



2006

NATIONAL  
FORUM ON  
EDUCATION  
POLICY

MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
JULY 11-14

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THE 2006 NATIONAL FORUM  
ON EDUCATION POLICY  
PRESENTED BY THE  
EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES



*Presiding*

*The Honorable Mike Huckabee*

*Governor of Arkansas*

*and 2004-06 ECS Chairman*

## *Dear Friend of Education:*

Over the past four decades, The National Forum on Education Policy has served to both symbolize and sustain states' commitment to working together to improve educational achievement and opportunity for Americans of all ages and backgrounds.

As political and education leaders from across the nation gather in Minneapolis this week for the 2006 National Forum, they will have the chance to compare notes, to reflect on what they've learned, and talk about what they've accomplished and are still striving to accomplish. They will have the opportunity to find out more about promising new policy options and reform strategies in increasingly critical areas: early childhood care and education, teacher supply and demand, math and science achievement, and the accessibility and affordability of postsecondary education and training.

In addition to five plenary sessions, an outstanding array of small-group discussions and concurrent sessions will provide an opportunity to delve into issues ranging from charter schools to the nuts-and-bolts of school finance; from the role and value of the arts in education to strategies for improving the educational achievement of Native American, Alaskan and Hawaiian students.

I look forward to meeting and working with you this week in Minneapolis for what promises to be an enlightening and energizing experience for everyone working to bring about change and improvement in our nation's education system.



*Piedad F. Robertson*  
*President, Education Commission of the States*





# ABOUT ECS

The Education Commission of the States (ECS) is a nonprofit, nationwide interstate compact created in 1965 to improve education by facilitating the exchange of information, ideas, experiences and innovations among state policymakers and education leaders.

Forty-nine states, three territories and the District of Columbia constitute the commission's current membership. Seven commissioners represent each member state and territory. These commissioners include governors, state legislators, state and local school board members, chief state school officers,

state higher education executive officers, college presidents, superintendents, teachers, business leaders and others.

As a nonpartisan organization involving key leaders from all levels of the education system, ECS creates unique opportunities to serve state policymakers and education leaders. Some of the ways are through policy research and analysis; state, regional and national policy conferences; customized technical assistance; publications; networks and partnerships; and the ECS Clearinghouse.

## 2006 NATIONAL FORUM COMMITTEE

SPECIAL THANKS AND RECOGNITION GO TO THE FOLLOWING ECS COMMISSIONERS, WHO TOOK ON THE ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SERVE ON THIS COMMITTEE, FOR PLANNING THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL FORUM:

### CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

**Jewel Scott**

executive director

*Civic Council of Greater Kansas City*

### COMMITTEE

**Michael Billirakis**

member

*Executive Committee, National Education Association*

**Richard Rhoda**

executive director

*Tennessee Higher Education Commission*

**Roderick Chu**

chancellor

*Ohio Board of Regents*

**Hon. Norman Sakamoto**

chairman

*Senate Education and Military Affairs Committee, Hawaii*

**Terri Hardy**

governor's education liaison

*State of Arkansas*

**Hon. Jess Stairs**

chairman

*House Education Committee, Pennsylvania*

**Caroline Novak**

president

*A+ Education Foundation*

**Anthony Williams**

mayor

*District of Columbia*

# SESSION SCHEDULE

	Plenary or Commissioners' Sessions	Accountability	Arts Education	Early Learning/ Kindergarten	Finance	High School
<b>WEDNESDAY, JULY 12</b>						
8:15 – 9:45 A.M.	<b>Session 320</b> <i>Opening Plenary and Award Presentation</i> What Will American Education Look Like in 2015?					
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.				<b>Session 330</b> Accountability for Pre-K Programs: Building Models to Support Investments		<b>Session 332</b> What States Are Doing – and Not Doing But Should Be Doing – in High School Reform
12:15 – 1:30 P.M.	<b>Session 341</b> <i>Plenary Luncheon and Award Presentation</i> Education Technology: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow					
2:00 – 3:30 P.M.				<b>Session 348</b> The Economic Case for Investing in Early Childhood Education: Implications for Policy		<b>Session 349</b> Life After High School for Students with Significant Disabilities
4:00 – 5:00 P.M.		<b>Roundtable 18</b> Aligning Accreditation, Accountability and Improvement Initiatives: Partnership Opportunities Between SEAs and K-12 Accrediting Commissions	<b>Roundtable 14</b> Policies and Assessments in Arts and Citizenship Education	<b>Roundtable 10</b> Full-Day Kindergarten: What's Happening Now? <b>Roundtable 21</b> Universal Pre-K: The Illinois Experience	<b>Roundtable 1</b> Finance 101: The Basics of School Finance <b>Roundtable 2</b> Higher Education Vouchers <b>Roundtable 15</b> College Financial Aid in a Time of Reduced State Support and Rising Tuitions	<b>Roundtable 12</b> Trends and Emerging Issues in High School Policymaking <b>Roundtable 22</b> State Scholars Initiative <b>Roundtable 20</b> Engaging All Students in the Life and Work of High Schools: Data from the 2006 High School Survey of Student Engagement (HSSSE)
5:30 – 6:30 P.M.	<i>Reception</i>					
<b>THURSDAY, JULY 13</b>						
8:00 – 9:30 A.M.	<b>Session 410</b> <i>Chairman's Breakfast and Award Presentation</i> A Conversation with Governors about the Challenges of Education Reform					
9:45 – 11:45 A.M.		<b>Session 420</b> Creating Longitudinal Data Systems to Improve Policymaking and Student Achievement				<b>Session 416</b> Easing the Transition from High School to Community College
12:00 – 1:30 P.M.	<b>Session 425</b> <i>Plenary Luncheon</i> National Curriculum: The Elephant in the Room					
1:45 – 3:45 P.M.		<b>Session 431</b> The State and District Role in Turning around Low-Performing Schools	<b>Session 432</b> Report and Recommendations of the Governor's Commission on the Arts in Education: A Call to Action		<b>Session 430</b> State School Funding: What is Adequate?	
4:00 – 5:00 P.M.	<i>ECS Commissioners' Business Session</i>					
6:00 – 7:00 P.M.	<i>Reception</i>					
7:00 – 8:45 P.M.	<i>James Bryant Conant Award Banquet Dinner</i>					

