Conference Center

D-1 Understanding and Supporting Big Reactors/Highly Sensitive Children

Claire Lerner, LCSW-Child Development and Parenting Expert

In this workshop, based on Claire's recent book, *"Big Reactors: Practical Strategies for Parenting Highly Sensitive Children"*, she will provide insights and tools to support these intense kids' significant strengths while also helping them manage their big feelings and cope with everyday challenges. Through detailed case descriptions from more than 35 years of work in the trenches with these complex and sometimes confusing kids, Claire will:

- Describe the key traits and challenges of highly sensitive kids
- Reveal the process—the “detective work”—she guides parents through to understand the root cause of their child’s challenges and to come up with sensitive, effective strategies that work in real life, not just in theory.
- Provide a reality-based roadmap for how parents and other caregivers can find solutions to their unique experiences with their extraordinary kids that take into consideration that every child and family is different, and that there is not a one-size-fits-all approach.

D-2 Providing ECFE Programming in Rural Communities - Panel & Discussion

*Maggie Beaupre DeYoung, M.A., Academic Adviser, University of Minnesota
Mi Yang, ECFE Education Consultant, DCYF*

ECFE programs play a crucial role in supporting families, schools and communities in rural areas, yet they often face unique challenges that impact access, staffing, and sustainability. This session will explore the strengths and challenges rural ECFE programs face, with time for participants to share their experiences and strategies that districts are using to reach families and maintain programming in a post-pandemic era.

The session will include a panel of ECFE staff and current University of MN students from rural communities who will share their experiences and approaches to delivering programming to their local communities. In addition, a representative from the Department of Children, Youth and Families will share resources and strategies for how ECFE parent educators can build relationships with their local schools.

“
Great information
and group
discussion - loved
hearing from the
members who
are running
classes and those
who want to start.
Great facilitation
from the
presenter.
- Participant 2025
Conference

”

Workshop Session D

River's Edge Convention Center

9:45-11 am

D-3 How are the Successful Learner and Unifying Mixed Delivery Coaching Frameworks Supporting State and Local Connections, Collaboration, and Comprehensive Integration?
(repeat B-3)

Cha Txab Yang, Mixed Delivery Coaching Network Lead, DCYF
June Reineke, Mixed Delivery Specialist, DCYF

Hear how community feedback is shaping the Early Childhood Coaching Framework as it aligns and supports the tenets of the Successful Learner Equation. This session will overview Minnesota initiatives and opportunities to increase professional knowledge individually and collectively as a community.

D-4 A Decade Strong: Essential Practices for Sustaining Social-Emotional Learning and the Pyramid Model Framework at Pearson Early Learning Center
(repeat E-4)

Cortney Olson, M.A., Ed.S., School Psychologist, Shakopee School District
Steph Kaste, M.A., OTR/L, Occupational Therapist, Shakopee School District

This session will provide an in-depth discussion of the essential components for sustaining high-quality social-emotional learning and the Pyramid Model framework. These components include a strong social curriculum, well-developed scope and sequence, community/family engagement activities, staff training and motivation, and consistent language. We will discuss lessons learned and practical applications of each sustainability component.

D-5 Neurodivergent Affirming Practices for both Parent Educators and Early Childhood Teachers

Susan Colvin Parent Educator Minneapolis Public Schools
Karen LeMay Early Childhood Teacher Minneapolis Public Schools

Join us for this engaging professional development session designed for early childhood educators and Parent Educators working with neurodivergent children ages 2-5. Build your confidence in using neurodiversity-affirming, strength-based strategies that truly support autistic preschoolers and their families. Together, we'll explore practical tools to honor each child's unique strengths, foster inclusive learning environments, and develop approaches that celebrate neurodiversity. Leave with resources and ideas you can implement right away to create a supportive, joyful classroom for all learners.

“

Very impressed with the presentation and information. It was great to hear from State of MN staff about their goals and ideas in early education.

