PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS & EDUCATION POLICY

WASHINGTON POLICY SEMINAR

April 13 - 16, 2016
The Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP) is a program of the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL). EPFP’s mission is to develop a diverse and collaborative community of strategic leaders for effective public policy.

The 10-month program provides a forum in which participants can learn to work more effectively in the education policy environment, develop and refine their leadership capacity, improve their on-the-job performance, and enhance their careers. At a time when there are so many different viewpoints about what it takes to educate our children, experiences like EPFP are more important than ever.

The connection between education and poverty, the role of charter schools and choice, and how to prepare youth for college and careers are subjects of much debate. EPFP enables Fellows to broaden their understanding of education issues through cross-sector and cross-boundary learning. The knowledge and understanding of leadership and policy, and the networks developed during the EPFP experience provide a foundation upon which Fellows help strengthen the education community and build their careers. EPFP transforms, empowers, and inspires.


For over 50 years, the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) has championed the need for leaders at all levels to shake off their institutional constraints and work across boundaries to address the needs of young people and their families. Bound by no constituency, IEL serves as a catalyst that helps policymakers, administrators, and practitioners at all levels to bridge bureaucratic silos and undo gridlock to improve outcomes for all young people and their families.

The work of IEL focuses on three pillars required for young people and their communities to succeed: 1) Involving the broader community with public education to support the learning and development of young people; 2) building more effective pathways into the workforce for all young people and supporting the transition to adulthood; and 3) preparing generations of leaders with the know-how to drive collaborative efforts at all levels.

About EPFP

**Vision**

A society that uses all of its resources effectively to provide an equal opportunity for all children and youth to learn, develop, and become contributing citizens of our democracy.

**Mission**

To equip leaders to better prepare children and youth for college, careers, and citizenship.
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Congratulations
Connecticut EPFP
Massachusetts EPFP
Minnesota EPFP
on a landmark 40th anniversary!

For the last 40 years, these three sites have provided a forum for exploring public policy and education issues, developing leadership skills, and building a stronger professional network for cross-boundary leaders.

2015-16 Connecticut EPFP Coordinator
Leslie Abbatiello

Former Connecticut EPFP Coordinators
Carole Aiken, Marjorie Anctil, Karen Blazey, Deborah Borton, Jacqueline Danzberger, Patrick Flynn, Hilary Freedman, Susie Hinton, Mark Linabury, Thomas Lovia Brown, Joanne Margiullari, Frank Meoli, David Parachini, Rosa Quezada, Carol Rocque, Louis Saloom

2015-16 Massachusetts EPFP Coordinators
Chad d’Entremont (EPFP 04-05)
Laura Dziorny (EPFP 12-13)

Former Massachusetts EPFP Coordinators
Earl Avery, Earle Batchelder, James Broschart, Joseph Clayton, Joseph Cronin, William Dandridge, Michael Dukakis, James Fraser, John Green, Angela Irving, John Portz, Dorothy Presser, Ursula Wagener

2015-16 Minnesota EPFP Coordinators
Dan Loritz (EPFP 79-80)
Heather Bandeen (EPFP 13-14)
Randy Johnson (EPFP 77-78)
Tim McDonald (EPFP 10-11)

Former Minnesota EPFP Coordinators
Dear EPFP Fellows,

Welcome to the 52nd Washington Policy Seminar (WPS)! WPS is the capstone event of the EPFP experience, a national conversation on salient issues that are informing and shaping education policy.

This year’s theme, *Presidential Politics and Education Policy*, is designed to help you understand the evolution of the role of the president and the federal government in education policy. You will go behind the scenes on key education policies, closely examine the implications of federal education policy decisions for your state, and get the inside scoop on the presidential candidates’ education platforms. It’s your front row seat to education policy inside the Beltway and on the campaign trail!

WPS is a unique opportunity to learn about policy and leadership and to network through EPFP’s three pillars:

**Policy:** The Evolution of the Presidential Role in Federal Education Policy; Congressional Simulation; The President & the 114th Congress: What Can and Should We Expect?

**Leadership:** The Samuel Halperin Lecture and Youth Public Service Award; Presidential Candidates’ Education Platforms

**Networking:** Welcome Reception; Hill Day visits and activities; National Forum on Education; role-based meaning-making sessions facilitated by EPFP alumni

When WPS concludes, we trust you will have a fuller understanding of macro contexts and historical trends in federal and state policy; additional tools to operate in a more informed and strategic way in your own organizations, communities, and states; and a supportive and enduring professional EPFP network. Follow us on social media and use the National EPFP website to connect with alumni who can enhance your work and your career. And, of course, let us know when your contact information changes.

This is an exciting year for EPFP. The 2015-16 cohort is the largest ever with 315 Fellows across 15 states and Washington, DC. We are delighted that Alabama, Louisiana, and North Carolina-West have joined the Program. And Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Minnesota deserve a special shout out—all three are celebrating the 40th anniversary of their sites with 1,482 alumni combined!

Welcome to Washington, DC, and we look forward to meeting each and every one of you.