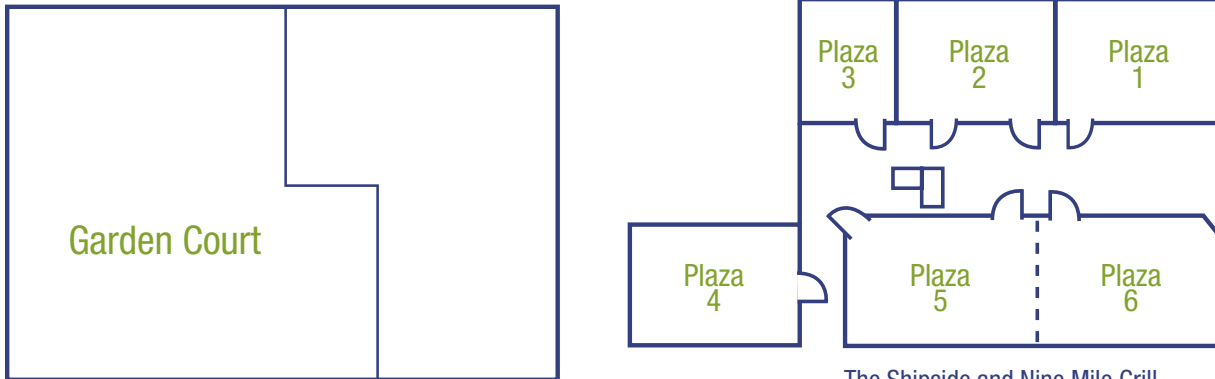
# SESSION SCHEDULE

Leadership	No Child Left Behind	Postsecondary	Science and Mathematics	Student Achievement	Teaching Quality	Technology
<b>WEDNESDAY, JULY 12</b>						
	<b>Session 331</b> Best Practices in School Improvement and Resource Allocation		<b>Session 335</b> Improving Math and Science Education: What State Policies Make a Difference?	<b>Session 334</b> Ensuring Healthy Learners		
						<b>Session 341</b> Plenary Luncheon Education Technology: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
<b>Session 350</b> Tackling Critical Education Leadership Challenges: Authority, Preparation and Conditions of Practice		<b>Session 345</b> Minority Students and College Success: Is Higher Education Up to the Challenge?			<b>Session 347</b> The New Age of Compensating Teachers	
<b>Roundtable 11</b> Testing the MetLife Leadership Toolkit: How Can You Increase the Capacity of District Leadership?	<b>Roundtable 9</b> Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization	<b>Roundtable 5</b> Latino Student College Choices <b>Roundtable 15</b> College Financial Aid in a Time of Reduced State Support and Rising Tuitions <b>Roundtable 19</b> Maximizing Cost Savings and Efficiency in Higher Education		<b>Roundtable 4</b> Value-Added Analysis 101 <b>Roundtable 8</b> The Data Quality Campaign	<b>Roundtable 16</b> The Cost of Teacher Turnover: Results from a Study by the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future (NCTAF) <b>Roundtable 23</b> Targeting Teacher Attrition in Large Urban Settings: Lessons Learned from NYC	<b>Roundtable 7</b> Educational Technology
<b>THURSDAY, JULY 13</b>						
		<b>Session 419</b> Higher Education, Workforce Development and Global Competitiveness: What's the Relationship?		<b>Session 418</b> Educating Native American, Alaskan and Hawaiian Students <b>Session 420</b> Creating Longitudinal Data Systems To Improve Policymaking and Student Achievement	<b>Session 417</b> Are We Using Value-added Assessment to its Greatest Potential?	
<b>Session 433</b> Developing Principals: Different Types of Principals for Different Types of Schools	<b>Session 431</b> The State and District Role in Turning Around Low-Performing Schools	<b>Session 434</b> Adult Education: The Other Education Challenge			<b>Session 435</b> Teacher Education and Community Colleges: A Revolutionary Innovation	

