Welcome to Phoenix and the National Conference on Education! This annual event is an amazing opportunity for educational leaders from across the country to come together to learn from each other and dive into the critical issues that all of us face in our districts.

As superintendents, we have a moral obligation to be the voice for our students, teachers, parents and communities. We must continue to drive the national dialogue not only about public education, but also around issues of diversity, poverty and economic opportunities that impact the lives of our students. We must make the time to transcend the day-to-day management of our districts and truly lead at the local, state and national levels.

School district leaders have a tremendous power to impact the lives of millions of children across our nation. We need to continue to find ways to make education relevant so that students are prepared for college and careers beyond high school.

The theme for the conference this year is Leading for Excellence. In addition to #NCE16, I would encourage you to use the hash tag #LeadExcellence as you participate in the conference sessions and share your thoughts with colleagues on social media.

It is truly an honor for me to serve as your president. A world that we cannot yet imagine lies before us, but I am confident that AASA and its members will provide the innovative leadership necessary to prepare our nation’s students to be incredibly successful in this ever-changing global economy.

WE ARE CHANGING LIVES…CHANGING THE WORLD…ONE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILD AT A TIME.

David Schuler
President
AASA, The School Superintendents Association