



# SchoolsUnited **LEADERSHIP DAY**

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# 2025



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13**



**Welcome**  
**Heads of Schools**  
**and Administrators!**

 Free Wifi: CCGuest

## Schedule

**8:00 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 AM Welcome**

**Presentations led by Jim McKenzie,  
Dr. Lynn Swaner, and Cynthia Tobias**

**9:00 AM *Dying to Teach: How to Improve  
Teacher Wellness* (by Jim McKenzie)**

**9:50 AM Break**

**10:05 AM *Christian School Outcomes: Delivering on  
Our Promises* (by Dr. Lynn Swaner)**

**11:00 AM Break**

**11:15 AM *Truths That Can't Be Shaken:  
What Keeps Christian School  
Eternally Relevant* (by Cynthia Tobias)**

**12:10 PM Lunch | Served in the Banquet Halls**

**1:10 PM *Speed Networking: Special Programs/  
Initiatives to Enhance Your School***  
*Hear from different schools and organizations  
regarding special programs they offer that you  
could consider for your school. See pgs. 9–11  
for presentations to choose from.*

**2:20 PM *Choose Your Path:***

- *Tour Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale*
- *Continue conversations with speed networking presenters*
- *Roundtable discussion*
- *Take a break to catch up on email/take a walk*

**3:00 PM Closing Session**



SPEAKER

**JIM McKenzie**

AUTHOR | SPEAKER | EDUCATOR

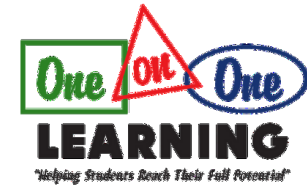
*Jim is an author, speaker, and consultant who has worked in K-12 education for over 25 years. He is also a keynote and workshop speaker for numerous Christian schools and conferences across North America.*

He delivered a Ted Talk, titled "Future Ready Schools." He holds a master's degree in education from the University of Florida and is passionate about strengthening Christian schools by encouraging and equipping its leaders.

His book, *One Generation to the Next: A Guide to Forming Your Faith and Finding Your Way*, was recently ranked #1 in new releases in the Christian Faith category on Amazon. Jim currently serves as the Marketing & Enrollment consultant for both the Van Lunen Center and the Herzog Foundation.

Jim lives in Gainesville, Florida with his wife, Hannah, and five children. When he's not writing, speaking, or attending school events, he enjoys playing pickleball with friends.

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SPEAKER

## DR. LYNN E. SWANER

PRESIDENT OF CARDUS

*Dr. Lynn E. Swaner is the President, U.S., for Cardus. A public scholar and organizational strategist, she brings two decades of executive leadership experience in non-profits and educational institutions to her role at Cardus.*

Dr. Swaner’s professional background spans multiple sectors, including academia, sponsored research, associations, and independent schools. Her interdisciplinary research explores how individuals, organizations, and communities can thrive together.

Her passion lies in building bridges within and across fields, fostering collaboration among thinkers, researchers, and practitioners to shape paradigms and practices that promote greater flourishing.

She is the editor and lead author of several books, including *Future Ready: Innovative Missions and Models in Christian Education* (ACSI & Cardus, 2022) and *Flourishing Together: A Christian Vision for Students, Educators, and Schools* (Eerdmans, 2021). Her work has been published in the *International Journal of Educational Development*, *Eton Journal for Innovation and Research in Education*, and *Liberal Education*.

