



THE VIRUS PROJECT

**Rebuilding America's K-12 Education.
The Invest in Schools Summit.**

Information for Partners

The Altru Institute's Invest in Schools Summit will look at the critical issues and challenges that educators face post COVID-19 and will present approaches that can build schools back better.

On August 3 and 4, 2021, we will assemble thought leaders and innovators to develop collaborations to help rebuild K-12 to our starting point for the **K12 Project**.

INVITATION



Dear Sir/Madam,

The COVID pandemic has had a devastating effect on kids and their families. It is now time for our country's leading organizations and institutions to respond with bold plans to support and develop K-12 education in the United States.

There is no greater obligation and return on investment than education, and the current crisis in our schools has created an opportunity to fundamentally rethink our approach.

We are seeking a select group of individuals and organizations to help us create a set of educational modules to aid the nearly 15,000 school districts throughout the United States in need of guidance.

Participation in this effort demonstrates a commitment to public schools. It also provides a platform for products and services you believe can address the challenges faced by K-12 educators across America.

We have a unique opportunity to significantly impact K-12 education: to facilitate systems and technologies to prevent school closings in pandemics and to build back better with transformational changes to education.

With smart collaboration, children will never again be prevented from attending school out of a concern of infectious disease.

We welcome your suggestions on how we can collaborate. With sincere hope that you decide to join us.

Best regards,

Brett R. Johnson
Altru Institute
Co-Founder & CEO
brett@altruinstitute.com

The Invest in Schools Summit will gather those engaged in building back K-12 schools in the U.S. in Washington, DC on August 3 & 4, 2021.



The Altru Institute's **Invest in Schools Summit** will gather those deeply engaged in bringing our schools back from the pandemic and committed to rebuilding K-12 education in the US for generations to come.

\$130 billion in committed capital is the single largest investment in US history in K-12 education. School districts across the country are now challenged to get schools up and running - and situated so they never need to close again. It is a daunting challenge.

The Summit will help schools meet this challenge by providing insight into various programs, while exploring new advances, technologies, and best practices. The format is designed to help people connect and foster long term collaborative relationships.

A silver lining in the COVID crisis may be the opportunity to fundamentally rethink how we approach education. Never has the sharing of information and ideas toward collaboration been more critical.

Curriculum

The unique conference format offers sessions of best practices and insights to build schools back better. We will focus on the following core components:

- **Safe Schools**
- **Healthy Schools**
- **Accelerated Learning**

Each session will compile lessons learned from testing and mitigation and will focus on resulting advances and innovations. We will also take an in-depth look at contingency planning for the next pandemic.

Federal Funding

Our goal is to provide an understanding of how the \$130 billion in federal funding will be distributed, utilized, and measured. We will offer an analysis of all available programs and functions, plus how schools can efficiently and effectively access and utilize funds: **Legislation.** An understanding of the purpose of the legislation and a description of the five approved areas of expenditure and their specific applications: **1. Professional Development, 2. Public Health, 3. Technology, 4. Infrastructure and 5. Socio-Economic. Accessing Funds.** A look at how schools can efficiently access these funds and put them to best use.

Safe Schools

The mission is to put in place systems to ensure schools never close again due to a pandemic. Scientists seem to be in agreement that future pandemics are inevitable. These sessions will address what needs to happen to ensure that schools - and society - never shut down again. The two core themes are: **1. Testing.** How to implement COVID testing to ensure the safety of teachers, staff and students; and **2. Air Quality.** The role of ventilation can thwart the spread of airborne pathogens (including influenza) and create a healthy physical environment for students.



The Summit venue District Wharf is a 3.2 million sq. ft. mixed-use neighborhood spanning 27 acres, along a mile of waterfront on the Potomac River. It was created by global real estate developer Madison Marquette, a sponsor of the Altru Institute.

Healthy Schools

For children to learn to their full potential, they must be physically safe and emotionally healthy. The pandemic and closing of schools exposed the critical role of schools in children's physical and emotional health. The impact was particularly hard on families with limited economic means that bore the brunt of the damage. Schools now face significant health challenges as kids return the classroom. This discussion will be on the broader role of schools in the overall healthcare system. **Immune Health and Resilience.** The role of nutrition and opportunities for avoiding diabetes and obesity. **Mental Health** How psychological and emotional resources for children such as mentoring can play a key role in keeping kids from dropping out.

Accelerated Learning

Falling behind in school takes a terrible toll on kids and their development. Finding new ways to help kids learn and catch up is critical. **Mentoring, tutoring and individualized learning strategies.** Educational Technology sessions will explore how technologies can accelerate learning and the role that computer assisted learning, AI, educational software and tutoring can play to advance learning. Learning protocols and new ways to accelerate learning will be the focus with ensuring a level playing field and overcoming the "digital divide" to ensure that every student is connected with equal access to educational opportunity.