Regards,

Martin J. Blank  
President, IEL

Helen Janc Malone  
National EPFP Director, IEL
On Wednesday morning, prior to the start of WPS, Fellows had the option to participate in a site visit to a local school, think tank, national membership organization, or federal agency. These site visits were designed in partnership with hosts from participating organizations and schools—many of whom are EPFP alumni—to provide Fellows with an opportunity to meet with leaders and experts in the education field.

**American Enterprise Institute**  
*Think tank*

Education is one of the most important public policy issues for governors, state legislatures, and mayors. Although the federal government invests less than 10 percent of its funding to schools, it remains a key stakeholder through the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture. To learn about the role a think tank plays in public policy—be it with researchers, lawmakers, or 2016 presidential candidates—the AEI Education Policy Studies team participated in a discussion with EPFP Fellows, covering early childhood education, quantitative data and decision-making, school choice, and higher education.

**Site Visit Host:** Gerard Robinson

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**Community College Preparatory Academy**  
*Adult education public charter school*

On their visit, Fellows saw how Community College Preparatory Academy uses blended learning to improve the educational status and thus improve the lives of their students. Educators combine traditional instruction with 21st century world we live in. The Academy aims to give students the tools to be productive citizens here and to help remove barriers to learning and success.

**Site Visit Host:** Alfons Prince *(EPFP 15-16)*

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**Council of Chief State School Officers, National Education Association, and National League of Cities**  
*National membership organizations*

Fellows had the opportunity to hear from three national education organizations: CCSSO, NEA, and NLC. Representatives from each organization gave a brief overview of their organization and their current policy priorities. The group then engaged in discussion, including a Q&A session with speakers.

**Site Visit Hosts:** Kirsten Carr *(EPFP 11-12)*, Segun Eubanks *(EPFP 01-02)*, and Bela Shah Spooner *(EPFP 99-00)*

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**Thurgood Marshall Academy**  
*Public charter school*

Fellows met with leaders at Thurgood Marshall Academy, a college preparatory public charter high school in Ward 8’s historic Anacostia neighborhood. The school upholds Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall’s legacy of equal opportunity through its commitment to providing an excellent education for all students. Opened in 2001, the Academy prepares students to succeed in college and instills in students an understanding of democracy and advocacy for themselves and others.

**Site Visit Hosts:** Giselle Pole, Stacey Stewart *(EPFP 14-15)*

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**U.S. Department of Education**  
*Federal agency*

While at the U.S. Department of Education, Fellows heard from leading experts at the Department, who spoke on various policy issues in the early learning, K-12, and higher education, and learned what the Department is doing to advance federal education initiatives.

**Site Visit Host:** Ariel Murphy
WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Martin J. Blank, President, Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL); Helen Janc Malone, National EPFP Director, IEL

THE EVOLUTION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ROLE IN FEDERAL EDUCATION POLICY

Explore the history of the federal government in education policy and the presidential role in shaping the national discourse, policy, and action on education since 1965. This session is designed to offer context to the WPS theme.

Panelists: Leslie Fenwick, Dean, Howard University School of Education; Michael Petrilli, President, The Thomas B. Fordham Institute; Pedro Rivera, Pennsylvania Secretary of Education; Roberto Rodríguez, Deputy Assistant to the President for Education, The White House; Moderator: John Merrow, former President, Learning Matters; former Education Correspondent, PBS NewsHour

Join the Discussion on Social Media!

#EPFPWPS @EPFP_IEL
INTRODUCTION TO THE SIMULATION

Find out what it’s like to be a member of the U.S. Congress in this fast-paced, performance-orientated simulation that immerses you in the real world of federal legislators. Working with your team, make tough choices and get instant feedback on how your decisions helped—or hurt—your chances for reelection.

Tyson Elbert (EPFP 07-08), Alabama and Mississippi EPFP Coordinator; Research Associate, John C. Stennis Institute of Government, Mississippi State University

CONGRESSIONAL SIMULATION

BLUE GROUP: Grand Ballroom I with Tyson Elbert (EPFP 07-08), Alabama and Mississippi EPFP Coordinator; Research Associate, John C. Stennis Institute of Government, Mississippi State University

RED GROUP: Grand Ballroom II with Helen Janc Malone, National EPFP Program Director, IEL

YELLOW GROUP: Roosevelt Room with LeeAnn Funderburg, Business Manager, John C. Stennis Institute of Government, Mississippi State University

WELCOME RECEPTION

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm – Colonnade

Join us for the WPS Welcome Reception!

This is a perfect opportunity to better acquaint yourself with other Fellows from around the country and start building new networks and connections!

And we have a challenge for you! Meet at least three people outside of your site cohort, including one in a similar role and one outside your sector, and enter a drawing to win a signed copy of American Gridlock, edited by Thursday plenary speaker James Thurber. The winner will be announced on Thursday morning.

Enjoy light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar in the company of new and old friends and colleagues!
**BOOK SIGNING**
8:00 am - 8:30 am – Grand Ballroom Pre-Function Area

**AMERICAN GRIDLOCK BOOK SIGNING BY JAMES THURBER**

*American Gridlock* is a volume of essays that brings together the country’s preeminent experts on the causes, characteristics, and consequences of partisan polarization in U.S. politics and government. Authors examine polarization with an array of current and historical data, including public opinion surveys, electoral and legislative and congressional data, experimental data, and content analyses of media outlets.

