

2026 FSPMA Conference Session Guide

September 28 – October 1, 2026

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Continental Breakfast: *Universal Center Exhibitor Hall | 7:30–8:30 AM*

Lunch: *Seminole A/B/C | 11:30–1:00 PM*

Evening Reception: *4:00–6:30 PM*

GOLD COAST I

Round Table Discussion

Gold Coast I | 8:30–9:30 AM

Class Information: Having trouble finding the right vendor for supplies or a contractor for a project? This session will give you a chance to sit down with other district Maintenance and Grounds staff to discuss issues and share information with your peers. Learn who other districts outsource work with and brainstorm issues and concerns. This networking opportunity is must!

Speaker: Daniel Packard — Moderator

Overview of HVAC in K12 Schools

Gold Coast I | 9:30–10:30 AM

Class Information: In this presentation you will learn-

Role of HVAC Systems

Impact on Comfort and Air Quality

Maintenance and Efficiency

Diverse School Spaces Served

Speaker: Brandon Crump — Daikin Applied

Brandon Crump is a Service & Solutions Account Manager with Daikin Applied in Pensacola, Florida with 15 years of experience specializing in direct-with-owner HVAC solutions and services. He partners with building owners to improve system performance, energy efficiency,

and long-term operational outcomes. Brandon holds bachelor's degrees in industrial Distribution and Marketing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and is passionate about helping customers leverage innovative service, repair, replacement, and controls strategies to maximize the value of their facility investments.

Cooling Tower Basic Fundamentals: Why it's important to you as an Engineer, Facilities Manager and Service & Maintenance Personnel for thermal performance, thermal efficiency and reliability.

Gold Coast I | 10:30–11:30 AM

Class Information: This presentation will assist you in identifying:

- Cooling Tower Types
- Cooling Tower Location Considerations
- Materials of Construction (Advantages & Disadvantages)
- Fan Drive Systems (Considerations, Options & Comparisons)
- Cooling Tower Accessories
- Cooling Tower Maintenance

Speaker: Tim Biddy — JMP Equipment Company & Anthony Marmo — JMP - Outside Sales Engineer

With more than 40 years of experience in the HVAC, cooling tower, and mechanical systems industry, **Tim Biddy** has built a career focused on helping facility owners and operators improve the performance, reliability, and efficiency of their critical HVAC equipment. His career began with Southern Company Services in Atlanta, Georgia, where he served as a Facilities Engineer while pursuing a degree in Business Administration from Georgia State University and later a degree in Air Conditioning Technology from Lanier Technical College. Over the years, he has held key roles with Thermal Technologies, Georgia Chiller Service, Carrier Commercial Service, BHI, and JMP Equipment Company, developing expertise in cooling towers, chillers, heat exchangers, water treatment, filtration systems, and aftermarket retrofit solutions.

**Commercial HVAC and Controls Maintenance:
Keeping school buildings comfortable, efficient, and running.**

Gold Coast I | 1:00–2:00 PM

Class Information: This session explores how preventive HVAC and building automation maintenance work together to keep school facilities comfortable, efficient, and dependable. Attendees will learn practical ways to address common mechanical and controls issues. We'll also examine how BAS data can reduce energy waste and improve performance. Participants

will leave with actionable strategies to reduce downtime, extend equipment life, and improve budget predictability.

Speaker: Tony Bonjorno-Ryan Worley-Michael Palumbo— Engineered Cooling

Tony Bon Jorno is a Strategic Account Manager with extensive experience in the commercial and industrial HVAC industry. Prior to transitioning into sales and account management, Tony spent more than 20 years as an HVAC and chiller technician, followed by 3 years serving as a Service Manager, developing expertise in equipment diagnostics, system optimization, and customer support. His technical background and leadership experience allow him to provide clients with practical, result-driven solutions while fostering long-term strategic partnerships.

Ryan Worley is an Inside Sales Engineer with Engineered Cooling Services. He graduated from the University of West Florida with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and has successfully passed the HVAC Professional Engineer Exam. Ryan provides technical support, estimating, and engineered HVAC solutions for commercial and industrial clients.