## HOTEL INFORMATION AND MAPS

hotel maps & information

### First Floor

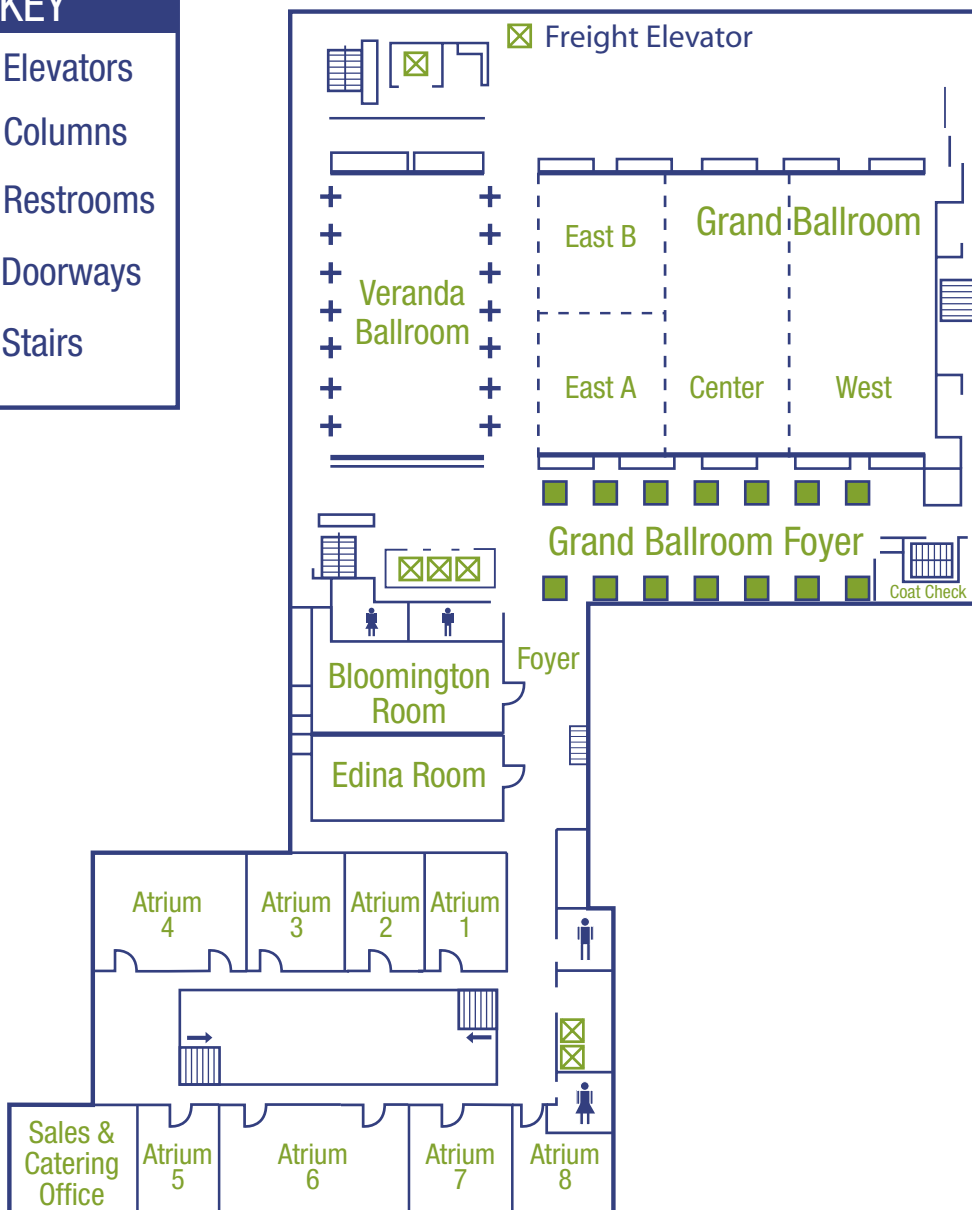


The Shippside and Nine Mile Grill are located on the first floor.

### MAP KEY

-  Elevators
-  Columns
-  Restrooms
-  Doorways
-  Stairs

### Second Floor





## GENERAL INFORMATION

### SHERATON BLOOMINGTON HOTEL

7800 Normandale Blvd.  
 Minneapolis, MN 55439  
 (952) 835-7800 (direct to hotel)  
 (952) 893-8419 (fax)  
 866-837-4278 (toll free reservation number)  
 Check in – 3:00 p.m. Check out – 12:00 p.m.

### MEETING EVENTS

All National Forum sessions and events will take place at the Bloomington Sheraton Hotel unless otherwise noted in this program. For assistance during the meeting, please stop by the ECS Registration Desk located in the Grand Ballroom Foyer.

### REGISTRATION DESK HOURS:

<b>Tuesday, July 11</b>	10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, July 12</b>	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<b>Thursday, July 13</b>	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<b>Friday, July 14</b>	7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### ECS MEDIA OFFICE AND PRESS ROOM

Location: The media office is located in the Atrium 3 room on the 2nd floor

<b>Tuesday, July 11</b>	10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, July 12</b>	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<b>Thursday, July 13</b>	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### ECS PRODUCTS/WEB SITE

Please stop by the ECS Exhibit Booth in the Exhibit Hall (Veranda Ballroom, 2nd Floor) to see copies of our publications.

### CYBER CAFÉ

Be sure to visit the Cyber Cafe located in the Bloomington Room, 2nd Floor, to see what's new on ECS' Web site. Computers are provided for your use by Data Recognition Corporation.

<b>Tuesday, July 11</b>	10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, July 12</b>	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<b>Thursday, July 13</b>	7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.



### BADGES

Your name badge is required for admission to all sessions, meal functions and social events.

### MEAL TICKETS

Meal Tickets will be collected at all meal functions. There will be no admittance to any meal function without a ticket. You may purchase additional meal tickets for guests at the ECS Registration Desk. No refunds will be issued on unused meal tickets.

**Please note:** You will find your meal tickets in the plastic pocket behind your name badge.

### SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

If you indicated on your registration form any special dietary needs such as vegetarian, diabetic, etc., you will receive a colored card in your registration materials. Please place this card on your plate at each meal to alert the wait staff to your special needs. They will do their best to accommodate you.

### SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is not permitted at any ECS function. This includes all meeting rooms and outside event locations involving sessions, workshops, banquets, luncheons and receptions.