**MORNING PLENARY**
8:30 am - 10:30 am – Grand Ballroom

**THE PRESIDENT & THE 114TH CONGRESS: WHAT CAN & SHOULDN’T WE EXPECT?**

*James Thurber* is a Distinguished Professor of Government and Founder and Director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at American University. He is a longtime congressional and presidential studies scholar who will outline the historical and current dynamics between the executive and legislative branches, identify the big political issues and tensions influencing priorities in Congress, discuss the current national policymaking process and the implications of political gridlock, and close with what to expect from Congress as the U.S. elects a new president.

**POLICY, POLITICS & PROCEDURES INSIDE CONGRESS**

*Judy Schneider*, Senior Analyst for Congressional Research Service, will take you behind the scenes to learn about the realities of policy, politics, and procedures in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate. You will learn about the support provided by the Congressional Research Service, and you may never look at or think about senators and members of Congress the same way again.

**STATE SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**
10:30 am – 8:00 pm

Please confer with your state site coordinators about where to meet and the agenda for your site’s activities for this part of the WPS agenda.
Welcome: Martin J. Blank, President, IEL & Betsy Brand, Executive Director, American Youth Policy Forum

Lecture: Michele Cahill, Distinguished Fellow in Education and Youth Development, National Center for Civic Innovation

Youth Award Presentation: Martin J. Blank & Betsy Brand

The American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) and IEL are co-hosting the second annual Samuel Halperin Lecture and Youth Public Service Award. The lecture and youth award serve as an ongoing tribute to Samuel Halperin, who dedicated his career to advancing education, workforce, and youth policy to improve the life outcomes for vulnerable youth, as well as personally mentoring and supporting many youth and young adults in their careers in public service. Halperin was a former president of IEL and the founder of AYPF.

The winner of the Youth Public Service Award, who was selected through a juried essay contest, will be recognized for their exceptional spirit and commitment to public service despite facing considerable barriers and challenges and will receive a $1,000 cash award.

Global EPFP 2016-17
Education Policy in 21st Century India:
The Challenge of Managing Growth & Improving Quality

Global EPFP (GEPFP) is a unique experience combining online learning and an international field study open to EPFP alumni and other senior level leaders with an interest in global education policy.

The 2016-17 GEPFP Senior Fellows will travel to India for an 8-day field study to visit schools, develop relationships with educators, and meet with education policymakers. Monthly online seminars will focus on establishing the Indian context and exploring K-12 and higher education policy in India.

Program Design:
- Monthly two-hour online seminars from August through December 2016
- India field study, October 27-November 6, 2016

To learn more, please attend the Saturday morning concurrent session on the 2015-16 Global EPFP field study to Bhutan.

“There is no end to the adventures we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open.”
- Jawaharial Nehru
**Education Policy & Stakeholder Engagement**

*Kennedy Ballroom*

Organizations representing educators, government officials, and the business community represent some of the key stakeholder groups in education policy. How do these organizations support their constituents? What strategies do national stakeholder organizations use to engage their members in education policy? How do these diverse stakeholders and their constituencies collaborate and build consensus around a common agenda?

**Presenters:** Cindy Cisneros (EPFP 98-99), Committee for Economic Development; Segun Eubanks (EPFP 01-02), National Education Association; Sarah Silverman, National Governors Association Center for Best Practices;

**Moderator:** Ron Cowell, The Education Policy and Leadership Center

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**Federal Budget 101**

*Culpeper Room*

Education funding is only two percent of the federal budget, yet it has a big imprint on the states. Understand the federal budget process, the influence of presidential politics and lobbying groups on the federal budget, and the budgetary implications for education policy.

**Presenters:** Danica Petroshius, Penn Hill Group; Sarah Bryner, Center for Responsive Politics

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**Federal Policy Incentives for School-Community Partnerships**

*Imperial II*

What federal education policy incentives exist to promote school-community partnerships? How can schools leverage community-based partners to promote positive educational change? This session will address the role school-community partnerships play in education and provisions in the new Every Student Succeeds Act that incentivize such partnerships.

**Presenters:** Demaune Millard, Family League of Baltimore; Jalisa Whitley, United Way of the National Capital Area; Moderator: Mary Kingston Roche (EPFP 10-11), Institute for Educational Leadership

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**Policy & Politics of Standardized Assessments & the Opt-Out Movement**

*Roosevelt Room*

Look back and look forward on standardized assessments as vehicles for accountability in education policy. What have we learned since NCLB about standardized assessments? What has been the role of presidents in the standardized assessment movement as a vehicle for accountability? What is driving the opt-out-of-testing movement? What can we expect under the Every Student Succeeds Act pertaining to standardized assessments?