Michael Palumbo brings more than 30 years of experience in commercial HVAC, building automation, and energy management, including extensive experience with Siemens. Now with Engineered Cooling Services (ECS), he helps facility owners integrate HVAC equipment and building controls to improve performance, reliability, energy efficiency, and equipment life. His combination of technical expertise and practical field experience helps customers move from reactive maintenance to proactive, long-term building optimization.

HYDRONICS 101

Gold Coast I | 2:00–3:00 PM

Class Information:

We hope to educate maintenance and operations on proper operation and maintenance of chilled and hot water systems installed in facilities.

Speaker: Shannon Holderfield-Brown — HYDRO Technologies

Shannon Holderfield is a highly accomplished HVAC and hydronics professional with more than 19 years of experience serving the commercial mechanical industry. Throughout her career, she has built a reputation for delivering innovative, energy-efficient solutions while fostering strong relationships with contractors, engineers, facility managers, and end users across the Gulf Coast.

In her current role as an Outside Sales Representative, Shannon leads HVAC sales initiatives and provides technical support, systems education, and product training for customers throughout the region. She is responsible for commercial training and product expertise across a broad portfolio of industry-leading manufacturers, including Taco, Raypak, ABB, Viessmann, and

Evapco, among others. Her ability to translate complex mechanical systems into practical solutions has made her a trusted resource for clients and industry partners alike.

Variable Speed Drives for HVAC Systems

Gold Coast I | 3:00–4:00 PM

Class Information: The Variable Frequency Drives gained popularity in early 1990s, by promising energy savings. All applications in HVAC, traditionally would have motors run full speed. Room temperature was then managed by restricting supply and return entering or exiting the system. The air that did not enter the controlled environment was redirected and released outside the control space. As AC VFD technology progressed by simply speeding up or down motor, rather than restricting at full speed, true energy savings became visible and measurable.

Speaker: David Mortimer — Danfoss

David Mortimer began in VFD market, first job from college, working for ABB Drives as regional manager. VFD technology then was a game changer in HVAC applications. Energy savings were the main selling point along with equipment longevity. Over 15 years, we met with consultants and became widely specified. Moving forward, my next stop was 8 years with Schneider Electric doing much of the same but adding BAS to portfolios. For past 10 years, I've been with Danfoss Drives as a Sales Application Engineer, which keeps me mostly in the field supporting pre-sales solutions. So, beginning in its infancy until now, HVAC markets and VFDs are always demanding more from its technology. Danfoss, as a global solutions provider, are consistently changing the market to meet needs.

GOLD COAST II

Radon

Gold Coast II | 8:30 –10:30 AM

Class Information: The Department of Health will discuss mandatory testing for radon in all schools with K-12 students. They will discuss how to test, where to test, and how to report the results to stay in compliance with Florida Statutes and Florida Administrative Code.

Speaker: Hunter Chang — Florida Department of Health

Hunter Chang is an Environmental Consultant with the Radon and Indoor Air Quality Program within the Florida Department of Health. He has been working for the Department for almost two years but has been working in the Radon Program for about a year. Previously, he worked with Aquatic Toxins Program, more specifically harmful algal blooms. He graduated from FSU

with a Bachelor of Science and went on to achieve a Master of Public Health Degree. Public health is near and dear to him, and he is eager to continue improving the health of Floridians.

Powered Industrial Truck (Forklift) Operator 5.0 hours

Gold Coast II | 10:30–11:30 AM & 1:00–4:00 PM

Class Information: The purpose of this training is to teach safe operation of forklifts, avoid accidents and injuries, reduce damage to property, and to meet OSHA training requirements for powered industrial trucks. Participants will gain knowledge of the physical properties and characteristics of forklifts as well as safe operations and refueling procedures.

The **counterbalanced rider forklift** course includes classroom instruction, written evaluation, and hands-on instruction. Upon successful completion of a written test and driving evaluation participants will receive a certificate of operation and a wallet card. Certifications are valid for three years from date of issue.