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SPEAKER

## CYNTHIA TOBIAS

FOUNDER AND CEO OF  
APPLIED LEARNING STYLES

AUTHOR | SPEAKER | EDUCATOR

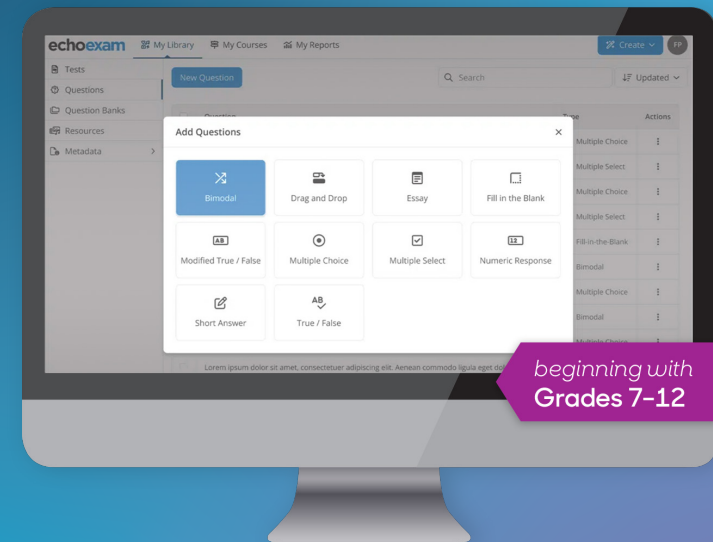
*Cynthia Ulrich Tobias is an educator, author, and speaker who is passionate about inspiring people of all ages to discover and utilize their natural learning style strengths to thrive.*

Cynthia combines humor, insight, and practical strategies to encourage educators, parents, business professionals, and students to focus on strengths to achieve success. She has a passion for understanding and bringing out the best in strong-willed children, offering hope and transformation to countless families.

With more than 25 years of experience in law enforcement, private practice, and education helping others uncover their strengths, Cynthia shares personal stories and actionable insights to deepen understanding of the strong-willed learner's mind. She helps others understand the immense potential of a strong-willed mind, empowering parents and educators to see the unique strengths in every child.

Her passion for unlocking the potential in strong-willed individuals drives her to deliver a life-changing message that resonates deeply with audiences. Cynthia loves the Lord, and is continually humbled by how God uses her message to make a lasting impact.

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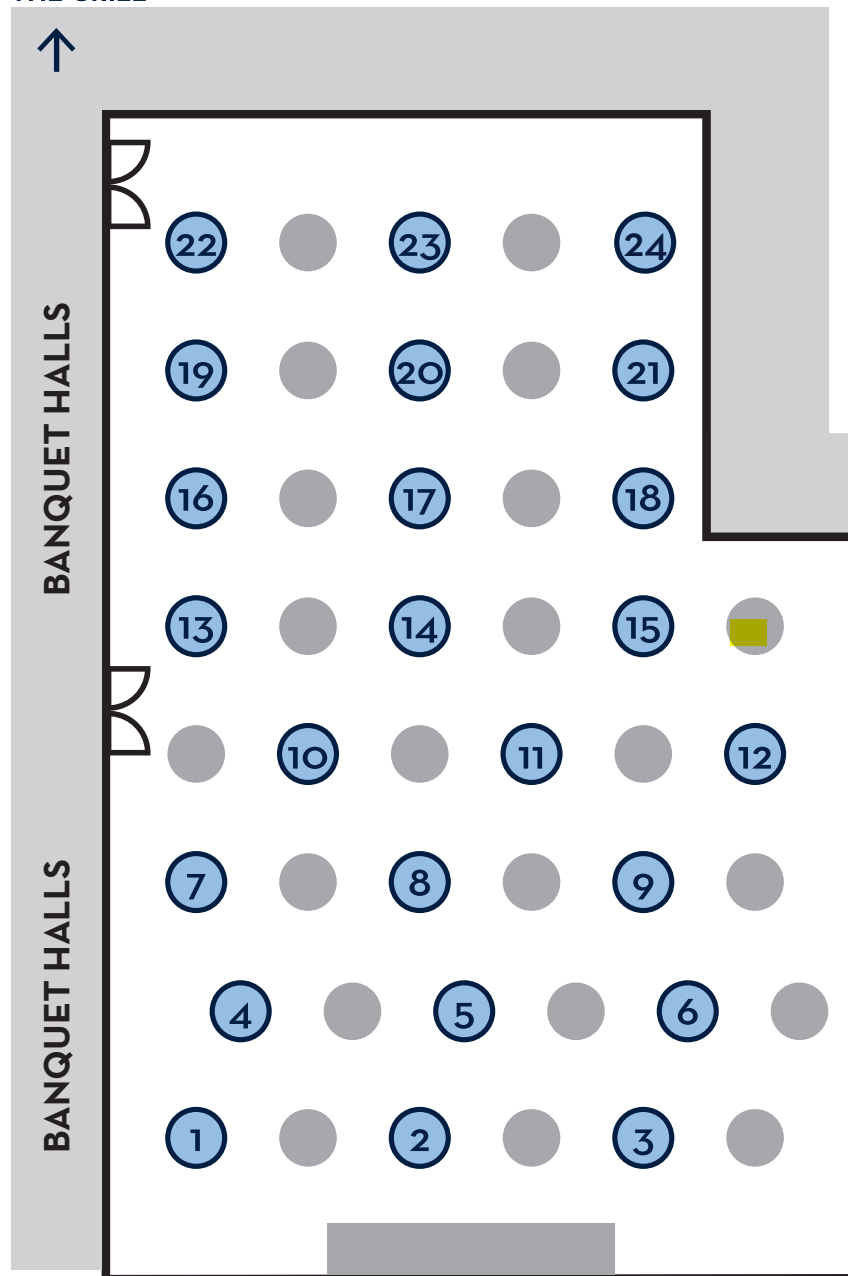
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## Speed Networking: Special Programs/ Initiatives to Enhance Your School

