

2026 High School Leadership Conference Agenda

Check-In, Welcome, and Keynote

8:15 am -9:00 am	Check-In- Schools will check in their students for the day and pick up schedules and materials (DSU First Floor, Grand Stairwell)
9:00 am -9:05 am	Welcome from President Timothy C. Caboni of WKU (DSU Auditorium)
9:05 am -9:30 am	Keynote address from Dean Terrence Brown

Session I (9:45 am – 10:30 am)

Room Number	Session	Presenter
DSU 3023	The College Experience- Student Panel	WKU Students
DSU 3020	When No One Hands You the Blueprint	Tori Patterson
DSU 3006-3007	Effective Communication	Nesma Soliman
DSU 3003-3004	Money Matters	WKU Center for Financial Success
DSU 3005	Ethics in Leadership	Melanie Evans
Big Red Statue (1 st Floor)	Campus Tour	WKU Spirit Masters
DSU 2081 (SGA Chambers)	DISC Personality Assessment	Bethany Smith

Session II (10:45 am – 11:30 am)

Room Number	Session	Presenter
DSU 3023	The College Experience- Student Panel	WKU Students
DSU 3020	When No One Hands You the Blueprint	Tori Patterson
DSU 3006-3007	Effective Communication	Nesma Soliman
DSU 3003-3004	Money Matters	WKU Center for Financial Success
DSU 3005	Ethics in Leadership	Melanie Evans
Big Red Statue (1 st Floor)	Campus Tour	WKU Spirit Masters
DSU 2081 (SGA Chambers)	DISC Personality Assessment	Bethany Smith

LUNCH BREAK

11:30 am - 12:40 pm

FRESH FOOD COMPANY

School Advisors have passes

Session III (12:45 pm – 1:30 pm)

Room Number	Session	Presenter
DSU 3023	The College Experience- Student Panel	WKU Students
DSU 3020	When No One Hands You the Blueprint	Tori Patterson
DSU 3003-3004	Money Matters	WKU Center for Financial Success
DSU 3005	Ethics in Leadership	Melanie Evans
Big Red Statue (1 st Floor)	Campus Tour	WKU Spirit Masters
DSU 2081 (SGA Chambers)	DISC Personality Assessment	Bethany Smith

Session Descriptions

Keynote Address

Dean Terrance Brown, Dean of WKU's Potter College of Arts and Letters (PCAL), will deliver a keynote address, offering his own insights to leadership. Dr. Brown began his career at North Alabama as a faculty member in 2010, becoming chair of the Music Department in 2015 and Founding Executive Director in 2018. He was a voice instructor at Dillard University in New Orleans. He has doctor of musical arts and master of music degrees from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and a bachelor of music from Samford University in Homewood, Alabama. He has served as PCAL Dean since 2021.

The College Experience- Student Panel

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a college student? Hear from WKU students from across campus about what it is like *actually* being a student.

Money Matters

Learn more about how to manage personal finances and more.

DISC Personality Assessment

The DISC assessment is a tool that evaluates four key behavioral traits—Dominance, Influence, Steadiness, and Conscientiousness—to understand and predict human behavior and communication styles in various situations. Learn your traits and how to implement them as a leader. Spots are limited.

Campus Tour

Receive a guided tour of WKU's campus from WKU students.

When No One Hands You the Blueprint

When No One Hands You the Blueprint explores the challenges, uncertainty, and growth that can come with navigating unfamiliar circumstances. Through personal experiences and reflection, this presentation highlights how students can overcome obstacles, find their support systems, and create their own blueprint for success in leadership.

Ethics in Leadership

Sometimes being a leader requires difficult decision-making. Consider civil and ethical aspects of leadership as Melanie Evans guides you through ethical leadership scenarios.

Effective Communication

Communication is a key element to leading a team. Join this session to consider different communication strategies through interactive activities and discussion.