Speaker: Brad Gray — Florida Department of Education

With over 20 years of experience as an occupational safety instructor, **Brad** has spent the last 10 years working as a Fire Inspector for Hillsborough County Schools where he also served as the Safety Training Coordinator responsible for training over 30k employees annually. He now works with the Florida Dept of Education as a “Research and Training Specialist” providing training and support to school districts and colleges across the state of Florida.

GOLD COAST III

Cleaning for Health – Cleanliness Meets Wellness

Gold Coast III | 8:30–9:30 AM

Class Information: This isn’t “cleaning 101.” It’s the latest science-backed cleaning technology for schools and healthcare — using probiotic cleaning to support healthier surfaces and targeted disinfection only where it matters most.

You’ll discover:

- How probiotic cleaning + targeted disinfection work together for better overall facility health
- How probiotics break down organic soil, eliminate odors at the source, and support a healthier surface biome between cleanings
- The rule that drives results: clean first, disinfect second — getting coverage + dwell time right
- Where to focus: high-touch, high-risk points — and why over-disinfecting backfires (residue, surface damage, more rework)
- Process upgrades that reduce waste: less re-cleaning, fewer restorative procedures, lower chemical use, and real labor + cost savings

A quick note on my background: I've spent years delivering hands-on end-user training in schools, commercial and healthcare environments, including running EVS training through COVID at Maine Health

Speakers: Madison Coolbroth — PRG

Madison Coolbroth is a Product Specialist and Subject Matter Expert at Genesan, specializing in cleaning, infection prevention, product training, and program implementation. With hands-on experience in environmental services, she helps customers identify practical solutions that improve safety, efficiency, and cleaning outcomes.

Robotics in Education

Gold Coast III | 9:30–11:30 AM

Class Information: Join Maria Cayado of Tennant Company and Michael McClary of CenoBots for an engaging workshop exploring the rapidly evolving role of autonomous cleaning equipment in K-12 public school facilities. As school districts continue to navigate labor shortages, budget constraints, and increasing demands on facility staff, autonomous technologies are becoming an important tool for maintaining clean, healthy learning environments. This vendor-neutral session will provide a broad overview of the autonomous cleaning industry, including the key technologies that power today's equipment, common features and capabilities, implementation considerations, safety systems, and methods for evaluating different solutions available in the marketplace. Attendees will gain practical insights into how school districts across the country are utilizing autonomous equipment to improve operational efficiency, enhance consistency, and maximize the effectiveness of limited resources. The workshop will conclude with live hands-on demonstrations, giving participants the opportunity to experience autonomous cleaning technology in action and better understand its potential applications within their own facilities.

Speakers: Maria Cayado — Tennant Company & Michael McClary — CenoBots

Michael McClary has served in the Jan San industry for over 25 years, first as an employee of a family-owned contract cleaning company. Then, over the next 20+ years Michael worked for two chemical manufacturers, holding a variety of positions from Direct Sales to Executive Management. For the past 3 years, Michael has worked for Petrone Associates, a Manufacturer Rep Group based in Florida. Through this relationship, he has continued to add more manufacturer support to his knowledge base.

As a Manufacturer's Representative he spent years training employees on proper cleaning techniques, safety, and floorcare troubleshooting from the Westcoast and Canada to Florida. He has continued training people in a variety of business models, but most of the training is centered around Schools and Universities.

The majority of his career has been spent in sales management and direct sales, both of which require working within the budgetary constraints of a variety of customer bases. Michael brings a practical, hands-on approach to training and informing personnel on proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures, and in recent years, how to fully embrace the rapidly growing autonomous market.

Total Cost of Ownership and Lifecycle Cost Assessments — What Are They and How to Leverage Them with Your District

Gold Coast III | 1:00–2:00 PM

Class Information:

Learning Objectives:

Learn the HISTORY of TCO and its impact on Capital Asset Protection.