**Presenters:** Michael Casserly, Council of the Great City Schools; Monty Neill, National Center for Fair & Open Testing (FairTest); Moderator: Lisa Davis (EPFP 10-11), Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association

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**Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act**

*Longworth Room*

The Higher Education Act is the next significant education policy up for reauthorization. What issues will dominate the policy discussions? Hear about core debates on federal financial aid and affordability; institutional accountability, regulations, and accreditation; and K-16 system alignment to support widespread access and success in postsecondary education.

**Presenters:** Devon Brenner (EPFP 04-05), Mississippi State University & Office of U.S. Senator Thad Cochran; Jolanta Juszkiewicz, American Association of Community Colleges; Deborah Santiago, Excelencia in Education; Moderator: Chad d’Entremont (EPFP 04-05), Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy
LUNCH PANEL: PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES’ EDUCATION PLATFORMS

Panelists: Frederick Hess, Resident Scholar, Director of Education Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute; Carmel Martin, Executive Vice President for Policy, Center for American Progress; Moderator: Dana Rickman, Georgia EPFP Coordinator; Director, Policy and Research, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education

Hear from two leading conservative and progressive think tanks as they discuss the presidential candidates’ education platforms and emerging agendas, as well as understand what drives policy priorities on the campaign trail and how the public perceives education issues on the road to electing a new president. What can and should we expect in education from the next president?

THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT: A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

Panelists: Ary Amerikaner, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Initiatives and Policy, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education; Lindsay Fryer, Senior Education Policy Advisor, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Liz King, Senior Policy Analyst and Director of Education Policy, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and The Leadership Conference Education Fund; Moderator: Noelle Ellerson (EPFP 09-10), Associate Executive Director, Policy & Advocacy, AASA, the School Superintendents Association

What made 2015 a politically desirable time to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act? Hear from Capitol Hill staff, the U.S. Department of Education, and education interest groups on the behind-the-scenes and processes that helped to realize the Every Student Succeeds Act and what this process implies for future education reauthorizations.
RETHINKING ACCOUNTABILITY & EQUITY IN THE STATES

Facilitator: Phillip Hardwick, Strategic Planning Facilitator, Instructor of Management, Millsaps College

In this two-part interactive session, you will work in both state-based and cross-site teams, debating and making difficult education policy choices and considering their implications on your respective states. How does federal policy on accountability and the push for equity affect the states?

CAPITOL STEPS COMEDY REVUE

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm – Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center

Continue learning about policymakers’ differences of opinion through a political satire revue. The Capitol Steps are “the only group in Washington, DC, that attempts to be funnier than Congress.” Please bring your state-issued ID to enter this federal building.

NATIONAL FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE

OWNING OUR MOVEMENT, MAXIMIZING OUR IMPACT

June 20-22, 2016 in Pittsburgh, PA

Register at www.cvent.com/d/1fq7rl
40th Anniversary of IDEA: The Past, Present, and Future

Latrobe Room

Last fall marked the 40th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Take stock of IDEA’s history and present, its impact on children and youth with disabilities, and its future.

Presenters: Katy Beh Neas, Easter Seals; Moderator: Dana Fink, Institute for Educational Leadership

The Federal Role in Career & Technical Education & Youth Workforce Development

Dumbarton Suite

How does career and technical education support postsecondary readiness and success? What is the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and how does it support youth? How do we work across systems and sectors to support diverse workforce development pathways for all young people?

Presenters: Kisha Bird (EPFP 07-08), Center for Law and Social Policy; Brenda Dann-Messier, Institute for Public Research; Josephine Reed-Taylor, Technical College System of Georgia; Moderator: Taryn Mackenzie Williams (EPFP 06-07), Office of Disability Employment Policy, U.S. Department of Labor

Global EPFP: Education Policy at the 10,000-Foot Level

Culpeper Room

This session will engage participants in thinking about and discussing the challenges of education policymaking in two developing Asian countries: Bhutan and India. Senior Fellows from the 2015-16 Global EPFP cohort will share observations from their field study in Bhutan. We will conclude with an overview of K-12 and higher education policy challenges in India, the focus of the 2016-17 Global EPFP.

Presenters: Lisa Davis (EPFP 10-11), Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association; Tyson Elbert (EPFP 07-08), John C. Stennis Institute of Government, Mississippi State University; Moderators: Robert Monson (EPFP 88-89), Teachers College, Columbia University; Dan Schultz (EPFP 76-77), Michigan State University College of Education

Media Coverage of Education

Salgrave Suite

National media coverage of education remains fairly minimal. Education appears to be a sidelined issue on the campaign trail, and debates on education are often filled with misconceptions. How do the media cover education, and what drives education coverage? What can be done to attract more attention to education and build the public’s understanding of core issues?

Presenters: Alyson Klein, Education Week; Darrell West, The Brookings Institution; Moderator: Deborah Morin (EPFP 82-83), Center for Educational Leadership, Cleveland State University

Presidential Politics & the States

Kennedy Ballroom

The new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) devolves significant authority back to the states. Are the states ready? National and state experts discuss lessons learned from the standards and accountability movement, the amount of influence presidents have on state education policy, the roles non-governmental actors play in state education policy, and the cross-state concerns and opportunities as states turn their attention toward ESSA implementation.

