Refinancing Structures for Independent Schools
With interest rates at or near all-time lows, many schools are reviewing options for, or planning to, refinance existing bonds and loans. This session will examine the current banking climate, options for refinancing these obligations through tax exempt or commercial loans, and opportunities to lock in savings. This will be a panel discussion with representatives from BBVA Compass' commercial and institutional banking groups (Nicholas Roberts and Michael Glover) and counsel from Watson Sloane (Brian Watson) experienced in bond financing.

Brian Watson, Managing Partner, Watson Sloane Attorneys

Brian is a managing partner of the firm with a focus on bond finance and assisting clients with the formation of corporate entities, day-to-day operations, and contract negotiation. He regularly serves as outside general counsel for various companies and routinely works with corporate in-house general counsel on various legal matters for their businesses.

His experience consists of representing issuers, financial institutions, underwriters and investors in connection with the public and private offering of municipal and corporate securities. He regularly serves as Bond Counsel, Borrower's Counsel, Bank Counsel and Underwriter's Counsel in connection with various bond offerings including CDD special assessment bonds, Build American Bonds, taxable bonds, water and sewer revenue bonds, solid waste disposal facility bonds, bonds issued to finance airport facilities and other exempt facilities, qualified 501(c)(3) bonds, bonds issued to finance residential rental facilities, senior living facilities and CCRCs, bonds issued to finance private K-12 schools and charter school bonds, as well as bonds issued to finance qualified small issue bonds to finance manufacturing facilities. He also counsels lenders and investors in the sale and workout of defaulted bonds and has represented a variety of clients in matters relating to interest rate swap transactions. Brian's experience extends to dealing in disclosure due diligence and preparation of securities disclosure documents for numerous bond transactions. Brian also works with non-profit organizations in the formation and financing of non-profits and their capital projects. He has been featured in the Bond Buyer's Red Book for his work in the area of public finance.

In addition, Brian works with clients on securities matters in the areas of private offerings and debt and equity securities, as well as mergers and acquisitions, including buy-side and sell-side representation for stock sales and asset sales.

Brian's Real Estate Practice includes the representation of real estate developers, investors, financial institutions and businesses in a wide range of commercial transactions, real estate and land use matters. His real estate experience includes representing commercial and residential developers through all phases of the development process. He has represented clients in the acquisition, leasing, development and sale of retail shopping centers and NNN properties involving national tenants. Additionally, he has represented national and local homebuilders, condominium developers and apartment developers in the acquisition, development and sale of residential and multifamily properties, and has represented institutional and private lenders in commercial and private loans secured by real and intangible property.

Additional Information
Participants will earn 1 CPE credit.
Field of Study: Finance
Prerequisites: Basic knowledge of independent school finances
Advanced Preparation: None
Program Level: Update
Delivery Method: Group Live