Review of TCO COMPONENTS of flooring

Analyze the most COMMONLY USED flooring

Understand how to IMPLEMENT the TCO principles into standard practices

Speaker: John Sumlin — Tarkett

As Vice President, Education and Government for Tarkett North America (NA), **John Sumlin** has 37 years of experience in cultivating research, strategic markets, thought leadership, and national trade association relationships (board seats, committee work and leadership). John's involvement in education includes | K12 facility design for Indoor Environment Quality (IEQ). He has been a regular presenter for EPA Tools for Schools Shields Network (Live and Webinar).

John is also an active board/committee member with the Association for Learning Environments (A4LE), A4LE SchoolsNEXT student program, University of Tulsa Indoor Air Program, The Collaborative for High-Performance Schools (CHPS) Board Executive Committee Secretary, and APPA/ANSI committee on Total "1 Cost of Ownership standards development. John graduated with a BS from the University of Georgia in 1985.

Flooring Maintenance Opportunities to Save Time and Money — Low Moisture Processes

Gold Coast III | 2:00–3:00 PM

Class Information: This presentation explores low-moisture floor maintenance processes as an opportunity to reduce labor, downtime, water usage, and overall maintenance costs. It will examine how low-moisture methods can improve productivity by allowing flooring to return to service faster while reducing the disruption associated with traditional restorative cleaning. Attendees will learn how selecting the right processes, equipment, chemistry, and maintenance

frequency can extend flooring life, improve appearance, and deliver measurable time and cost savings.

Speaker: Andy Bayler — Tarkett

Andy Bayler has spent more than 20 years in the flooring industry figuring out why floors look great, why they sometimes look terrible, and what we can do about it. An IICRC Certified Master Textile Cleaner, Andy has owned a floor-care business, worked in sales and distribution, managed commercial floor-care programs, and trained countless professionals on the fine art of keeping floors clean without accidentally making things worse. He brings a practical, no-nonsense approach to floor care, a healthy skepticism of the phrase “we’ve always done it this way,” and the firm belief that better maintenance should save time, save money, and make everyone’s job a little easier.

Understanding the Difference in Custodial Care and *Ongoing Protective Care* for Floors

Gold Coast III | 3:00–4:00 PM

Class Information: This presentation explains the key differences between custodial care—routine daily cleaning designed to maintain cleanliness and appearance—and protective care, which uses both ongoing interim and periodic restorative procedures to address soil and wear that routine cleaning cannot correct. It will identify when each level of care is appropriate and how proper chemistry, equipment, procedures, and frequency affect floor appearance and performance. Attendees will learn how combining effective custodial and interim maintenance can extend flooring life, improve appearance, and reduce the need for costly restorative cleaning or premature replacement.

Speaker: Andy Bayler — Tarkett

See 2:00 PM session bio above.

GOLD COAST IV

Your Voice: Communication That Moves People

Gold Coast IV | 8:30–9:30 AM

Class Information: "Your Voice: Communication That Moves People" explores how intentional speaking, emotional intelligence, and compelling storytelling can transform everyday interactions into moments of impact. Participants learn how to express ideas with clarity, confidence, and purpose so their words resonate, motivate, and drive action.

Speaker: Jason Soler — Lawton Brothers

Jason Soler is a veteran facilities management and custodial operations leader with more than 30 years of experience, including a decade as the owner of a facility cleaning company. He has led custodial, grounds, and project teams at major institutions such as St. Petersburg College, the University of Central Florida, and Valencia College. Jason also partners with school districts to strengthen custodial processes that improve safety and cleanliness. With a deep portfolio of industry certifications—from OSHA and ISSA to IICRC and FSPMA—he is recognized for his technical expertise, hands-on leadership, and commitment to elevating standards across the cleaning and maintenance industry.

Communication Styles in Leadership

Gold Coast IV | 9:30–10:30 AM

Class Information: "Communication Styles in Leadership" explores how effective leaders adjust their message, tone, and approach to match the needs of their people and the demands of the moment. The session highlights key styles — directive, coaching, collaborative, and visionary — and shows how choosing the right style strengthens trust, improves alignment, and drives performance.

