

Sanibel Leadership Conference 2026

Tuesday, June 16, 2026	
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast and Registration Table Open <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	
8:30 a.m. – 8:55 a.m. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Keynote Speaker: Richard Montanez <i>From Revelation to Transformation: Empowering Multilingual Learners Worldwide</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Break and Time with Resource Providers <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	
10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. Featured Speaker: Dr. Socorro Herrera <i>Literacy Without Borders: Historizing, Untangling, and Reimagining Futures for Multilingual Learners</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	
11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Featured Speaker: Dr. Zafer Unal <i>Designing Ethical and Practical AI Integration in Education: The TeacherServer Model</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch	
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Spotlight Sessions (select one session to attend) I. Lisa Tucker, Anuj Suran, Deb Estes, Chris Christoff Panel Discussion: Leading the Way: How Districts Are Transforming Outcomes for Emergent Bilinguals <i>Salon A</i> II. Dr. Donita Grissom, Dr. Viki Kelchner, and Debbie Simões Crack the Case on What Teachers Actually Need: Practical Leadership Strategies That Work - Starting tomorrow! <i>Salon B</i> III: Jody Nolf Best Plays & Takeaways: Making Stations Work in Secondary Classrooms <i>Salon C</i> IV: Amelia Larson Small Groups, Big Gains: Supercharging Literacy Learning with Evidence-Based Moves <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	
2:20 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Feature Speakers: Maya Moreau and Mayra Cestero <i>Manatee County School District, From Data to Narrative: Using AI in ELL Committee Reevaluations</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Featured Speaker: Christina Nelson Florida Teacher Leaders: Planning with the WIDA ELD Standards Framework <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Welcome Reception <i>Water's Edge Ballroom</i>
Wednesday, June 17, 2026
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast and Registration Table Open <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
8:30 a.m. – 8:35 a.m. Opening Remarks <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Keynote Speaker: Silvia Dorta Doque De Reyes <i>Building Biliteracy: The Dynamics of Cross-Linguistic Instruction</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
9:50 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Okhee Lee <i>Integrating Science and Language with Multilingual Learners and All Students</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
10:55 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. Featured Speaker: Dr. Jim Cummins (Virtual Presentation) <i>Leadership for Empowerment: Infusing Curriculum Access, Critical Literacy, and Creative Expression into Everyday School-Wide Practice</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Featured Speakers: Dr. Heidi Goertzen and Dr. Miriam Ortiz <i>2025 Florida Teacher Standards for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement Implementation Guidance and Resources: Updates on the Florida Department of Education and Gulf Comprehensive Center Collaboration</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Featured Speaker: Dr. Raydel Hernandez <i>Student Achievement through Language Acquisition</i> Grand Ballroom
2:00 p.m. – 2:25 p.m. Break and Time with Resource Providers Grand Ballroom
2:30 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. Featured Speakers: Matthew Wiley and Dr. Raydel Hernandez Grants- Supporting English Language Learners with Title III, Part A Funding and Other Federal Educational Programs Grand Ballroom
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Featured Speakers: Cassandra Brusca, Dr. Amy Yarick-Bullock, Khris Henderson, & Tiffany Towns Instructional Supports for English Language Learners Grand Ballroom
4:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Closing Session/ Time with Resource Providers Grand Ballroom
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Family Event- WEAR WHITE Sandpiper Terrace
Thursday, June 18, 2026
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast and Registration Table Open Grand Ballroom
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Washington Collado Voices Without Borders, Family-School Partnership: A Unified Vision for Student Success Grand Ballroom
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Featured Speaker: Alex Riggins ESOL Compliance for FEFP Attestation Examinations Grand Ballroom
11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Featured Speakers: Dr. Raydel Hernandez, Dr. Julio Acevedo, & Dr. Laura Bell Panel Discussions: ESOL Matrix Implementation Grand Ballroom
11:45 a.m. Conference Closing Remarks Grand Ballroom
12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch On Your Own Exhibitors Take Down
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. SLA Board Meeting Grand Ballroom