



KEYNOTE SPEAKER JOHN ALMARODE



Dr. John Almarode is a bestselling author and has worked with schools, classrooms, and teachers all over the world on the translation and application of the science of learning to the classroom, school, and home environments, and what works best in teaching and learning. He has done so in Australia, Canada, Egypt, England, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, South Korea, Thailand and all across the United States.

He is Professor of Education at James Madison University. In 2015, John was awarded the inaugural Sarah Miller Luck Endowed Professorship. In 2021, John was honored with an Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council for Higher Education in Virginia. At James Madison University, he continues to work with preservice teachers and graduate students, as well as actively pursues his research interests including the science of learning, the design and measurement of classroom environments that promote student engagement and learning.

The work of John and his colleagues has been presented to the United States Congress, Virginia Senate, at the United States Department of Education as well as the Office of Science and Technology Policy at The White House. John began his career in Augusta County, Virginia, teaching mathematics and science to a wide-range of students. Since then, John has authored multiple articles, reports, book chapters, and eleven books. In 2019, John and his colleagues developed a new framework for developing, implementing, and sustaining professional learning communities: [PLC+](#). Focusing on sustained change in teacher practice, the PLC+ framework builds capacity within teacher-led teams to maximize student learning.

His keynote address is [Culture First, Learning Second: Creating a Context for Operating as One](#). How do we foster, nurture, and sustain an environment that amplifies our collective impact? He unpacks the most recent research on creating a culture in our schools and classrooms that pulls together the individual assets of our colleagues and leverages them into a collective action. Not only will we unpack the latest research on what Mary Murphy calls cultures of growth, we will develop actionable steps that will allow you and your colleagues to leverage the individual contributions of each community member to amplify your collective impact. His breakout topic is *The Power of Feedback on Operating as One*. It's in the Grand Ballroom on Tuesday at 3:05 pm.