Speaker: Jason Soler — Lawton Brothers

See 8:30 AM session bio above.

Leader or Follower: Where Do You Stand?

Gold Coast IV | 10:30–11:30 AM

Class Information: "Leader or Follower: Where Do You Stand?" challenges participants to explore their instinctive behaviors in group settings. The session highlights the strengths of both leadership and followership, shows how each contributes to team success, and helps individuals understand when to step forward, when to support, and how to grow in both roles.

Speaker: Jason Soler — Lawton Brothers

See 8:30 AM session bio above.

Rubber Floor Maintenance

Gold Coast IV | 1:00–2:00 PM

Class Information:

- Daily maintenance- Dust mop, etc.

- Weekly maintenance- wet mop, auto scrubber, gum removal etc.
- Annual Renew-Abrade and recoat
- Questions and discussion

Speaker: Jeff Rex — Bona

Jeff Rex has been in the janitorial business for 37 years. He has worked at the distributor level for 14 of those and with 23 different manufacturers. The last 10 he has been with Bona working on the gym floor side of Bona's business that would include both wood and rubber floors.

Round Table Discussion

Gold Coast IV | 2:00-3:00 PM

Class Information: Focus will be on unique issues in Custodial Responsibilities.

- Are you looking for solutions?
- Share tips and ideas on how you are being more efficient.
- Are there specific pieces of equipment that help you be more efficient?
- Suggestions on what classes you would like to see for next year's conference.

Doug Abbott & Eric Henik—Moderators

Improving Indoor Air Quality for Students and Staff

Gold Coast IV | 3:00–4:00 PM

Class Information: After this session, participants will be able to:

- Explain the major factors influencing indoor air quality (IAQ) in K-12 schools
- Identify common sources of indoor air contaminants, including VOCs
- Describe how cleaning chemistry influences IAQ
- Compare strategies that support healthier indoor environments
- Identify practical IAQ improvements that can be implemented in school facilities

Speaker: Marty Paris — Annihilare

Marty Paris is the Founder and CEO of Annihilare Medical Systems, Inc. He has a proven executive management track-record with over 29 years of experience driving vision, strategy, and development in the technology and biotech sectors. He is a serial entrepreneur having founded 5 start-ups including Annihilare in 2014, where he created Annihilare Hospital Infection Prevention System (HIPS®). Marty is an inventor and holds 7 patents, with 3 pending, all related to Hypochlorous production and usage. He is a member of Annihilare's executive team, and Board of Directors. Marty holds a Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University and studied Sound Design and Engineering at New York University postgraduate.

SEMINOLE D

State Requirements for Educational Facilities (SREF) Day 2

Seminole D | 8:30–11:30 AM & 1:00–4:00 PM

Class Information: Continuation of the 4-day SREF course.

Speakers: Violet Brown & Courtney Carlos — Florida Department of Education

See September 28 bios for speaker information.

SEMINOLE E

Maintaining Compliance-SREF Chapter 5

Seminole E | 8:30–11:30 AM & 1:00–4:00 PM

Class Information: The course provides an in-depth review of the requirements for maintaining existing Florida educational facilities. The course includes instruction on maintaining existing facilities as described in Chapter Five of the State Requirements for Educational Facilities (SREF manual) established in rule 6A-2.0010, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

Speakers: Don Whitehead and Martha Chauncey — Florida Department of Education

Don Whitehead: University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, Master of Architecture 1987 and B.A. 1985 TEACHING EXPERIENCE: Advanced State Requirements for Educational Facilities 2017, Maintaining Compliant Educational Facilities, SREF Chapter 5 Fire Safety in Educational Facilities, State Fire Marshal Rule 69A-58, What's New in the Florida Building Code, and SREF The Florida Green School Network How to Complete OEF Form 208A.