Presenters: Kristen Amundson, National Association of State Boards of Education; Lee Posey, National Conference of State Legislatures; Moderator: Laura Dziorny (EPFP 12-13), Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy
Reflect on your aha moments and takeaways from WPS. What have you learned? What qualities and skills do you need to lead in the current policy environment? What implications are there for your role? What does all this mean to you as a leader?

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<td>Annelise Cohon (EPFP 10-11), Senior Program Coordinator, NEA Healthy Futures, National Education Association</td>
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<td>State-level leaders</td>
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<td>Dumbarton Suite</td>
<td>Higher education leaders</td>
<td>Helen Janc Malone, National EPFP Director, IEL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kennedy Ballroom</td>
<td>Nonprofit, professional association, philanthropic, and for-profit leaders</td>
<td>Shaina Cook (EPFP 12-13), National EPFP Program Coordinator, IEL</td>
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**Leadership Reflections**

Something I learned that SQUARES with my beliefs and my work...

A question going AROUND in my mind...

Three important POINTS to remember...

*Used with permission: Center for Evidence-Based Education, 609-952-2205*
PHILANTHROPIC INFLUENCE IN FEDERAL EDUCATION POLICY

Panelists: Raul Gonzalez, Senior Program Officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Terri Shuck, Executive Director, National Public Education Support Fund; Zakiya Smith, Strategy Director, Lumina Foundation; Moderator: Sarah Reckhow, Assistant Professor, Michigan State University

Philanthropic influence in education policy is increasing. How are philanthropies engaging in education policy and articulating their advocacy agendas? How do foundations intersect with presidential politics and federal education policy? How might their approach change with the new administration?

Concluding Remarks: Helen Jane Malone, National EPFP Director, IEL

A WORD OF THANKS

Beyond the National EPFP staff, there were many people involved in helping design, prepare for, and staff the 2016 Washington Policy Seminar. IEL would like to thank the following staff members, interns, and volunteers for their dedication, hard work, and support:

Kat Alegria, Martin J. Blank, Eric Cline, Carly Fahey, Jason Farr, Dana Fink, Eileen Fox, Sarah Grunberger, Betty Hale, Reuben Jacobson, Mindy Larson, Jenn Masutani, Sarah McCann, Kathryn Nichols, Curtis Richards, Mary Kingston Roche, Kwesi Rollins, Mallika Samtani, Jenny Stonemeier, Jennifer Thomas, Mike Usdan, Frances Vhay, Ebony Watson, and Brett Weber.

Finally, special thanks to our EPFP site coordinators and partner organizations!

Thank You!!!
Fellows had the option of registering for a Saturday afternoon tour of a D.C. memorial honoring a leader from U.S. history. IEL selected three memorials that speak to presidential politics and highlight examples of leadership and policy. EPFP alumni in the Washington, DC, area volunteered as tour guides at each memorial to offer historical context of the memorial through an EPFP lens and to lead a conversation among the Fellows.

**Kennedy Center**
Fellows will learn about John F. Kennedy’s political savvy, his inspirational leadership style, and his drive for civil rights and innovation at the performing arts center built on the Potomac River as a living memorial to his legacy.

**EPFP Alumna Tour Guides:** Peggy Siegel (EPFP 81-82), Debra Wiley (EPFP 84-85)

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**Lincoln Memorial**
Overlook the National Mall while learning about Abraham Lincoln’s strong leadership skills and ability to bring together political opponents as he led a divided nation through its most challenging period.

**EPFP Alumni Tour Guides:** Roger Sharpe (EPFP 78-79), Michelle Austin (EPFP 02-03)

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**Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial**
Visit one of the newest memorials in DC and learn about Dr. King’s inclusive leadership style; unwavering commitment to equality, justice, and civil rights; and how he faced adversity and challenges.

**EPFP Alumna Tour Guide:** Wanda Monthey (EPFP 95-96)
2015-16 FELLOWS, ALUMNI & COORDINATORS

ALABAMA

Keith Brown
Interim President
Jefferson State Community College

Leslie Cummings
Dean of Instruction
Bevill State Community College

Kelley Jones
Adult Education Director
Wallace State Community College-Hanceville

Jonathan Koh
Director of Grants
Shelton State Community College

Katherine Plog Martinez
Director of Extended Learning & Community Schools
Denver Public Schools

Ian Mulligan
Assistant Principal
Rangeview High School

Matthew Sweeney
Consultant Support, Office of Adult Education Initiatives
Colorado Department of Education

Madeleine Webster
Research Analyst
National Conference of State Legislatures

COLORADO

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DC Prep Public Charter Schools

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Associate
Collaborative Communications Group

