

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO FUTURE TEACHER CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 2, 2024



Teaching is in our DNA! Founded in 1889, the University of Northern Colorado has produced more than 50% of the educators in Colorado and 30% of the Colorado Teacher of the Year recipients. We are excited to host hundreds of students who share a similar passion for teaching and will shape the next generation of K-12 students.

The 9th annual Future Teacher Conference brings together high school and community college students interested in becoming a teacher with UNC students and faculty from the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, early career teachers, veteran educators and school administrators for an enriching and engaging day of presentations and workshops.

Welcome to the wonderful world of teaching.



FUTURE TEACHER CONFERENCE 2024 AGENDA

7:30 a.m.	REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST UC Ballrooms
8:00 a.m.	<p>OPENING</p> <p>Welcome: Suzette Youngs, Chris Kyser and James Erekson, <i>Future Teacher Conference organizers, University of Northern Colorado</i></p> <p>Introduction: Jared Stallones, <i>dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, University of Northern Colorado</i></p> <p>Most Inspiring Teachers Recognition Jared Stallones, <i>dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, University of Northern Colorado</i></p> <p>Opening Remarks: Andy Feinstein, <i>president, University of Northern Colorado</i></p> <p>Keynote: Steve Spangler, <i>Emmy-award winner and one of Time magazine's Most Influential People</i></p> <p>UC Ballrooms</p>
9:45 a.m.	WORKSHOP #1 McKee Hall
10:20 a.m.	WORKSHOP #2 McKee Hall
10:55 a.m.	WORKSHOP #3 McKee Hall
11:30 a.m.	<i>ALL students exit McKee Hall and follow signs for lunch or student panel</i>
11:30 a.m.	<p>GROUP 1—Lunch at Holmes Dining Hall</p> <p>GROUP 2—Student Panel in Multipurpose Room in Campus Commons</p>
12:30 p.m.	<p>GROUP 1— Student Panel in Multipurpose Room in Campus Commons</p> <p>GROUP 2—Lunch at Holmes Dining Hall</p>
1:10 p.m.	GROUP 2 joins GROUP 1 in Multipurpose Room in Campus Commons
1:15 p.m.	<p>CONFERENCE WRAP UP: Closing Presentation: Being a Teacher Is a lot Like Being a Rock Star</p> <p>Ellen Clark, <i>4th grade teacher, Altitude Elementary School, Cherry Creek School District</i></p> <p>Multipurpose Room Campus Commons</p>
1:30 p.m.	INFORMATIONAL FAIR Campus Commons
2:00 p.m.	<p>CAMPUS TOUR</p> <p><i>The Campus Tour will begin immediately following the Informational Fair. Students will meet UNC student ambassadors in the Multipurpose Room in the Campus Commons.</i></p>

SESSIONS

PARENT SEMINAR

Parent Seminar: Guidance to Support Networks: First Steps in the College Process

James Erikson, *Literacy Education, UNC*

Kevin Pugh, *Educational Psychology, UNC*

Aldo Romero, *Cumbres, UNC*

McKee 0020

TEACHER SEMINARS

A Higher Ground: Strategies That Promote Civil Conversations in our Classrooms and School Communities

Jan Stallones, *senior trainer for the Western States Center &*

Member of the Colorado Department of Education Writing Framework Cohort

McKee 282

Teacher Cadet Program: Interested in Becoming a Teacher Cadet Teacher?

Christine Rotole-McConnell, *Teacher Cadet program coordinator*

McKee 282

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

SESSION 1: From Crayons to Connections

Jean Kirshner, *Early Childhood Education, UNC*

McKee 221

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

SESSION 2: The Joy of Teaching

Danie Soucek, *first grade teacher, University Schools*

Trish Wojurfin, *first grade teacher, University Schools*

McKee 219

SESSION 3: Why Teachers Make a Difference

Jenni Harding Middleton, *Elementary Education, UNC*

McKee 230

SESSION 4: Can I Have your Attention, Please?