Martha Chauncey: Martha Chauncey has spent the last 26 years in Educational Facilities with 25 years of those being at Leon County Schools. She was a member of the Leon County Planning Commission and reviewed developments for school concurrency. While at Leon County Schools, she assisted DOE with testing software and providing input from a district point of view. In 2023 she started working at the Department of Education. Her goal is to assist other districts with the requirements of DOE and provide support to districts as needed. She has experience with EFIS, Educational Plant Surveys, PPLs, 5 Year Work Plans, DVE 768 forms, Project Tracking Forms, Special Facilities, SREF and reviewing construction plans for SREF Chapter 6 compliance. In her free time, she enjoys nature photography and crafting with her niece.

SPACE COAST I

Working with the Entitled... Or Are We?!

Space Coast I | 8:30–9:30 AM

Class Information: The generational makeup of our workplace has certainly changed over the past few years. Layer on a dose of pandemic and political unrest and we have found ourselves in uncertain waters. We will discuss some of the biases that we bring to work and life, dispel some of the misconceptions of our "Entitled" coworkers and customers, and provide some strategies to view things from a different perspective. We can agree that we are all working to provide safe and healthy learning environments — it is just that sometimes we let life, our generational bias, and personalities cloud our judgment and focus.

Speaker: Ken Wertz — NSPMA

Ken Wertz is the Executive Director of the National School Plant Management Association (NSPMA), a national nonprofit association dedicated to advancing the professionalism, education, and advocacy of public-school facilities leaders across the United States. Before taking on this national role, he served for eight years as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Facilities Administrators Association (MFAA), where he built strong partnerships and elevated statewide support for school facility professionals.

Justifying Your Capital Plan with AI

Space Coast I | 9:30–10:30 AM

Class Information: This session gives facilities and maintenance professionals a practical, ground-level introduction to artificial intelligence — what it is, how it works, and where it's already delivering real value in their day-to-day operations and long-term planning.

Speaker: Ryan Schwartz — OperationsHERO

Ryan Schwartz has spent more than 15 years working exclusively with educational institutions, delivering operations management solutions to schools and campuses nationwide. Throughout that time, Ryan has worked across every corner of the education space: public K-12 districts, private K-12 schools, and higher education institutions.

He has seen firsthand how different the challenges can be depending on whom he's serving — and that perspective shapes every conversation he has with a client. Ryan has built lasting relationships with clients across the country and beyond, and he takes real pride in the trust they place in him to deliver measurable results.

Introduction to Backflows — Day 1 (8-Hour Course)

Space Coast I | 10:30–11:30 AM & 1:00–4:00 PM

Class Information: Introduction to Backflow: 8-hour course that is Day 1 of the Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification course. If attendees wish to complete the tester certification, please note they will need to register and pay for the full 5-day course, but only need to attend Days 2–5.

Speaker: Rob Wolf — UF–TREEO Center

Robbie Wolf is the Program Manager for the Backflow Prevention Program at the University of Florida TREEO Center. He brings extensive industry experience as a state-licensed plumbing contractor since 2005, with professional licensure dating back to the late 1980s, progressing from Journeyman to master's level certification. Prior to joining the University of Florida, Robb taught plumbing and backflow prevention courses to technical school students, instructing both day programs and apprentice training programs. His specialization in backflow prevention spans over three decades, beginning with his initial certification in 1989. Robb's expertise combines hands-on industry experience with educational leadership, making him a recognized authority in backflow prevention training and water system protection.

SPACE COAST II

Emergency Work Eligibility – FL -608(f)

Space Coast II | 8:30–11:30 AM & 1:00–2:00 PM

Class Information: This course provides an in-depth exploration of Public Assistance (PA) eligibility costs, with a specific focus on Category A-B work. It integrates the F-ROC approach to enhance understanding and implementation. Designed for local officials and staff managing FEMA's public Assistance Grants Program, the course equips participants with essential knowledge and strategies to navigate PA eligibility determinations effectively.