### PHOTOCOPYING/FAXING

Services are available through the hotel's business center located on the 2nd floor, across from the Edina meeting room. Business Center hours of operation are:

<b>Mon. – Fri.</b>	7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
<b>Sat. and Sun.</b>	7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### ELECTRONIC DEVICES/CELL PHONES

Before entering any session, please turn off or adjust to a quiet setting all noise-producing electronic equipment.

## THE 2006 NATIONAL FORUM ON EDUCATION POLICY

Presented by the Education Commission of the States

July 11-14, 2006

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Note: All sessions are on the 2nd floor unless otherwise noted.


pre-forum events/tuesday



**SUNDAY**  
**JULY 9, 2006**  
Pre-Forum Sessions


1:00-7:00 p.m. SHIPSIDE, 1ST FLOOR  
National Center for Learning and Citizenship (NCLC) Board Meeting (Invitation Only)

7:00-9:00 p.m. SHIPSIDE, 1ST FLOOR  
NCLC Board Dinner (Invitation Only)



**MONDAY**  
**JULY 10, 2006**  
Pre-Forum Sessions

1:00 - 5:30 p.m. EDINA ROOM  
Education Leadership Colloquium on the Civic Mission of American Education (Invitation Only)



**TUESDAY**  
**JULY 11, 2006**  
Pre-Forum Sessions

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. GRAND BALLROOM CENTER  
Education Leadership Colloquium on the Civic Mission of American Education (cont. from Monday) (Invitation Only)

10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. GRAND BALLROOM FOYER  
Registration Desk Open

10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. ATRIUM 3  
Media Office Open

10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. BLOOMINGTON ROOM  
Cyber Café Open – DRC

3:00-4:00 p.m. PLAZA 2, 1ST FLOOR  
ECS for Rookies (New ECS Commissioners and/or New Policymakers)

Learn how to optimize your experience with your Interstate Compact for Education. This session will help you understand your role in ECS, let you know what you can get from ECS, and introduce you to a new network of friends and colleagues. At this session, we'll also unveil the prototype for our new, highly interactive Web site.

5:30-7:00 p.m. VERANDA BALLROOM  
Welcome Reception for All Forum Attendees in Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by: PLATO Learning, Inc.

WELCOME REMARKS:  
PIEDAD F. ROBERTSON  
*ECS President; member, ECS Executive Committee*  
MIKE HUCKABEE  
*Governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees*

7:00-9:00 p.m. NINE MILE GRILL, 1ST FLOOR  
Executive Committee Dinner Meeting (Invitation only)



## WEDNESDAY JULY 12, 2006

7:00-8:15 a.m. VERANDA BALLROOM

Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by: Discovery Education

7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. GRAND BALLROOM FOYER

Registration Desk Open

7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. ATRIUM 3

Media Office Open

7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. BLOOMINGTON ROOM

Cyber Café Open – DRC

8:15-9:45 a.m. GRAND BALLROOM,  
CENTER & WEST

Session # 320  
Opening Plenary Session

Sponsored by: The College Board

ECS President **Piedad F. Robertson** will welcome participants to Minnesota and the ECS National Forum on Education Policy.

*Presentation of the Frank Newman Student Leadership Award to Eric Ross, Houston Community College, Texas; and Kendell Newman, Williams College, Massachusetts*

### WELCOME REMARKS:

MIKE HUCKABEE

*Governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS*

*Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees*

*Presentation: What Will American Education Look Like in 2015?*

In the mid-1960s, Jonas Salk began to speak of a major discontinuity in the nation and in the world that he believed would occur over several decades spanning the turn of the 21st century. He envisioned a break with the past in almost every aspect of life. Since Salk's forecasting, we have witnessed a rapid democratization

of communication technologies, which has changed how we conduct conversations; the democratization of finance, which has changed how we bank and invest; and the democratization of information, which has changed how we learn and think about the world. There are signs all around us that the physical world and social order continue to be in an escalated state of change. But are we changing our conduct as it relates to education policy? How will we leverage our essential values for the individual and for democracy so U.S. citizens have a set of skills and the analytical ability to be successful in an ever-evolving world? This session will discuss how globalization and the changing nature of the nation's political, economic and social conditions are impacting education. The goal of the session is to foster thought and discussion of how education policymakers can lead through the change.

