FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026 | 8:30 AM — HOSTED AT SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE, FENNIMORE



20TH ANNUAL

BUSINESS & EDUCATION SUMMIT

A collaborative community effort coordinated by CESA 3

"Working together, we have the power to create the schools and communities of our most noble dreams."
~Jamie Vollmer

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS | JAMIE VOLLMER, PUBLIC EDUCATION ADVOCATE | SCOTT KNAPP, AY MCDONALD | JAMIE NUTTER, CESA 3

Thank you for registering for the 20th Annual Business & Education Summit!

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Friday, January 9, 2026
There will be no snow date. The event will only be cancelled if Southwest Tech is closed due to inclement weather. Please check your local news stations or the Southwest Tech website: https://www.swtc.edu/ for information the day of the event and travel at your own discretion.

Location: **Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, Main Entrance (near the flags)**
1800 Bronson Blvd., Fennimore, WI
Ample free parking is available near the main entrance.

AGENDA:

8:15 – 8:45 am **Registration, Southwest Tech Auditorium**
Please note that no food or drink is allowed in the Auditorium.

8:45 – 9:00 am **Welcome and Introductions: Ned Lease, CESA 3, and Caleb White, Southwest Tech Interim President/Vice President for Administrative Services**

9:00 – 9:45 am **Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jamie Vollmer, President, Vollmer, Inc.**
Schools Cannot Do It Alone

9:45 – 10:15 am **Keynote Speaker: Scott Knapp, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, AY McDonald, CEO of the Wisconsin-based business, McDonald Plastic Molding, and a 5th Generation McDonald family member**

10:15 – 10:45 am **Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jamie Nutter, Agency Administrator, Cooperative Educational Service Agency 3 (CESA 3)**

10:45 – 11:00 am **Break**

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11:00 – 11:45 am **Presentation: The Anxious Generation, Ellie Olson and Niki Smith, CESA 3**
Based on Jonathan Haidt's book of the same name, examine how increased anxiety, social pressures, and technology use are impacting youth and young adults, and what this means for learning environments and workplaces.

11:45 – 12:30 am **Lunch, Cafeteria, and IRC+ Showcase, Lenz Center**
Don't miss out on the opportunity to see the IRC+ training kits in action! CESA 3 The IRC+ service provides participating school districts with training kits and ongoing access to resources through a consortium model, eliminating the need for costly equipment purchases. This approach expands hands-on learning, increases credential opportunities, supports students in gaining skills and career-ready credentials, supplies employers with job-ready talent, and helps districts earn CTE Incentive Grants—ultimately preparing students for successful careers without the financial burden of owning equipment.

12:30 pm **Assemble in the Cafeteria to "travel" with an escort to a lab of your choice**

Scan here to select your lab of choice!

12:30 – 2:00 pm Please select one group to explore in depth with Aspen Award–winning Southwest Tech instructors in their labs. Options are shown below. Please scan the QR code or click here to select the lab of your choice prior to Friday.

- ☐ Group 1 - Agriculture: Precision Agronomy/Agribusiness Management/Animal Science
- ☐ Group 2 - Health Science: Surgical Technology, Radiography, Medical Laboratory Technician
- ☐ Group 3 - University Transfer
- ☐ Group 4 - Business/Information Technology: Business Management, Accounting, Cybersecurity
- ☐ Group 5 - Construction: Building Trades - Carpentry, Welding
- ☐ Group 6 - Manufacturing: Computer Numeric Control (CNC), Automation Systems Technology
- ☐ Group 7 - Law/Public Safety: Criminal Justice - Law Enforcement, Fire Fighting (*A van will be provided to go to the Public Safety Complex)*
- ☐ Group 8- Ag/Auto Building - Agriculture Power & Equipment Technician: Automotive Technician

2:00 – 2:15 pm **Break**

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2:15 – 2:30 pm **County Conversations, Lenz Conference Center: Tom Martin, CESA 3**

Next Steps/Share Out:

- *What have we learned today?*
- *Determine action items*
  - *What can we take back to our community?*
  - *What is my role in moving our region forward?*

2:30 pm **Adjourn**

Thank you for attending the 20th Annual Business & Education Summit!

While there is no charge to attend, the event is not without cost. It is supported through grants from CESA 3 and in-kind support from Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, which is serving as a co-host.

The goal of the event is to share ideas and advance solution-focused approaches in our region. One of our charges is to find low to no-cost opportunities, but often when there is not an invoice there is a perception that the activity has no value. If it weren't for grants and the partnerships, this event would easily be several hundred dollars per participant.

We hope you find it valuable, make some new connections and continue the conversation long after the event. Please feel free to contact any member of the CESA 3 Career and Life Ready team to learn more about any of the topics discussed today. We take great pride in being your connection between industry and education.

Your Career and Life Ready Team

CESA 3


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