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Researcher
American Institutes for Research
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sean Duling</th>
<th>Donique Reid</th>
<th>Shayna Gaspard</th>
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<tr>
<td>Analyst</td>
<td>Policy &amp; Research Associate</td>
<td>Nonprofit Consultant</td>
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<td>Director of Strategic Communications</td>
<td>Coordinating Supervisor</td>
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<td>Julia Fox</td>
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<td>Director of Instruction</td>
<td>Senior Associate</td>
<td>Director, Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network</td>
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<td>Christina Marino</td>
<td>Tim Cairl</td>
<td>Akia Lewis</td>
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<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Director, Education Policy</td>
<td>Project Manager, Get Georgia Reading Campaign</td>
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<td>Cristen Moore</td>
<td>Michael Carnathan</td>
<td>Claire Miller</td>
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<td>Associate</td>
<td>Senior Principal Planner</td>
<td>Chief Academic Officer</td>
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<td>Niranjan Murali</td>
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<td>Kristina Morris</td>
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<td>Director, Frontiers of Innovation</td>
<td>Program Officer, Community Partnerships</td>
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<td>Alfons Prince</td>
<td>Elizabeth Davis</td>
<td>Sherilyn Narker</td>
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<td>Math Instructor</td>
<td>Manager of Education Services</td>
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<td>Community College Preparatory Academy</td>
<td>Woodruff Arts Center</td>
<td>Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta</td>
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<td>Asenith Dixon</td>
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Principal
Bedford Central School District

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Math/Technology Department Chair
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Joseph Keenan
Principal
Carmel Central School District
Participating in this session were:

**North Carolina—Central**

- Juli Mulcahy, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Floral Park-Bellerose Union Free School District
- Haley Nelson, M.S. Student, Teachers College, Columbia University
- Miriam Nightengale, Principal, Columbia Secondary School
- Denniston M. Reid, Jr., Chief Academic Officer & Superintendent, Beginning with Children Foundation
- Monique Reilly, Ed.D., Teacher, Adjunct Professor, White Plains Public Schools
- Rachel Relkin, Vice President, Board of Education, City School District of New Rochelle
- Phillip A. Smith, Doctoral Candidate, Education Leadership Ph.D. Program, Teachers College, Columbia University
- David Sottile, Middle School Principal, Irvington Union Free School District
- Victoria Tipp, Vice President, Board of Education, Chappaqua Central School District
- TinaMarie Williams, Ed.M. Candidate, Teachers College, Columbia University
- Scott Wynne, Middle School Principal, Eastchester Union Free School District

- Nancy Barbour, Director, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Bethany Bonnemere, Assistant Principal, Granville County Schools
- Sonja Brown, Professional Development Coordinator, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Courtney Currin, Principal, Granville County Schools
- Rebecca Hite, Graduate Research Assistant, North Carolina State University
- Steve Lassiter, 2015-16 North Carolina Principal of the Year, Pactolus School, Pitt County Schools
- Yanisha Mann, Director, Home Base, Edgecombe County Schools
- Mia Murphy, Director, Outreach & Support, North Carolina Virtual Public School
- Doug Price, Teacher, Voyager Academy Middle School
- Darlene Ryan, Principal, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools

- Avril Smart, Research Scholar, Friday Institute for Educational Innovation, North Carolina State University
- Curtis Sonneman, Education Testing/Accountability Consultant, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Jennifer Stephens, Coordinator of Residential College Development, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- Allison Stewart, Teacher, Centennial Campus Magnet Middle School
- Alyson Stoffer, Manager of Development & Communications, Public School Forum of North Carolina
- Donna Thomas, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Hoke County Schools
- Angela VanGorder, Research Associate, North Carolina State University
- Korah Wiley, Instructor of Biology, North Carolina School of Science & Math
- Cheryl Wilson, District Leadership Coach, Craven County Schools