Find each presenter's table using the map below.

### THE GRILL



## Speed Networking: Special Programs/ Initiatives to Enhance Your School

### 1 Ways To Measure Your School's Culture by The Best Christian Workplace Institute

– Evelyn Najarro, Human Resources Director at Calvary Christian Academy  
[EvelynN@CCAEagles.org](mailto:EvelynN@CCAEagles.org)

### 2 Peer Mentoring

– David Welling, Head of School at Trinity Christian Academy, Jacksonville  
[DWelling@TCAJax.org](mailto:DWelling@TCAJax.org)

### 3 Intentional Program and Staff Development for Discipleship

– Laura Quinn, High School Discipleship Director at Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale  
[LauraQ@CCAEagles.org](mailto:LauraQ@CCAEagles.org)

### 4 Transformational Leadership

– Chuck Gilliam, Vice President of Membership and Strategic Alliances at ACSI  
[Chuck\\_Gilliam@ACSI.org](mailto:Chuck_Gilliam@ACSI.org)

### 5 Staff Development Do's and Don'ts

– Laura Pecina, Dean of Students at Colonial Christian School  
[Pecina.L@ColonialChristianSchool.org](mailto:Pecina.L@ColonialChristianSchool.org)

### 6 Virtual & Augmented Education

– Mark Merrill, High School Art Teacher at Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale  
[MarkM@CCAEagles.org](mailto:MarkM@CCAEagles.org)

### 7 The Fruit of Typological Teachings in Christian Schools

– Bill Schott, Head of Bible Department and Pastor at Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale  
[BillS@CCAEagles.org](mailto:BillS@CCAEagles.org)

### 8 Free Leadership Training for Christian Schools

– Ethan Schmidt, Program Associate at the Herzog Foundation  
[ESchmidt@HerzogFoundation.com](mailto:ESchmidt@HerzogFoundation.com)

continued on pgs. 10–11

## Speed Networking: Special Programs/ Initiatives to Enhance Your School

**9 Reviving Classical Heritage: Setting the Rhythm of Your School Day with Lauds**  
— Leandro Gomez, Head of Schools at Palm Beach Christian Academy  
[LGomez@PBChristianAcademy.org](mailto:LGomez@PBChristianAcademy.org)

**10 Equipping Faculty With Confidence, Clarity, and Courage Through the Colson Educators Program**  
— Billy Hutchinson, Educators Specialist at the Colson Center for Christian Worldview  
[BHutchinson@ColsonCenter.org](mailto:BHutchinson@ColsonCenter.org)

**11 A Different Model for Special Education Within a Private School**  
— Dr. John Althoff, Director of Divine Savior School  
[John.Althoff@TheDivineSaviorSchool.com](mailto:John.Althoff@TheDivineSaviorSchool.com)

**12 Why Require Student School-Level Progression Presentations?**  
— Kathryn Nguyen, Director of Library & Tech Integration at Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale  
[KathrynN@CCAEagles.org](mailto:KathrynN@CCAEagles.org)