- Participant 2025 Conference

”

**Friday,
April 24**
9:45-11 am

Workshop Session D

River's Edge Conference Center

D-6 Early Childhood Education During Polarizing and Stressful Times

(repeat A-8)

Shannon Rader, PhD, Parent and Family Education Director, University of Minnesota

Sara Erickson, MEd, Parent Educator Stillwater Public Schools and Adjunct Lecturer University of Minnesota

Early Childhood Educators are tasked with showing up for children with joy and energy, even when children, their caregivers, and educators themselves are feeling the strain from challenging times locally, nationally, and globally. Early Childhood Educators are faced with creating an environment that welcomes all families and supports children as they learn and process through play. How are we handling what can be varied and difficult roles in our work? Together we will share our wisdom and support each other through a guided, informal conversation

D-7 The Value and Practice of Intentional Parent Observation in ECFE: An Action Research Study

Susan Shorey, M.Ed. Parent Educator, District 196-Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan

This presentation shares an action research study exploring how intentional, developmentally aligned observation prompts increased parents' understanding of their child's development in an ECFE class. Findings highlight shifts in parent awareness, practical strategies for guided observation, and the power of action research to strengthen ECFE practice. The teaching intervention will also be considered for broader use in parent education.

D-8 Beyond Birth to 5 - Continuing Parent Education for Families PreK to Grade 3

(repeat E-8)

Nichol Michels, M.Ed. PreK to Grade 3 Parent Educator, Anoka-Hennepin Schools

Elizabeth Korzenowski, M.Ed. PreK to Grade 3 Parent Educator, Anoka-Hennepin Schools

Tawnya Heinsohn, PreK to Grade 3 Parent Educator, Anoka-Hennepin Schools

What does parent education look like beyond Birth - 5? Join us as we share tips, tricks and ideas to support families in the preschool and elementary world. This includes connecting with school staff, teaching online, and outreach events. We will discuss common challenges and how we've found success.

“
Presenter was
fabulous! Very
engaging and
relevant and
up to date. Can
take back lots
of the info for
the families I
work with.

- Participant 2024
Conference

”

Workshop Session D

River's Edge Convention Center
9:45-11 am

D-10 From Standards to Storytime: Using the Revised 2028 ECIPs in Practice (repeat A-2)

Alex Verhoye, PhD, Assessment & Standards Coordinator, DCYF, Early Learning Services

Shoua Faith Moua, ED.S, Program and Collaboration Specialist, DCYF, Early Learning Services

Hear how community feedback is shaping the Early Childhood Coaching Framework as it aligns and supports the tenets of the Successful Learner Equation. This session will overview Minnesota initiatives and opportunities to increase professional knowledge individually and collectively as a community.

Celebrating 40 Years of MNAFEE • 1986 – 2026

Four decades of championing early childhood education - and the journey continues.

The 2026 MNAFEE Conference is your dedicated space to recharge, reconnect, and rediscover what's possible. Immerse yourself in a community that truly understands your work, then leave energized with actionable strategies to transform your practice and the lives of the families and children you serve.

40 Years of community ∞ Impact on children & families



**Friday,
April 24**

11:15 am-12:30 pm

Workshop Session E

River's Edge Conference Center

E-1 Why Can't You All Just Get Along? An Effective Approach to Dealing with Sibling Rivalry

Claire Lerner, LCSW-Child Development and Parenting Expert

Siblings do rival. It's a fact of family life, as each child is driven to define their individuality and worth within the family system. Even so, the fighting and conflict that can sometimes seem incessant is naturally very distressing and wearing on parents who just want their kids to get along. This workshop will help you help parents understand the roots of the rivalry and offer approaches to helping siblings ultimately work through the inevitable challenges they encounter in forging their lifelong relationship.

E-2 Being With: Understanding Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health through a Pyramid Model Lens

Eric Hansen, LICSW, IECMH-E, CFLE School Social Worker, St. Paul ECSE

This interactive workshop will explore concepts, principles, and approaches in Infant and Early Childhood through games, discussion, and mini-lecture.