### GUEST SPEAKER:

KURT M. LANDGRAF

*President and CEO, Educational Testing Service*

9:45-10:00 a.m. GRAND BALLROOM  
CENTER & WEST FOYER

Coffee Break

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. VERANDA BALLROOM

Exhibit Hall Open

The Exhibit Hall at the ECS National Forum features exhibit booths showcasing the products and services of our Coporate Alliance for Education members and other generous sponsors. Please visit the Exhibit Hall during the Forum to see what's new in in education technology and instructional products.

WED 12

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ATRIUM 7

**Session # 330**  
**Accountability for Pre-K Programs:  
 Building Models to Support  
 Investments**

Over the past two years, states have increased funding for preschool by over half a billion dollars. In 2006, 12 governors endorsed the creation or expansion of pre-kindergarten programming. Now many states are faced with the dilemma of how to answer questions of accountability. This session will address the issue of linking outcome standards with assessment of program performance in implementing pre-K programming, and feature the work of the newly created National Early Childhood Accountability Task Force. The task force has been charged with the development of a set of recommendations for the creation of an accountability strategy to improve the quality, effectiveness and credibility of state-funded early education programs.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- VERONICA C. GARCIA (MODERATOR)  
*Secretary of education, New Mexico Public Education Department; ECS Commissioner*
- SHARON LYNN KAGAN  
*Associate dean for policy, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York*

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ATRIUM 6

**Session # 331**  
**Best Practices in School Improvement  
 and Resource Allocation**

What are high-performing districts doing to raise student achievement and how are resources efficiently allocated? Just for the Kids and Standard and Poor's have developed best-practice frameworks for school improvement and resource allocation, respectively. Join representatives from these two organizations as they share implications for state policy in supporting more districts to adopt these best practices.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- MARY S. HEATH (MODERATOR)  
*Deputy Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Education*
- JASON KINGSTON  
*Associate director, Standard & Poor's*
- JIMMY NEITZEL  
*Project director, National Center for Educational Accountability*

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. EDINA ROOM

**Session # 332**  
**What States Are Doing – and Not  
 Doing But Should Be Doing – in High  
 School Reform**

High school reform has become a critical issue in the wake of reports citing U.S. secondary students' shortcomings in international comparisons, and data from every corner of the nation illustrating American high school graduates' ill-preparedness for postsecondary study and the workforce. To address this need for reform, states have enacted many types of policies. What are these policies and how can they serve as models for other states challenged by high school reform?

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- DAVID P. SOKOLA (MODERATOR)  
*Chairman, Senate Education Committee, Delaware; ECS Vice Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Executive and Steering Committees*
- MICHAEL COHEN  
*President, Achieve, Inc.*
- TIM PAWLENTY  
*Governor, Minnesota*
- STEFANIE SANFORD  
*Senior policy officer for education, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ATRIUM 1

**Session # 333**  
**Putting the Pieces Back Together:  
 Disaster Preparedness and Response**

Events over the past year illustrate the vulnerability of our society to natural and terrorist disasters. This workshop focuses on the role of state policymakers and education leaders to adequately prepare and respond to disasters. Participants will examine recent events and corresponding policies, practices and infrastructure to ensure schools are prepared for and able to effectively respond to disasters. Panelists share their experiences and insights into why and how to create systems that engage all stakeholders in preparation and response.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- HANK M. BOUNDS  
*Superintendent of education, Mississippi Department of Education; ECS Commissioner*
- JIM KIELSMEIER  
*CEO, National Youth Leadership Council*

WED 12

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

ATRIUM 8

### Session # 334 Ensuring Healthy Learners

Minority populations within states and nationwide are disproportionately affected by disease and other health conditions caused, in part, by socioeconomic status and lack of access to quality health care. The recent volume of legislation related to student health and nutrition demonstrates that state policymakers recognize the importance of health in student achievement – but schools alone cannot address major health care issues. This session will address options policymakers should consider to resolve health disparities and to address frightening increases in obesity and the onset of Type II diabetes in children.

#### PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

MARY JO HOWLAND (MODERATOR)

*Deputy director, policy and research, Tennessee State Board of Education*

JANE L. HOLL

*Assistant professor of pediatrics, Institute for Healthcare Studies and Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago*

JESS STAIRS

*Chairman, House Education Committee, Pennsylvania House of Representatives; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Executive, National Forum and Steering Committees*

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

ATRIUM 4

### Session # 335 Improving Math and Science Education: What State Policies Make a Difference?

With the new national imperative to improve math and science education – as well as reports linking students' skills in these areas to America's economic, technological and scientific global edge – how should states respond? Come to this session to learn how the federal government will be supporting state action, and what leading states are doing to both increase the number of students learning science and math and improve student achievement.

#### PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

RICHARD G. RHODA (MODERATOR)

*Executive director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and National Forum Committees*

ROBIN GELINAS

*Manager IV, Texas Education Agency*

CHARLES R. HOKANSON JR.

*Deputy assistant secretary for policy and strategic initiatives, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education*

Alice Seagren

*Commissioner of education, Minnesota; ECS Commissioner*

12:00-12:15 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM  
CENTER & WEST FOYER

### Coffee Break

12:15-1:30 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM,  
CENTER & WEST

### Session # 341 Plenary Luncheon

Sponsored by: National Evaluation Systems, Inc.

*Presiding: Mike Huckabee, governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees*

*Presentation of the ECS Corporate Award to the Public Broadcasting System (PBS). Accepting: Peter Frid, CEO and general manager, New Hampshire Public Television; and Mary Kadera, managing director, K-12 Education, PBS*

*Presentation: Education Technology – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*

More and more, America's ability to maintain its edge in a dynamic global economy hinges on the quality, efficiency and versatility of its education system. Enhancing and optimizing the operation, relevance and effectiveness of that system are common goals. But the application of modern education technology, methods and tools are falling far short of their promise in achieving those goals. This session will discuss how technology can and will reshape the landscape of public education and how we can realize its increasingly evident potential as an engine of change and improvement. What are the critical issues that policymakers, educators and others must address to ensure technology is purposefully and productively deployed and used to enrich the teaching and learning processes, and to broaden educational opportunity and access?

#### GUEST SPEAKER:

RICHARD J.H. VARN

*President, RJV Consulting*

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM  
CENTER & WEST FOYER

### Coffee Break

Wednesday

WED 12

2:00-3:30 p.m.

ATRIUM 8

**Session # 345**  
**Minority Students and College Success: Is Higher Education Up to the Challenge?**

Demographic shifts have made it clear that higher education must grapple with how well institutions enroll and graduate minority students. While it is agreed that better preparation of students in K-12 education and student financial aid go a long way to improving college success rates, there is also some debate that the social challenges faced by minority students once they get to college can ultimately prevent attainment of degrees. Efforts such as the Gates Millennium Scholars and other scholarship programs have provided opportunities for many high-ability minority students to pursue both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Just as important as the programs themselves are the data they provide about the challenges these students face once they get into college. This session will be an honest discussion of what colleges and universities must do to increase the college attainment rate for minority students.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- ANDY GOMEZ (MODERATOR)  
*Assistant provost, and senior fellow, Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, University of Miami, Florida*
- NORBERT S. HILL JR.,  
*Executive director, American Indian Graduate Center, New Mexico*
- SARITA E. BROWN  
*President, Excelencia in Education, Inc.*
- MARGARET DANIELS TYLER  
*Executive director, Bill & Melinda Gates Millennium Scholars Program*

2:00-3:30 p.m.

ATRIUM 6

**Session # 346**  
**A New Perspective on Charter Schools**

From the state that enacted the nation's first charter school law in 1991, a new model for charter schools is evolving. This session will look at charter schools as a strategy for innovation – opening public education to the creation of new schools that take a different approach to learning and depart from the conventional form of school organization. Be among the first to look at some of the inventive school models now appearing in Minnesota.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE (MODERATOR)  
*Senator, Nevada; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Finance Committees*
- TED KOLDERIE  
*Senior associate, Center for Policy Studies, Minnesota*
- ANDREA MARTIN  
*Advisor, Avalon School, Minnesota*

2:00-3:30 p.m.