**13 School Is Important, But So Is Dinner: Balancing Leadership and Life**  
— Teresa Torrables, Head of School at Kendall Christian School  
[TTorrables@KendallChristian.com](mailto:TTorrables@KendallChristian.com)

**14 Truths That Cannot Be Shaken: Q&A session**  
— Cynthia Tobias, Author, CEO of Applied Learning Styles  
[CTAppleSt@Gmail.com](mailto:CTAppleSt@Gmail.com)

**15 Holistic Teaching: Creating Spaces to Work Through Good Tensions**  
— Dr. Shawnteria Mack, High School Assistant Administrator and Teacher at Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale  
[ShawnteriaM@CCAEagles.org](mailto:ShawnteriaM@CCAEagles.org)

**16 Beyond Bible: Discipleship in Christian Schools**  
— Jim McKenzie, Former Head of School at The Rock School, Author  
[Jim@JCMckenzie.com](mailto:Jim@JCMckenzie.com)

**17 Vocational Discipleship: Living by Design**  
— Dr. Clifford Mack, Jr., School Counselor at Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale  
[CliffM@ccaeagles.org](mailto:CliffM@ccaeagles.org)

## Speed Networking: Special Programs/ Initiatives to Enhance Your School

**18 Maximizing the Impact of Federal Title Funds to Enhance Student Success**  
— Lanette Landera, Regional Director of Programs at One on One Learning  
[LLandera@OneOnOneLearning.com](mailto:LLandera@OneOnOneLearning.com)

**19 Starting a House System at Your School**  
— Carla Kenol, Middle School Principal at Atlantic Christian Academy  
[CKenol@AtlanticCA.com](mailto:CKenol@AtlanticCA.com)

**20 Empowering Future Leaders: Developing Executive Functions in High School**  
— Lourdes Zarro, Upper School ESE Director at Calvary Christian Academy Fort Lauderdale  
[LourdesZ@CCAEagles.org](mailto:LourdesZ@CCAEagles.org)

**21 Taking Top Performers to the Next Level**  
— Stephanie Vogel, Elementary Principal at Indian Rocks Christian School  
[Stephanie\\_Vogel@IndianRocks.org](mailto:Stephanie_Vogel@IndianRocks.org)

**22 Serving Home-Ed Scholarship Students as a New Source of Revenue**  
— David Heroux, Senior Director, Provider Relations & Development at Step Up For Students  
[DHeroux@SUFS.org](mailto:DHeroux@SUFS.org)

**23 Making Your Message Stick**  
— Kevin Spingler, Science Teacher at Jupiter Christian School  
[KSpingler@JupiterChristian.org](mailto:KSpingler@JupiterChristian.org)

**24 Empowering Students as Marketers: How to Build a School Marketing Team**  
— Mitchell Slater, CEO of School Success  
[Mitchell@SlaterStrategies.com](mailto:Mitchell@SlaterStrategies.com)