E-3 The Little Ranger Roadster: Taking Early Childhood Learning on the Road (repeat B-5)

Bethany Hardy, Early Childhood Coordinator, Forest Lake Area Schools

Rachel Kaiser, Early Childhood Assistant Coordinator, Forest Lake Area Schools

Pattie Jents, Preschool Educator, Forest Lake Area Schools

When families can't come to us, we go to them! The Little Ranger Roadster is a mobile outreach initiative designed to connect with families across our community through play and learning. This session will highlight how the project was funded and implemented, the impact it's had on family engagement and equity, and lessons learned along the way. Come ready to brainstorm how mobile learning could transform your own early childhood program.

“

Engaging speaker, terrific activities, resources she provided were off the charts! Walked away with new knowledge and looking forward to putting it to use.

- Participant 2025
Conference

”

Workshop Session E

River's Edge Conference Center

11:15 am-12:30 pm

E-4 A Decade Strong: Essential Practices for Sustaining Social-Emotional Learning and the Pyramid Model Framework at Pearson Early Learning Center
(repeat D-4)

Cortney Olson, M.A., Ed.S., School Psychologist, Shakopee School District

Steph Kaste, M.A., OTR/L, Occupational Therapist, Shakopee School District

This session will provide an in-depth discussion of the essential components for sustaining high-quality social-emotional learning and the Pyramid Model framework. These components include a strong social curriculum, well-developed scope and sequence, community/family engagement activities, staff training and motivation, and consistent language. We will discuss lessons learned and practical applications of each sustainability component.

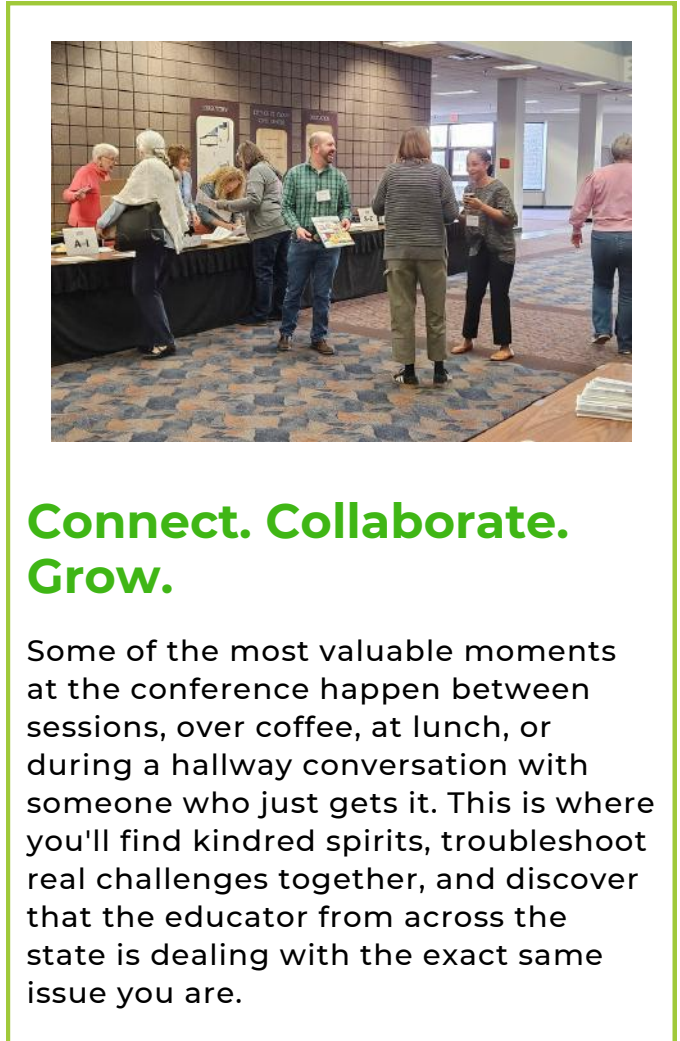
E-5 Inclusion from the Start: Collaborating with Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education in Early Learning Environments