Speaker: Collin Kenline & Rick Rogers — Florida Division of Emergency Management

Collin Kenline is a Public Assistant (PA) Grant Management Team Lead with the Florida Division of Emergency Management and has been with FDEM since 2022. He has deployed for multiple events in Florida as well as through EMAC in FEMA Regions 6, 8, and 9. He works on the FEMA PA Program dealing with post-obligation activities. Collin has a bachelor's degree and is a Florida Certified Contract Manager.

Rick Rogers Florida was born and raised in Pinellas County until moving to Crystal River (Citrus County). Been with FDEM since August of 2025 performing Region 6 Recovery Coordinator duties. Previously worked and retired (32 years) with Florida Power/Duke Energy with 32 years

of service starting in the Line Department and completing time at the Crystal River Energy Complex as an Emergency Response Coordinator which covered 5100 acres consisting of 4 fossil fuel power plants, a nuclear power plant, 2 combined cycle power plants (Natural Gas) along with coal barge/train operations. After retirement from Duke Energy, I accepted a position with Levy County Fire Rescue which ended with them being recruited into an Emergency Management position. In my off-duty hours, I enjoy spending time with family which may include hunting, fishing, camping, beaching, and anything on, in or under water.

What is FSPMA?

Space Coast II | 2:00-4:00 PM

Class Information: FSPMA Board Members will discuss what we do and why we need more members on the Board. Find out what you can do to help the Florida school systems thrive.

SPACE COAST III

E-Bike Safety

Space Coast III | 8:30–9:30 AM

Class Information: A round-table discussion to discuss the proliferation of e-bikes being used by students traveling to/from school. Topics to be covered are safety on school campuses, new e-bike legislation, and how to minimize risk on school campuses. All participants can benefit by bringing your existing policy information to share, to try to work on common ground to reduce injuries to riders and pedestrians and to minimize liability.

Speaker: Mark Cocco — Martin County School District

See September 28, Space Coast III, Playground Safety bio for speaker information.

Concession Stands and Share Tables

Space Coast III | 9:30–10:30 AM

Class Information: Avoiding food waste by offering students, who want additional portions, food items that are discarded by the initial students receiving it, at no cost. Minimize risk of: – Transmitting disease – Injury of students, employees, and visitors • Ensure good sanitary health and safety practices – School construction – Operation – Maintenance

Speaker: Rachael Casas — Florida Department of Health

Rachael Casas is an Environmental Specialist III and Food Hygiene Coordinator with the Florida Department of Health in Orange County. I have a bachelor's degree in public health from the

University of South Florida and over four years of experience in public health and environmental health.

Her primary areas of expertise include food hygiene inspections, group care facility inspections, and swimming pool inspections. In my role, I work to protect public health by identifying potential health hazards, ensuring compliance with state regulations, and helping businesses and facilities understand and meet those requirements. I'm passionate about environmental public health because I get to combine public health knowledge with hands-on fieldwork and make a direct impact on the health and safety of the community.

Developing Safety Leadership Skills

Space Coast III | 10:30–11:30 AM & 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Class Information: As a supervisor, you play a critical role in ensuring the safety and well-being of your team. However, leading by example and influencing your team's safety behaviors can be a daily challenge. This interactive course is designed to equip you with techniques to communicate expectations and accountability to your employees as well as coach for improvement and use recognition programs successfully.

Speaker: Cindy Mercado — UF–TREEO Center

Cindy Mercado is a Certified Safety Professional (CSP), a Certified Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (CMIOSH), and an OSHA-certified trainer for general industry, construction, and disaster worker safety. She has over 20 years of experience in occupational safety across diverse sectors, including food and manufacturing, hospitality, healthcare, aviation, and pharmaceutical chemical analysis. At the University of Florida, Cindy played a pivotal role in transforming Environmental Health and Safety programs for clinics, laboratories, chemical safety operations, and risk management initiatives. She volunteered as a Safety Official with the Puerto Rico Emergency Management Team, coordinating disaster response and community-driven preparedness efforts, and supported the American Red Cross in strengthening emergency preparedness and response in local communities. Cindy holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a master's in environmental health.