Engagement Ideas for Everyone!

Robin Duran, *kindergarten teacher, University Schools*

McKee 424

**SESSION 5: #adifferentkindofschool—Innovative Teaching—
Reformed Educational Settings and Pedagogies**

Courtney Luce, Tatum Monaghan, *Collaborators, Fred Tjardes
School of Innovation*

McKee 253

SESSION 6: Math is Fun

Hannah Kang, *Elementary Education, UNC*

McKee 229

SESSION 7: A Mathematical Tug of War

Kim Mahovsky, *Elementary Education, UNC*

McKee 254

**SESSION 8: Leveraging Students' Cultural
Strengths in the Elementary Classroom**

Brian Rose, *Elementary Education, UNC*

McKee 140

SECONDARY EDUCATION

**SESSION 9: Reflective Practice: What it Means
(and How You Can Start Doing it Now)**

Stacy Bailey, *English Education, UNC*

McKee 137

SESSION 10: Active Learning in the Classroom

Matt Seymour, *English Education, UNC*

McKee 425

SESSION 11: How to Thrive

Danielle Bell, *doctoral student, UNC Educational Studies,*

McKee 336

K–12 EDUCATION: ART, MUSIC, SPORT & EXERCISE SCIENCE

SESSION 12: MOVE-ment Matters: The Power of Physical Activity in Schools

Jennifer Krause, *Physical Education and Physical Activity Leadership, UNC*

Brian Dauenhauer, *Physical Education and Physical Activity Leadership, UNC*

Scott Douglas, *Physical Education and Physical Activity Leadership, UNC*

McKee 144

**SESSION 13: Art Education: Where Those Crazy Enough to Think
They Can Change the World Become the Ones Who Do**

Abi Paytoe Gbayee, *Art Education, UNC*

McKee 138

URBAN EDUCATION

SESSION 14: Successful Teaching in Urban Classrooms

Joanna Ross, *Assistant Director, Center for Urban Education*

McKee 252

CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE EDUCATION

SESSION 15: Digital Classrooms & Dynamic Teaching — Supporting all Learners through In-Person and Digital Engagement

Anne Davidson Schafer, *Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Education, UNC*

McKee 142

SESSION 16: Cumbres Teacher Preparation Program

Penny Mascarenas, *Cumbres, UNC*

McKee 139

SESSION 17: Teaching and Learning with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students: Myths and Facts around Multilingual Education

Deborah Romero, *Teacher Education, UNC*

McKee 228

SESSION 18: ¿Hablas Español? We Need Bilingual Educators!

James Gambrell, *Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Education, UNC*

McKee 223

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SESSION 19: Why Exploring Student Strengths Will Make You a Better Teacher

Corey Pierce, *Special Education, UNC*

McKee 147

SESSION 20: Relationships Matter! Strategies for Successfully Supporting Behavior and Building Rapport in the Classroom

Laura Trapp, *Special Education, UNC*

McKee 146

SESSION 21: The Coolest Thing About Special Education!

Jackie Davis, *Special Education, UNC*

McKee 135

RURAL EDUCATION

SESSION 22: Start Your Teaching Career Faster with Less Debt: Unique Opportunities in Rural Colorado

Robert Fulton, *Director, Colorado Center for Rural Education*

McKee 145

K–12 TEACHING AND ENGAGEMENT

SESSION 23: Student Engagement & Motivation

Zoe Tessier, *doctoral student, UNC Educational Studies*

McKee 141

SESSION 24: Innovating and Engaging with STEAM

Samantha Patterson, *doctoral student, UNC Educational Studies*

McKee 333

SESSION 25: So you Think you Want to be a Teacher?

The Power of Public Education.

Kate Slick, *Human Resources, St. Vrain Valley Schools*

McKee 338



If you need assistance at any time, you may call The School of Teacher Education Office at 970-351-2908 or stop by the School of Teacher Education office in McKee 216.

