

Keynote // Insight to Action: School Sustainability in a World of Rapid Change

There are many lessons for schools to learn from long-standing organizations that at one time thrived, but have since closed their doors. As Jim Collins wrote in his book, How the Mighty Fall, "institutional decline is like a disease: harder to detect but easier to cure in the early stages; easier to detect but harder to cure in the later stages." In this session, we will discuss some of those hard-to-detect signs of decline in the independent school context and explore a disciplined approach to ensuring that independent schools thrive amid today's strong headwinds.

Learning Objectives:

Participants will learn some of the hard-to-detect signs of decline in the independent school context and will explore a disciplined approach to ensuring that independent schools thrive amid today's strong headwinds.

Presenter: Donna Orem, President, National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

Donna Orem was named President of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) in November 2016. NAIS provides services to more than 1,800 schools and associations of schools in the United States and abroad, including 1,500 nonprofit, private K-12 schools in the U.S.

Orem served as the Chief Operating Officer for NAIS for 11 years before becoming president. She joined NAIS in 1998 as the Vice President for Educational Leadership, later becoming the Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Research. Prior to joining NAIS, she served as the Vice President for Products and Services Development at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). She also served as Associate Director for The American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Orem speaks frequently about leadership, governance, trends in independent education, and workforce development and is the author of numerous books and articles.

Field of Study: Business Management and Organization

Prerequisites: Basic knowledge of independent school finances

Advanced Preparation: None

Program Level: Update

Delivery Method: Group Live

Participants will earn 1.5 CPE credits.