**North Carolina—West**

- Sarah Cardwell, Instructional Technology Facilitator, Green Valley School

- Nancy Barbour, Director, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Bethany Bonnemere, Assistant Principal, Granville County Schools
- Sonja Brown, Professional Development Coordinator, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Courtney Currin, Principal, Granville County Schools
- Rebecca Hite, Graduate Research Assistant, North Carolina State University
- Steve Lassiter, 2015-16 North Carolina Principal of the Year, Pactolus School, Pitt County Schools
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- Sarah Cardwell, Instructional Technology Facilitator, Green Valley School
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Carpenter</td>
<td>Assistant Director, Center for Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>Appalachian State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renee Collins</td>
<td>Director of Secondary Education</td>
<td>Rutherford County Schools</td>
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<td>Spencer Cranfill</td>
<td>Advocacy Coordinator</td>
<td>Asheville City Schools Foundation</td>
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<td>Kim Davis</td>
<td>Director, Career, Technical &amp; STEM Education</td>
<td>Avery County Schools</td>
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<td>Chena Flood</td>
<td>Director, Office of Field Experiences</td>
<td>Western Carolina University</td>
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<td>Grace Fortune</td>
<td>GEAR UP Coordinator</td>
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<td>Jody Freeman</td>
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<td>Wilkes County Schools</td>
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<td>Elle King</td>
<td>GEAR UP Coordinator</td>
<td>Graham County Schools</td>
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<td>April Marr</td>
<td>Director of Student Services</td>
<td>Wilkes County Schools</td>
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<td>Andrea Martinez</td>
<td>GEAR UP Coordinator</td>
<td>University of North Carolina at Asheville</td>
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<td>Brandy Mills</td>
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<td>Burke County Public Schools</td>
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<td>Kristen Robinson</td>
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<td>Erica Sawyer</td>
<td>Math Teacher</td>
<td>Robbinsville High School</td>
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<td>Corinne Smith</td>
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<td>Appalachian State University</td>
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<td>David Sutton</td>
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<td>Mandy Taylor</td>
<td>Professional Development Consultant</td>
<td>North Carolina Department of Public Instruction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keana Triplett</td>
<td>2015-16 North Carolina Teacher of the Year</td>
<td>Ashe County High School</td>
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<td>Laura Turner</td>
<td>GEAR UP Coordinator</td>
<td>Watauga County Schools</td>
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<td>Erika Tyner</td>
<td>6th Grade Language Arts Teacher</td>
<td>East Yancey Middle School</td>
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<td>Shari Williamson</td>
<td>Assistant Director of Program Implementation</td>
<td>Appalachian State University</td>
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<td>Mandie Zarbano</td>
<td>GEAR UP Coordinator</td>
<td>Burke County Public Schools</td>
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<td>Scott DeTray</td>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools</td>
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<td>Felecia Evans</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Lander Elementary School</td>
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<td>Robert Gress</td>
<td>Assistant Superintendent</td>
<td>Alliance City Schools</td>
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<td>Andrew Hill</td>
<td>Superintendent</td>
<td>Wadsworth City Schools</td>
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<td>Jeff Johnston</td>
<td>Director of Student Services</td>
<td>Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District</td>
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<td>Karlton Laster</td>
<td>Special Assistant, Regional Collaboration</td>
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<td>Michele Pomerantz</td>
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<td>Julie Ramos</td>
<td>Director, Strategic Innovation</td>
<td>Wickliffe City Schools</td>
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<td>Charles Sauter</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Orange City School District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Voight</td>
<td>Assistant Professor &amp; Associate Director, Center for Urban Education</td>
<td>Cleveland State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cindy Allen</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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**Ohio**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Destino</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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SOUTH CAROLINA

Jennifer Ainsworth
2015 South Carolina Teacher of the Year
Socastee High School

Rita Allison
Chair, South Carolina House Education Committee
South Carolina House of Representatives

Rhonda Caldwell
Coordinator
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce

Lisa L. Corning
Education and Disabilities Coordinator
Richland County First Steps Early Head Start

Penny Delaney Cothran
Multimedia Manager and Editor
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce

Baron R. Davis Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Schools
Richland School District Two

Don D. Doggett
Senior TA Consultant
American Institutes for Research

Shawn P. Hagerty
Director of Specialized Programs
Sumter School District

Robin Hardy
Principal
Fairfield Middle School

Traci M. Hogan
Executive Director of Federal Programs
Horry County School District

Col. (R) Jamie Houston, DMD
Colonel
Ft. Jackson Dental Activity

Suzanne Koty
2016 South Carolina Teacher of the Year
Sumter High School

Angela Leon
Account Manager, Public Sector
Hewlett Packard

Kathy Maness
Executive Director
Palmetto State Teachers Association

Christina S. Melton
Chief Instructional Officer
School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties

Joel Mitchell
Principal
Williston-Elko High School

Ryan Pool
Principal
Lexington Middle School

Thomas Rhodes
President
Rhodes Graduation Services

Charles Saylors
School Board Trustee
Greenville County Schools

Gregg Scott
Principal
Woodmont Middle School

Kimberly Wiley
School Liaison
U.S. Marine Corps Community Services

Margaret Peach Wilson
Principal
McCracken Middle School

Lauren Bock (EPFP 13-14)
Senior Policy Analyst
Public School Forum of North Carolina

Emily Freel (EPFP 12-13)
Assistant Director, Professional Development & School Improvement
Area Cooperative Educational Services (CT)

Barbara Markle (EPFP 93-94)
Assistant Dean, K-12 Outreach
Michigan State University

Elizabeth Soggs (EPFP 14-15)
Director of Technology
Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District (MI)

Deanna Townsend-Smith (EPFP 14-15)
Lead Education Consultant, Office of Charter Schools
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
EPFP Coordinators

Alabama
Steve Katsinas
Director, Education Policy Center
University of Alabama
Tyson Elbert (EPFP 07-08)
Research Associate, Stennis Institute of Government
Mississippi State University

Colorado
Peter Huidekoper
CO EPFP Coordinator
University of Colorado at Denver

Connecticut
Leslie Abbatiello
Director, Professional Development & School Improvement Unit
Area Cooperative Educational Services

District of Columbia
Monique Felder (EPFP 07-08)
Executive Director, Office of the Deputy Superintendent for Teaching & Learning
Prince George’s County Public Schools
Dahlia Shaewitz (EPFP 09-10)
Managing Researcher
American Institutes for Research
Amy Yamashiro (EPFP 09-10)
Education Research Scientist, National Center for Education Statistics
U.S. Department of Education

Georgia
Dana Rickman
Director, Policy and Research
Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education

Louisiana
Deirdre Johnson Burel
Executive Director
Orleans Public Education Network
Zakenya Perry Neely (EPFP 15-16)
Deputy Director of Programs & Administration
Orleans Public Education Network