Hybrid Format

Both **virtual and in-person** attendance is limited. The August 4 sessions will be webcast. We have invited the leadership of the key organizations focused on K-12 education. The objective is to develop a community that is keenly interested in this topic with the intent to foster relationships and connect peers with similar challenges to share ideas on an ongoing basis.

Germ Security. The summit will introduce and demonstrate a newly developed mobile COVID PCR testing system. Developed by a joint venture of four separate technology companies led by LumiraDX, this mobile lab-based testing system can bring fast PCR testing to the point of care. The company believes that this technology can make testing far more accessible and play an important role in keeping schools open.

White Papers

A key objective of the summit is to gather insight for the development of **White Papers** that anchor a series of **Education Modules** in development. These tools will provide needed guidance to school districts.

Transcripts of presentations during the conference will be captured to provide a snapshot of the best knowledge that exists on the topic at any given time. White Papers produced are intended to be practical. Based on the real experiences they will offer case studies how various entities approached these challenge and the lessons learned.

WHITE PAPERS

Conference speakers and delegates will offer their insights and expertise that will anchor **Educational Modules** (white papers, guidebooks, documentaries) on best practices and innovative approaches to make schools safe and healthy and to accelerate learning. The following topics will be the subject of white papers:

- **COVID Testing in Schools.** Testing can ensure that schools (and society) never shut down again due to a pandemic. A look at systems and protocols that enabled some schools to stay open safely.
- **Air Quality and Ventilation.** A look at the critical role ventilation plays in thwarting the spread of airborne pathogens and ways to create a healthy physical environment for students, teachers, and staff.
- **Human Health and Resilience** A strong immune system is the cornerstone for warding off infection. An ever evolving understanding of human biology is providing new insight on how to live a healthy life.
- **Mental Health.** Kids are facing significant mental health challenges that were exacerbated by the pandemic and lockdown. We will present ideas to address these challenges that jeopardize the future of millions of kids.
- **Transformative Technologies.** A look at K-12 educational technology. The Edutech 150 is a global survey of transformative educational technologies with a deep-dive into 25 pioneering US companies.
- **The Power of Mentoring.** Central to success for kids is a personal relationship with a caring adult. The critical understanding of the potential of this approach and how it can be scaled nationally is our focus here.
- **Diagnostics Delivered - Mobile Testing.** Advances bring Rapid PCR testing to where people gather and enable the continued functioning of society without lockdowns during a pandemic.
- **Combining High Touch and High Tech.** Two of the nation's most respected innovators in education: **Michael Moe**, GSV Founder, offers lessons from two decades invested in education technology, and **Bill Milliken**, CIS (Communities in Schools) founder, with 50 years of experience keeping kids from dropping out provides wisdom to give us hope.

PEOPLE

We thank the following who have assisted with content and programming for *Invest in Schools* Summit.

Bill Milliken. CIS Founder and Vice Chairman
Michael Moe. Founder Global Silicon Valley (GSV)
Anne Wyllie. PhD. Yale School of Public Health. Founder of Saliva Direct
Eric Parrie. Chairman, COVIDCheck Colorado
Gabor Bethlendy. CEO, Meenta
Sanjay Malkani. CEO of FastLabs division of LumiraDX
Susan Ward. Lumira SafeTogether
Simon Turner. CEO Building Cognition
Jeff Wagner. Director of Facilities. Clark County School District
Paula J. Olsiewski PhD. Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security
Erik Malmstrom. CEO SafeTraces

Max Sherman. ASHRAE. COVID Advisory Board
Emily Gold Mears. Health Technology Author
Rebecca Love. Registered Nurse, Founder of SONSIEL
Allison Bajracharya. COVID Check Colorado
Samata Sharma, MD. Harvard Psychiatrist
Anna Hall. Johns Hopkins Educator
Rey Saldana. CIS Community in Schools CEO
Chris Dunaj. Be A Part. Peer to peer mentoring
Evelyn Whitebay. Reading Comprehension expert
Jay Hatfield. Founder, Tutoring America
Phylis Jordan. FutureEd Georgetown
Rebecah Shah. Chiefs for Change
Nicholas Gennaro Sciasci, SONSIEL
David Lewis, President of ASBO

AGENDA

Tuesday, August 3

- 2:00 PM** Registration Opens. Drop off mucus sample at the *SafeTogether* van in front of the Wharf Intercontinental.
- 3:00** **Federal Funding - Part One.** Overview of funds flow and access. Summary of Georgetown University's FutureEd report. *Phyllis Jordon (invited)*.
- 4:00** Break
- 4:15** **Federal Funding - Part Two.** An discussion of the philosophy behind each category and examples of expenditures that would fit into each of the 25 areas of approved expenditure.
- 5:30** *Welcome Reception*

