

# Managing Your Facilities

Monthly Newsletter of the National School Plant Management Association

November 2017



**Kimberly Keener, NSPMA President (center)**  
**NJSBGA Vice President**  
pictured with Bernie Piaia, NJDOE Director of Facilities;  
Keith Gourlay, NJSBGA Executive Director

Dear NSPMA-

The National School Plant Management Association is proud to announce our 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey. **The Conference & EXPO will be held Sunday, March 11- Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at Harrah's Resort Waterfront Hotel & Conference Center.** This spectacular venue is located in the Marina District and in the heart of many popular tourist destinations and the iconic Atlantic City shoreline and boardwalk.

NSPMA had a very successful 2017 Conference & Expo in Rogers, Arkansas, under the leadership of Mike Mertens. Thank you to Mike and the ASPMA!!!

**Together We Can Maintain a Healthy & Safe Learning Environment** is our 2018 theme. NSPMA and NJSBGA are working collaboratively to attract record attendance, state participation, and vendor presence at our 2018

event. We are planning training and workshops of critical value to attendees from all parts of the country, as well as social and resource networking time. Conference & EXPO Registration is now open through our website.

Questions can be directed to Sherry Jennings, NSPMA Secretary. Phone (757)547-0489 Email [sherry.jennings@cpschools.com](mailto:sherry.jennings@cpschools.com)

Please visit our new website [www.nspma.org](http://www.nspma.org) to learn more about our organization and the opportunities we can provide to local, state, and national school facilities personnel and vendor partners. NSPMA welcomes all inquiries and hopes that you get involved whether you are seeking information or can offer guidance or mentorship to those in need.

We hope that you can join us in Atlantic City because **Together We Can!!!**



**SAVE THE DATE!**

2018 Conference/ Expo

Harrah's Waterfront  
Conference Center  
Atlantic City, NJ

March 12-14, 2018

# 46<sup>th</sup> Annual ASPMA Conference Held in Hot Springs, AR

A record number of school plant managers attended the 46<sup>th</sup> annual ASPMA Conference October 1-3 at the Hot Springs Convention Center & Embassy Suites. The year's conference, utilizing a theme of **"Keys to Success,"** was packed with great keynote speakers, informative breakout sessions, vendor presentations, and a large trade show. As always, this yearly event was an excellent opportunity for professional development, business contacts, networking with peers, and up-to-date information on a variety of topics and products relevant to the work of school plant managers.

This year's conference also included a day of classes for the Certified Facilities Director (CFD) program. During the conference, sixteen attendees received initial CFD certification and a number of plant managers were recognized for renewal. ASPMA is pleased to announce that Kevin Conkin, with the Springdale School District, was honored as the 2017 recipient of the President's Blue Ribbon Award for his leadership, active participation in ASPMA for many years, and commitment to quality school facility management statewide.



ASPMA board member Maurice Henry; newly certified ASPMA member Craig Dupuy; ASPMA board president, Dr. Doug Harris



AAEA Assistant Executive Director and Past President, Mike Mertens (left); 2017 Blue Ribbon Recipient Kevin Conkin; ASPMA board member, Maurice Henry



Representatives from Platinum Sponsor Arkansas Automatic-United Fire Suppression



Gene Heral (middle), owner of Diamond Sponsor Heral Enterprises, Inc. and ASPMA board member.

# 230 Attend, Vendor Show Sells Out at 10<sup>th</sup> Annual VSPMA Conference

The Virginia School Plant Management Association had their 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference at the Hilton Doubletree in Midlothian, VA, in mid-October, 2017. The conference trade show sold out and had 230 attendees. The VSPMA was proud to have their first president, Fran Foster, retired director from Virginia Beach Public Schools, VA, in attendance to celebrate our silver anniversary.

