

Dear School Leaders:

We know it's hard to set aside time and money for the professional growth of your team. Budgets are tight, plus many teachers in our current climate would rather learn alone, be alone, and stick to their routines once the school day or week is done. As leaders, we find team development and interpersonal relationships to be some of the most difficult areas to manage. **The GSACS team desires to come alongside you in providing an atmosphere that promotes professional development, challenges the status quo, unites a school team, feeds the soul with biblical truth, and encourages fellowship with other Christian educators.** We have designed a two-night, 40-hour, cost-effective retreat/convention that will do all the above plus make your hardworking team members feel honored.

Venue: Ironwood, 49191 Cherokee Road, Newberry Springs, CA 92365

**Schedule:** Schools can begin to arrive anytime after 6 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. The first meal served is breakfast on Thursday from 7:45-8:30 a.m. Throughout the day on Thursday, your team will be able to attend three different workshop sessions (plus an optional bonus fourth workshop), participate in several optional activities such as games on horseback, escape rooms, rifle range shooting, wood branding and crafts, hatchets, archery, jeep tours, hayrides and stargazing, campfires, plus have access to a game room, coffee shop, and resources from vendors in attendance. The convention ends on Friday around 10:30 a.m. after our last session.

**Accommodations:** When school leaders <u>register online</u>, they can select their team's choice for cabins and cottages based on availability. Ironwood has cottages designed just for couples, and cabins designed for 2-3 adults, 4 adults, and 8+ adults. Every cabin comes with its own private restroom and shower, plus linens and amenities are provided. To see a virtual tour of the accommodations, visit <u>Ironwood's website</u>. Also, schools can choose to stay in hotels in the area (approximately 20-30 minutes away depending on hotel choices) and come for the meals, activities, and sessions on Thursday and Friday. There is a place in the registration process to choose that option.

**Food:** Four meals will be served during your stay. Ironwood's dining room, the Homestead, has a full-serve buffet room with coffee service available one hour before every meal. For guests with special diet needs, there is a side preparation room where guests can keep special diet food and drink to store and use the space for food preparation during the duration of the convention. A tritip banquet will be served on Thursday evening.

**Pricing:** The cost for this retreat/convention is \$155 per guest. This includes all accommodations, meals, activities, workshops, and general sessions. If a school chooses to stay in a nearby hotel, the cost per guest is \$120. The <u>registration link</u> allows you to choose either option. The price jumps to \$175 per delegate after September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Workshops:** We have workshop speakers from all over the nation flying in to serve our schools. With over 20 sessions scheduled, there is something for every educator. All the workshops qualify for CEU credits.

I hope you consider coming. I promise you it will help you help those who are on your team and in the trenches be better educators and better image bearers for God's glory.

Sincerely.

Shannon Steuerwald, Executive Director

P.S. Not familiar with our Association? You can find more information about <u>GSACS</u> at our website!