JONATHAN REED

# SCHOOL UNIFORMS



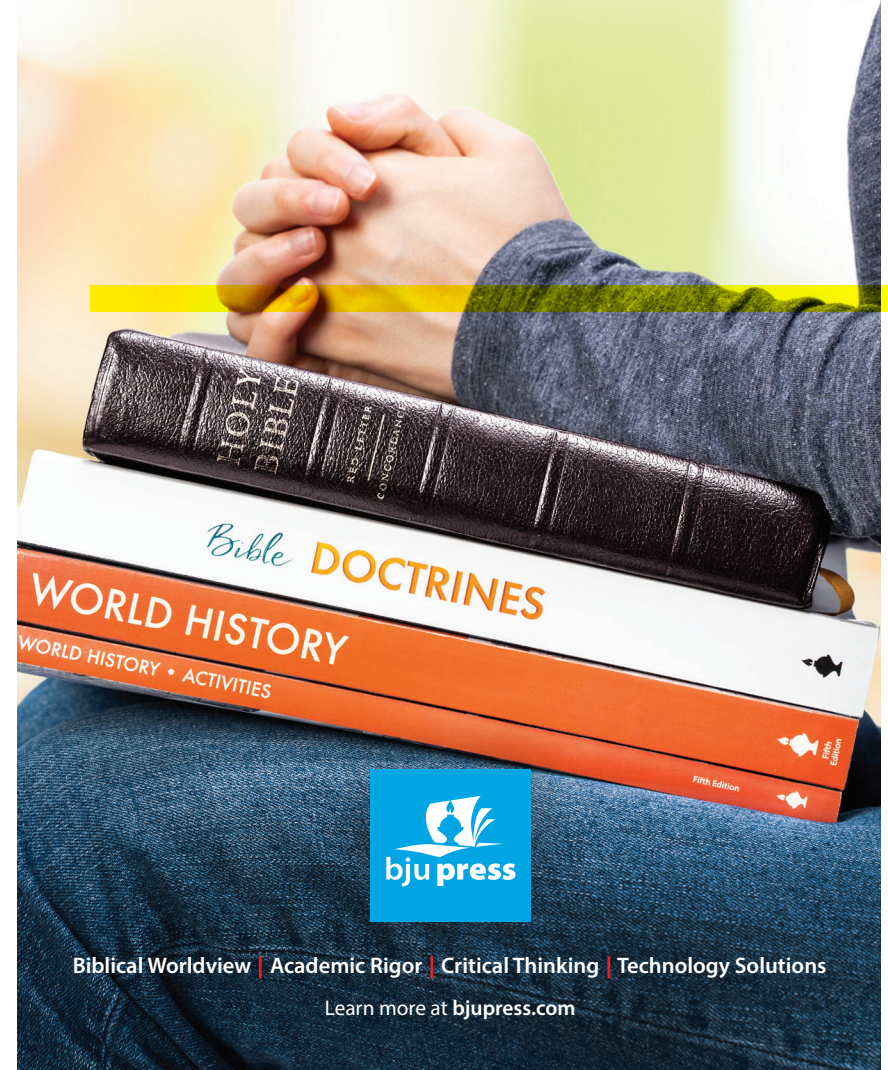
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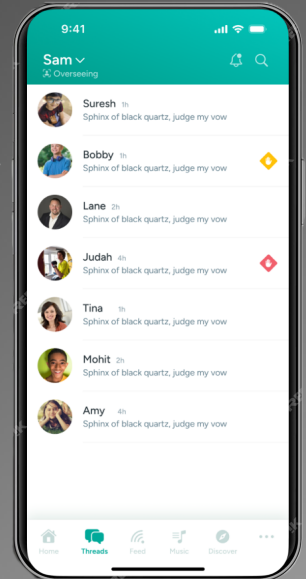
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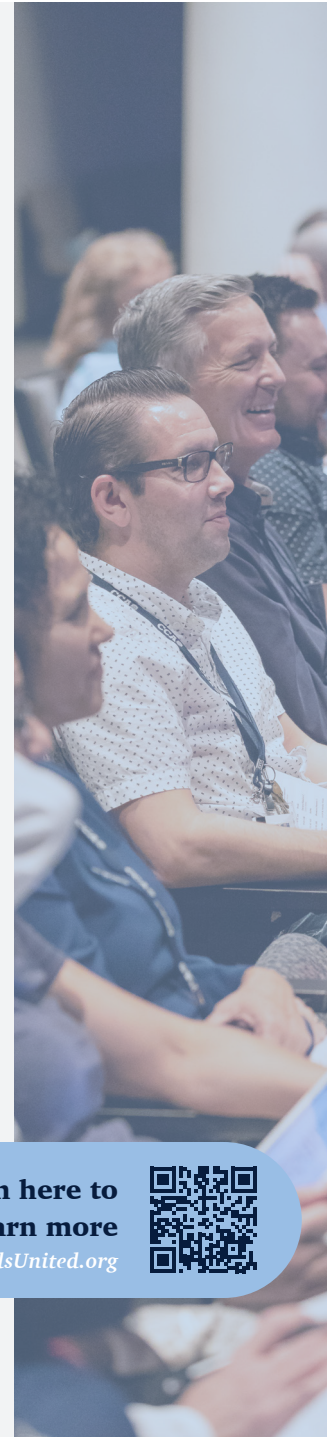
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