We were especially proud to have United States Branch Chief of Pesticide Programs, Frank Ellis, as a guest speaker. We also had Brigadier General Walt Mercer of the United States Army and National Guard as a guest speaker, as well as School Dude Evangelist, Josh Peach, who also spoke. The VSPMA announced its first Virginia School Plant Manager of the Year and was proud to recognize Wade Beverly, From Newport News Public Schools, VA as the recipient.



Dr. John A. Bailey, VSPMA President, Brigadier Walt Mercer, Rick Walters, NSPMA Vice President



Keith Webb, VSPMA treasurer, Wade Beverly, VSPMA Plant Manager of the Year, Dr. John A. Bailey, VSPMA President



Josh Peach, SchoolDude, Kim Keener NSPMA, and other SchoolDude representatives

## Rules and Regulations Featured Topics at LSFMA Conference

The Louisiana School Facility Managers' Association held its annual Fall Conference at the Paragon Casino in Marksville, LA on Thursday, October 19th and Friday, October 20th. The fall conference, which is a member only session, was centered on professional development in many facility related areas. Session topics included, but were not limited to, Department of Health and Hospitals School Health Initiatives, VRF/VRV HVAC systems Fire Marshal's Office Boiler

Boiler Inspections, and Attorney General's Office Public Bid Law Review/Update.

Facility managers also participate in round table discussions and networking sessions. The conference concluded with a presentation on the state retirement system and a facility managers business meeting. At the business meeting, information was shared regarding the upcoming NSPMA 2018 Conference and Trade Show.



Deputy Daniel Harris with the LA State Fire Marshal's Office

## NYSSFA Go “Seussical” About Student Success at Conference and Expo

More than 800 school facilities managers and business partners gathered in Saratoga Springs, New York, on October 1-4 for the School Facilities Managers' Conference and Expo. Inspired by Dr. Seuss characters, the conference bustled with timely training on a wide range of topics, a sold-out exposition and hundreds of attendees. Session highlights included “The Power of Many,” presented by author Dr. Steven Sroka and legislative/state updates.

As in past years, sponsors stepped up generously to make the conference, expo and golf tournament possible, and to provide scholarships and recognition to members, emphasizing the importance of professional development in the school facilities field. Networking flourished during socials

and receptions, in hallways, and at exhibitor booths.

During the professional development portion of the conference, those completing accreditations and re-certifications were recognized. This year, NYSSFA was able to offer more scholarships than any other year in its history.

One of NYSSFA's primary goals during the past year has been to make the connection between the work school facility managers do and the kids served. During the conference, NYSSFA unveiled a new video, [\*It Takes A Professional!\*](#), in an effort to help spread the word about the importance of our work and its impact on children. The video is available for viewing/download at [www.nyssfa.com](http://www.nyssfa.com).



A dance troupe of students dressed as Dr. Seuss characters kicked off the Expo.



Seussical costumes were definitely encouraged at the conference!



*Greetings From Atlantic City, NJ!*



**SAVE THE DATE**

**NJSBGA/NSPMA Conference & EXPO 2018**

**March 12-14, 2018**

Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center

Atlantic City, New Jersey

[www.njsbga.org](http://www.njsbga.org)

## Upcoming Events

**South Carolina School Plant Management Association Facility Masters Conference** ([link](#))

February 4-7, 2018  
Myrtle Beach, SC

**Kentucky/Tennessee Joint Workshop** ([link](#))

February 9, 2018  
Somerset, KY

**Tennessee School Plant Management Association Annual Conference** ([link](#))

June 18-20, 2018  
Pigeon Forge, TN

**Mississippi School Plant Management Association Conference** ([link](#))

July 30-31, 2018, Pearl, MS

**Missouri School Plant Management Association Annual Conference** ([link](#))

September 30 - October 2, 2018  
Branson, MO

**Arkansas School Plant Management Association Annual Conference** ([link](#))

October 8-9-10, 2018  
Hot Springs, AR

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*Facility Masters Achieving Excellence*