Wifi Information

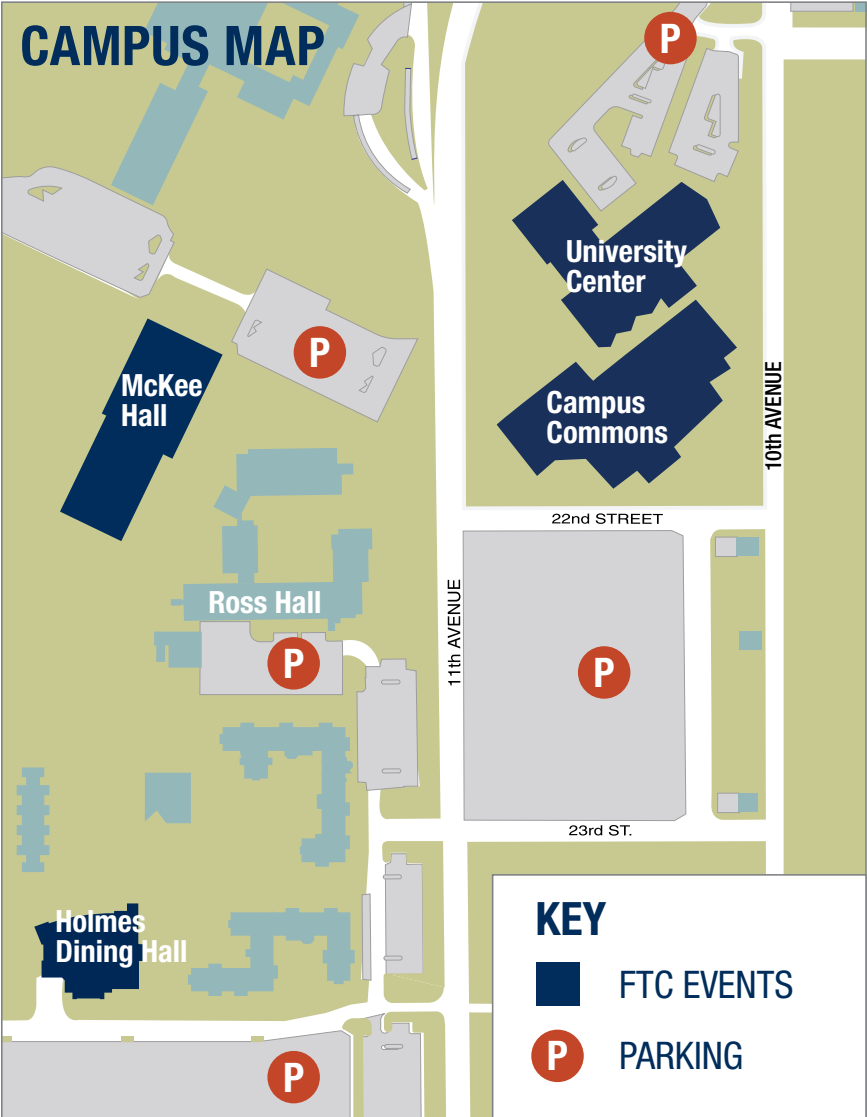
Connecting to our UNC-Guest network

1. Identify and click on the “UNC-GUEST” network and choose connect
2. Open your web browser and accept the University of Northern Colorado Acceptable Use Agreement

By logging on to the network, you are agreeing to the UNC Computer, Internet and Electronic Communications Procedure:

[unco.edu/it/about it/procedures.htm](http://unco.edu/it/about%20it/procedures.htm)

CAMPUS MAP



Note from the Conference Organizers:

Suzette Youngs, Ph.D., Chris Kyser, Ph.D. and James Erekson, Ph.D. would like to thank you for attending the Future Teacher Conference, we hope you had a great learning experience. We would like to thank all the presenters, volunteers and support staff that helped to make the 2024 conference a huge success!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:
2025 Future Teachers Conference, February 7, 2025

Thank you to our sponsors for their generous support



College of Education
and Behavioral Sciences