

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2019

Contact: Emily Schoen Pratt
304-342-7849
emily@educationalliance.org

EDTalks Event Connects Education, Jobs and West Virginia's Future
*Event Features Coach Dan D'Antoni, WVU Professor Brad Price, and
WV Teacher of the Year Jada Reeves*

Beckley, W.Va. – On Thursday, June 13, 2019, more than 100 business, education and community leaders attended The Education Alliance's *EDTalks: Connecting Education, Jobs and Our Future* event at New River Community and Technical College. EDTalks is an education-based speaker series that promotes innovative discussion and big ideas on strengthening public education.

The EDTalks event featured presentations by: Dan D'Antoni, Marshall University Basketball Coach; Dr. Brad Price, West Virginia University Assistant Professor; and Jada Reeves, 2019 West Virginia Teacher of the Year.

"As we think about the tremendous economic opportunities and challenges facing our state, the connection between jobs and education is obvious. Engaging our communities in this conversation is mission critical to our success," said Dr. Amelia Courts, president and chief executive officer of The Education Alliance. "Through gatherings like this, we can learn from one another and work together to develop new strategies and models of learning that will provide our students with the very best."

EDTalks are being held across West Virginia to provide a lively series of networking and education events designed to engage business, education, and community leaders in public education issues. Each program features compelling presentations by cutting-edge speakers, professionals and advocates along with ample time for conversation and networking.

"Clearly, a strong education system is the path to a better future for our state and its citizens," said Brett Staples, Chairman of The Education Alliance Board of Directors. "Southern West Virginia plays a vital role in our state's current and future success. The Education Alliance is excited to hear innovative and exciting perspectives in this region on how we can strengthen the pipeline to future jobs in West Virginia."

This event is sponsored by Bowles Rice LLP, Cucumber & Company, DOW Inc., United Bank and the West Virginia University John Chambers College of Business and Economics. To view the video recordings of the Beckley EDTalks or for more information, visit EducationAlliance.org/EDTalks or contact The Education Alliance at 304-342-7850.

About The Education Alliance

Founded in July 1983 as the first statewide public education fund in the nation, The Education Alliance is a private-sector initiative to help businesses understand the importance of financially and resourcefully supporting the state's public schools and to give business a voice in public education that advances policies and practices to continually improve public school student achievement in West Virginia.

###