Jenna Strain Lutz, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, Minneapolis Public Schools

Michele Kvikstad, Early Childhood Systems Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Health

Andrea Robbins, Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator, Northfield Public Schools

This presentation will briefly explore EI/ECSE through three lived perspectives: practitioner, leader, and systems coordinator. During small group discussions participants will be asked to share insights and wisdom to help guide MN DEC as we support EI/ECSE practitioners across Minnesota and continue to connect and collaborate with and across early childhood organizations and programs that support young children and their families.



Connect. Collaborate. Grow.

Some of the most valuable moments at the conference happen between sessions, over coffee, at lunch, or during a hallway conversation with someone who just gets it. This is where you'll find kindred spirits, troubleshoot real challenges together, and discover that the educator from across the state is dealing with the exact same issue you are.

**Friday,
April 24**

11:15 am-12:30 pm

Workshop Session E

River's Edge Conference Center

E-6 Parent Education in Polarizing and Stressful Times

Shannon Rader, PhD, Parent and Family Education Director, University of Minnesota

Sara Erickson, MEd, Parent Educator Stillwater Public Schools and Adjunct Lecturer University of Minnesota

Parenting is both a public and private endeavor that is affected by local, national, and global events. Parent educators are often faced with difficult conversations in groups that welcome all families. How are we handling these difficult conversations? Together we will share our wisdom and support each other through a guided, informal conversation.

E-7 Building Bridges Through Books: Engaging Families & your community with Children's Books

(repeat A-7)

Rebecca Chrystal, M.S., Managing Director of Programs, Raising a Reader
Deborah Berry, Raising a Reader Coordinator, Brandon-Evansville School District

Join Raising a Reader and 2024 MNAFEE Innovative Programming Award winner, Deb Berry for a dynamic workshop where we delve into the transformative potential of children's books in fostering family engagement across early childhood development. Through interactive discussions, real-life examples, and practical strategies, participants will gain a deep fresh understanding of how to create situations where early literacy can be shared throughout families, intergenerational groups and communities.

“

Lots of great information. I came away from this session with a lot of ideas to take to my admin.

- Participant 2025 Conference

”

Workshop Session E

River's Edge Conference Center

11:15 am-12:30 pm

E-8 Beyond Birth to 5- Continuing Parent Education for Families PreK to Grade 3
(repeat D-8)

Nichol Michels, M.Ed. PreK to Grade 3 Parent Educator, Anoka-Hennepin Schools

Elizabeth Korzenowski, M.Ed. PreK to Grade 3 Parent Educator, Anoka-Hennepin Schools

Tawnya Heinsohn, PreK to Grade 3 Parent Educator, Anoka-Hennepin Schools

What does parent education look like beyond Birth - 5? Join us as we share tips, tricks and ideas to support families in the preschool and elementary world. This includes connecting with school staff, teaching online, and outreach events. We will discuss common challenges and how we've found success.

E-9 And So We Grow...Sowing Seeds to End Ageism: Using Storybooks to Cultivate Healthful Positive Age Beliefs

Marsha Weiner, Educator, Program Founder And So We Grow...Sowing Seeds to End Ageism

And So We Grow... Sowing Seeds to End Ageism is in response to two fresh data points about aging;

- 1) children as young as four begin to internalize age beliefs,
- 2) positive age beliefs have healthful benefits throughout one's life. ASWG uses storybooks with characters that represent positive age beliefs.

The 2026 MNAFEE Conference is your dedicated space to recharge, reconnect, and rediscover what's possible in early childhood education. This year, immerse yourself in a community that understands your work while gaining practical strategies from inspiring leaders and peers. You'll leave energized with actionable ideas to transform your practice. Join us to invest in your professional growth—and in the future of the families and children you serve.