Massachusetts
Chad d’Entremont (EPFP 04-05)
Executive Director
Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy
Laura Dziorny (EPFP 12-13)
Chief of Staff
Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy

Michigan
Dan Schultz (EPFP 76-77)
Senior Program & Policy Advisor, Office of K-12 Outreach
Michigan State University
Brian Boggs (EPFP 12-13)
Academic Outreach Specialist, Office of K-12 Outreach
Michigan State University

Minnesota
Dan Loritz (EPFP 79-80)
Senior Fellow & President
Center for Policy Design
Heather Bandeen (EPFP 13-14)
Assistant Professor
Hamline University

Mississippi
Tyson Elbert (EPFP 07-08)
Research Associate, Stennis Institute of Government
Mississippi State University

Missouri
Robert Bartman
Missouri EPFP Coordinator
Local Investment Commission

New York
Robert Monson (EPFP 88-89)
Adjunct Associate Professor
Teachers College, Columbia University
Lisa Davis (EPFP 10-11)
Executive Director
Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association

North Carolina—Central
Joe Ableidinger (EPFP 14-15)
Senior Director of Policy & Programs
Public School Forum of North Carolina

North Carolina—West
Jennifer Wilson-Kearse (EPFP 10-11)
Executive Director, NC Appalachian Collaborative for Higher Education
Appalachian State University
Ohio
Deborah Morin (EPFP 82-83)
Director, Center for Educational Leadership
Cleveland State University
Michelle Connavino (EPFP 13-14)
Liaison
Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County

Pennsylvania
Ron Cowell
President
Education Policy & Leadership Center
Mattie Robinson (EPFP 10-11)
Manager, Operations & Communications
Education Policy & Leadership Center

South Carolina
Bruce Moseley (EPFP 05-06)
Director, Office of School Leadership
South Carolina Department of Education

Tom Hudson (EPFP 11-12)
Executive Director
South Carolina School Improvement Council
Sally Barefoot (EPFP 03-04)
Education Associate, Office of School Leadership
South Carolina Department of Education

The Appalachian Higher Education Network works to increase postsecondary education attainment in Appalachia. Learn more at www.ahecenters.org.

Tyson Elbert (EPFP 07-08) (MS)
Research Associate, Stennis Institute of Government
Mississippi State University

Betty Hale (EPFP 73-74) (IEL)
Senior Fellow
Institute for Educational Leadership
Angela Kirtdoll (EPFP 09-10) (OH)
EOC Coordinator
Eastern Gateway Community College

Pennsylvania
Terry Lashley (TN)
Executive Director
SouthEast Educational, Inc.

Sarita Rhonemus (WV)
Director, Multi-Locations & RBA Degree Program
Bluefield State College

Tracey Tardiff (NC)
Pre-Enrollment Program Coordinator, College Access Partnerships
Appalachian State University

Diane Vaughn (TN)
Education Specialist, TuACHESouthEast Educational, Inc.

Keith Walker (KY)
Kentucky AHED Director
Morehead State University

Sarah Widincamp (GA)
Director, Complete High School North Georgia
University of North Georgia

Jennifer Wilson-Kearse (EPFP 10-11) (NC)
Executive Director, NC Appalachian Collaborative for Higher Education
Appalachian State University
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Email us your news and announcements at epfp@iel.org

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Follow us on Twitter to keep up with the latest education news and EPFP events.

Join the EPFP LinkedIn group to connect with other Fellows and alumni.

facebook.com/IELEPFP

@epfp_iel

linkedin.com
# Agenda At-A-Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Opening Plenary: The Evolution of the Presidential Role in Federal Education Policy (p.5) – Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>5:45 pm</td>
<td>Congressional Simulation (p. 6)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Welcome Reception (p. 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Colonnade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Pre-Function Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>American Gridlock Book Signing (p. 7)</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom Pre-Function Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Morning Plenary: The President &amp; the 114th Congress: What Can &amp; Should We Expect? (p. 7) – Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Morning Plenary: Policy, Politics &amp; Procedures Inside Congress (p. 7)</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>State Site-Specific Activities (p. 7)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 am</td>
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<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom Pre-Function Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>10:15 am</td>
<td>Samuel Halperin Lecture &amp; Youth Public Service Award (p. 8)</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>11:45 am</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions (p. 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>1:15 pm</td>
<td>Lunch Plenary Panel: Presidential Candidates’ Education Platforms (p. 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 pm</td>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Plenary: The Every Student Succeeds Act: A Look Behind the Scenes (p. 10) – Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>National Forum on Education: Rethinking Accountability &amp; Equity in the States (p. 11) – Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>9:30 pm</td>
<td>The Capitol Steps Comedy Revue (p. 11)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ronald Reagan Building &amp; International Trade Center</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SATURDAY</strong></td>
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<td>7:30 am</td>
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<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom Pre-Function Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15 am</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions II (p. 12)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Making Meaning in One’s Leadership Role (p. 13)</td>
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<td>10:45 am</td>
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<td>Closing Plenary: Philanthropic Influence in Federal Education Policy (p. 14)</td>
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