Wednesday, August 4

- 9:00** **Safe Schools. Testing Strategies and Alternatives.** Overview and key strategies based on experiences of COVIDCheck Colorado and Saliva Direct Lab. Specific action plans for the next pandemic. Developing technologies. Mobile testing. Point of Care testing. Overview discussion of technologies and approaches. *Presenters & Panelists: Anne Wyllie, Eric Parrie, Gabor Bethlendy, Sanjay Malkani.*
- 9:45** **Safe Schools. Air Quality, Safe and Healthy Buildings.** Presentation of Johns Hopkins Report. Overview of aerosols and risk mitigation. The role of ventilation to combat the spread of infectious diseases. Discussion of the challenges facing schools. *Presenters & Panelists: Erik Malmstrom Jeff Wagner, Simon Turner.*
- 10:30** *Break*
- 10:45** **Healthy Schools. Health, Resilience, and Nutrition.** The role of nutrition. The untapped potential of the School Nurse. Best practices and innovative programs. *Presenters & Panelists: Emily Gold Mears, Rebecca Love.*
- 11:30** **Healthy Schools. Mental Health.** Mental health and behavioral challenges posed by the lockdown. Strategies to manage behavioral health will be essential as school reopens. Best practices and innovative programs. *Presenters & Panelists: Dr. Samata Sharma MD, Chi Kim (invited).*
- 12:15** *Lunch*
- 1:15** **Accelerated Learning. Mentoring.** A summary of mentoring overview. An inventory of mentoring organizations, their progress and possibilities. Be A Part (BAP) experience of student engagement. CIS representative. *Presenters & Panelists: Chris Dunaj, Bill Milliken.*
- 2:00** **Accelerated Learning. Educational Technology.** A summary of transformational technologies for K-12. *EduTech 150* Summary. Analysis of 25 technologies regarded as transformative in the investment sector to understand their impact at the student level. *Presenters & Panelists: Anna Hall, Richard Culatta (invited), GSV Analyst.*

- 2:30 Accelerated Learning. Tutoring.** A summary innovative and best practices to enable kids to catch up using a combination of technology and teacher engagement. *Presenters & Panelists: Jay Hatfield.*
- 3:00 The School of the Future.** Presentation of CIS (Communities in Schools) model, which has proven effective and is positioned to scale nationally. Executives from CIS to present blueprint, including the evolution of the CIS Model. The lessons of scaling innovation. *Presenters & Panelists: Bill Milliken, Rey Saldana (invited).*
- 3:30 Break**
- 3:45 Perspectives: Superintendents and Administrators.** Challenge facing school leadership and the potential for federal funding. Business officers and facility managers offer perspectives. *Presenters & Panelists: Jeff Wagner. David Lewis (invited).*
- 4:30 Closing Remarks.** Summary remarks and observations. Ideas that resonated. Program critique.
- 5:30 Closing Reception.**

Thursday August 5 (optional)

- 9 – 12 pm** One-on-one meetings and follow-up discussions. We encourage follow up meetings to foster ongoing collaboration using the ample meeting space on the Wharf.

VENUE

The event will be held at the riverfront District Wharf located just minutes from downtown Washington, DC.

The headquarter hotel is the Intercontinental District Wharf.

Lodging. A group rate of \$199/day has been secured at the Intercontinental.

Tuesday afternoon sessions will be held at the Intercontinental followed by a 6:00 pm reception with a spectacular view on the 12th floor of the Wharf Intercontinental.

Wednesday sessions will be held at the conference center on the top floor of 1000 Maine Ave. (<5 min. walk from the Wharf Intercontinental.)



The headquarter hotel Wharf Intercontinental (above the middle row of yachts) anchors the exciting new Wharf District, located just minutes from downtown Washington DC, and a short walk to many monuments and other well-known sights.

PARTNERS

The following have committed to support the Invest in Schools initiative K12 Education in the United States.



LumiraDX. Transforming community-based healthcare through a next generation Point of Care diagnostics. LumiraDX led a joint venture of 4 technology companies to provide a mobile lab based testing systems providing fast PCR testing.

Altru Institute. Is a philanthropic thinktank and founder of the Virus Project and the K12 Project.

Meenta. Meenta is changing the way the world accesses clinical tests and scientific equipment by bringing the power of sharing economy and internet.

SafeTraces. SafeTraces created veriDART™, the market leading solution for verifying safe indoor airflow. This technology uniquely can measure the monitor airborne toxins.