Conference Logistics



Conference Location

The conference is located at the
St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center
10 Fourth Ave. S. in St. Cloud, MN

Venue maps



bit.ly/3F5G8IQ

Parking & directions



bit.ly/4hUKSzU

Conference check-in is located on the first floor across from Glen Carlson Hall.

Wi-Fi Information

Network: Rivers Edge Prepay

Password: RiverSpring2026



Accommodations

Enjoy discounted rates for overnight accommodations during the conference at the following hotels conveniently located near the Convention Center.

A room block is reserved under the name: Minnesota Association for Family and Early Education. Be sure to mention that you are attending the MNAFEE Family & Early Childhood Education Conference to take advantage of the reduced room rate.

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn

100 4th Ave. | 320-253-0606
\$138 king, \$138 double queen

Courtyard Marriott Hotel

404 West St. Germain St. | 320-654-1661
\$159 king, \$169 double queen

Clock Hours - CEU Credit

Following the conference, Certificates of Attendance will be accessible through an online evaluation process. Participants will receive an email containing a link to complete the evaluation and download their certificates.

Attendees are reminded that it is their responsibility to submit these certificates to their respective governing boards to obtain Clock Hours or CEU Credit.



Register Now!
bit.ly/MNAFEE26

Conference Logistics

Conference Materials

Looking for handouts or presentation slides? Find them within **session details** in the **Sched app**.

Pre-Conference Keynote Presentations

Wednesday, April 22

- Afternoon Session: 1:00–4:00 p.m.
- Evening Session: 5:30–8:00 p.m.
- Location: River's Edge Conference Center
Glen Carlson Room (first floor)

Important Registration Information:

- Pre-conference presentations require separate registration and are not included in the main conference registration.
 - Afternoon Pre-Conference Keynote - \$ 50
 - Evening Pre-Conference Keynote - \$50 (includes light dinner)
- **Registration deadline: Wednesday, April 15** at 12:00 p.m. (noon)
- The evening presentation includes a light dinner.

Vendors

Enhance your professional toolkit by exploring our vendor showcase featuring educational materials and books. These organizations offer valuable resources to support your work with young learners.

Visit Vendor Booths in the Terry Haws Center:

- Thursday ONLY: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

New for 2026: Make the rounds at the Vendor Fair, collect signatures on your Passport from each booth, and submit it for your chance to win big during BINGO! (Must be present to win.)

Take advantage of this opportunity to gather new materials, learn about innovative programs, and connect with representatives who can provide insights to enhance your teaching practice.



Register Now!
bit.ly/MNAFEE26

Conference Registration



Your full conference registration includes:

- Complete access to all speakers and workshops
- Conference materials
- Continental breakfast (Thursday & Friday)
- Lunch (Thursday & Friday)

How to Register: Visit bit.ly/MNAFEE26

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, April 15 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Register today to secure your place at this valuable professional development event!

Registration Fees

Afternoon Pre-Conference Keynote	\$ 50
Evening Pre-Conference Keynote includes light dinner	\$ 50

Member Rates

Thursday & Friday	\$220
Thursday Only	\$150
Friday Only	\$110

Non-Member Rates

Thursday & Friday	\$260
Thursday Only	\$180
Friday Only	\$130

Student/Retired Rate

Thursday & Friday	\$120
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Thursday Awards Luncheon ONLY

Luncheon Only	\$ 30
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Register Now!
bit.ly/MNAFEE26

Mark your calendar! The 2027 MNAFEE Conference is set for April 14–16, 2027 at the St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center.





FALL workshop 2026

***SAVE THE
DATE NOW***



Join us for MNAFEE's Fall Workshop featuring targeted professional development, meaningful connections, and practical strategies you can use right away. Watch for details and registration information on Facebook and our website.



mnafee.org/2026-mnafee-fall-workshop.html