CovidCheck Colorado. A leader in advancing testing technologies in Colorado

SONSIEL. The Mission of the Society of Nurse Scientists, Innovators, Entrepreneurs & Leaders, Inc. (SONSIEL) is to magnify, network, and elevate nurse innovators' expertise as transformation agents who contribute to healthcare reform.

Madison Marquette. Madison Marquette offers a national platform built to execute efficiently and precisely at the local level through offices in U.S. markets from coast to coast. They are the developers of the District Wharf in Washington DC.

Tutoring America. Is committed to finding solutions to Poverty though education solutions targeted at the most disadvantaged children in the world.

Saliva Direct Lab at Yale University was the developer of critical saliva based testing platform that was a critical to developing an affordable fast and accurate PCR test used by major sports leagues and schools.

We also thank these research and content supporters.



COVID SAFETY

Germ Security. The conference will practice COVID testing protocols and utilize daily PCR COVID testing.

On arrival participants will receive a test kit they can drop off at the *SafeTogether* testing van outside the Wharf Intercontinental.

Test results can be sent directly to a smartphone app in one hour.

The service is provided by **LumiraDX** and provides insight into how new modalities of rapid PCR testing can keep society functioning, social events happening, and schools open during a pandemic.



The summit will introduce and demonstrate a newly developed mobile COVID PCR testing system. Developed by a joint venture of 4 separate technology companies led by LumiraDX this mobility to lab based testing systems can bring fast PCR testing to the point of care.

The van can be deployed to mass gathering sites to quickly and accurately process large amounts of PCR tests. Participants are encouraged to visit the mobile testing lab to examine how a combination of four advanced technology companies combined forces to create this services.

REGISTRATION

Hybrid Format. Whether attending in person or virtually, registration enables you to join a community of people focused on improving K-12 education.

Virtual Attendance. August 4 sessions will be webcast and available to those who complete the registration questionnaire.

In Person Attendance. Space is limited and by application. Registration fees:

- **Industry and Private Sector Fee.** \$895. Industry participants and for-profit businesses.
- **Academic and Public Sector Fee,** \$395. School Officials. Non-Profit organizations.

Registration fee includes:

- All training tools and materials. White Papers and Guidebooks produced from session.
- COVID Safety testing. Daily PCR testing both Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Tuesday August 3rd presentation and welcoming reception.
- Wednesday August 4th sessions, luncheon and closing reception
- Access to full library of content created. August 3 & 4 sessions will be recorded.

PRESS & MEDIA

Altru Summit in DC to Focus on Rebuilding K12 Schools

Philanthropic think tank **Altru Institute** will host the *Invest in Schools Summit* in Washington, DC on August 3 & 4 to help US schools reopen and recover post-COVID, resist any future pandemic, and to ensure \$170 billion in federal funds are fully leveraged.

Closed schools have had a devastating impact on families and communities, with economically disadvantaged families bearing the greatest burden, which has accelerated the growing disparity between the haves and have-nots.

In response, the US federal government has allocated approx. \$130 billion to school districts nationally to make schools safer and shrink the achievement gap. School districts will have great latitude in spending these funds, which makes it imperative that the effort be both efficient and carefully planned.

The *Invest in Schools Summit* will guide school districts in assessing their options and empower them to make the best possible investment choices, thereby maximizing the benefit to all stakeholders.

The *Summit* core curriculum will focus on to efficiently access and utilize federal funding and identify best practices and solutions in three areas:

- **Safe Schools.** Making schools resilient through testing and proper ventilation.
- **Healthy Schools.** How schools play a role in protecting children's physical and emotional health.
- **Accelerated Learning.** Innovative techniques and technologies to maximize student potential.

For each area, a research-based Educational Modules are in development. These modules include **White Papers** capturing the best insights from the conference and **Ecosystem Report** that identify leading individuals and organizations to foster collaboration towards a common goal. These reports will also feature innovative technologies and approaches identified in the research, for example, **LumiraDX** will introduce and demonstrate its mobile rapid PCR testing system that can bring high quality PCR testing to the point of care.

The venue of this year's *Summit* is the DC Wharf, a vibrant new riverfront development overlooking the Potomac River in Washington, DC. This is the third in a series of Contagion Conferences organized by the **Altru Institute's Virus Project** and follows its successful **Back to School Conference** held April 2021 in Las Vegas, which brought together thought leaders from around the US for a two-day discussion on strategies to keep schools open during the COVID pandemic.

The Las Vegas conference, which was one of the first in-person events was at the **Wynn Hotel** and made possible by daily COVID PCR testing in the recently installed full COVID testing lab developed by **Lighthouse** utilizing the **Mirimus** pooled testing technology. **Mobility Foundation**, a non-profit focused on helping school underwrite the costs of tests was conference host.

For more about the Summit, visit www.thevirusproject.org