ATRIUM 1

**Session # 347**  
**The New Age of Compensating Teachers**

Diversifying the way teachers are paid – and in particular, paying teachers on some measure of performance – is gaining popularity as a possible vehicle to improve the quality of teaching, increase accountability, increase student achievement, and attract and retain quality teachers to where they are needed most. While much of the innovation regarding teacher pay has been at the district level, policymakers are looking at their role in creating policy innovations at the state level. This session will include a description of the basic elements and research on diversified teacher compensation systems and examples from a district and state with experience designing and implementing this type of pay structure.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- CAROLINE NOVAK (MODERATOR)  
*President, A+ Education Foundation, Alabama; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and National Forum Committees*
- JEFF BUCK  
*ProComp liaison to human resources, Denver Public Schools, Colorado*
- ANTHONY MILANOWSKI  
*Senior researcher, Consortium for Policy Research, University of Wisconsin, Madison*
- ALICE SEAGREN  
*Commissioner of education, Minnesota; ECS Commissioner*

WED 12

2:00-3:30 p.m.

ATRIUM 4

**Session # 348**

**The Economic Case for Investing in Early Childhood Education: Implications for Policy**

Quality early childhood programs cost money. With the unprecedented expansion of pre-K programs across the states comes rising concerns about how best to provide support. Financing early care and education is a high priority in most states today. The presenters of this session will discuss the long-term economic benefits of early education, present the supporting evidence and discuss strategies for financing state-supported pre-kindergarten programs.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- DENNIS BAXLEY (MODERATOR)  
*Chairman, Education Council, Florida; ECS Commissioner*
- ROBERT H. DUGGER  
*Managing director, Tudor Investment Corporation*
- ART ROLNICK  
*Senior vice president and director of research, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*

2:00-3:30 p.m.

EDINA ROOM

**Session # 349**

**Life After High School for Students with Significant Disabilities**

States are beginning to deal with the growing number of students with disabilities who, 30 years ago, might have been institutionalized. Now such students are completing high school and even college. These students include those with disabilities such as autism, Asperger's syndrome or cerebral palsy. Participants will discuss how colleges and universities are adapting, issues surrounding whether there are jobs for these students, and what policymakers can do to ensure communities are ready for these students and students are ready to participate in their communities.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- JEWEL SCOTT (MODERATOR)  
*Executive director, Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, Missouri; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and National Forum Committees*
- DAVID R. JOHNSON  
*Director, Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota*

COLLEEN WIECK

*Executive director, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, Minnesota*

RACHEL WOBSCHALL

*Executive director, Alumni and Constituent Relations, University of St. Thomas, Minnesota*

2:00-3:30 p.m.

ATRIUM 7

**Session # 350**

**Tackling Critical Education Leadership Challenges: Authority, Preparation and Conditions of Practice**

This session will highlight what has been learned from the Wallace Foundation-funded ECS Leadership Issue Groups on topics such as the evaluation of principals, and the proper roles and authority of education leaders and their ability to control the flow of resources within districts and schools. The session will underscore the most challenging issues facing education leaders, such as how principals should be evaluated and compensated and whether they should have authority over school budgets. Session participants will debate the pros and cons of solutions presented.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- RICHARD NEWMAN (MODERATOR)  
*Education program officer, The Wallace Foundation*
- LOIS ADAMS-RODGERS  
*Deputy executive director, Council of Chief State School Officers*
- NORM FRUCHTER  
*Director, Community Involvement Program, New York University*
- CHERYL KING  
*Senior project director, Center for Leadership and Learning Communities, Education Development Center, Inc*

2:00-5:00 p.m.

VERANDA BALLROOM

**Exhibit Hall Open**

3:30-4:00 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM CENTER & WEST FOYER

**Coffee Break**

wednesday

**NOTE: All Roundtable Discussions will take place in the Garden Court on the 1st Floor, unless otherwise noted.**

**WED 12**

**4:00-5:00 p.m.**

**GARDEN COURT, FIRST FLOOR**

## **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS**

### **Roundtable 1: Finance 101: The Basics of School Finance**

From property taxes to state funding formulas, this roundtable will discuss the nuts and bolts of school finance and provide participants access to the experts. This session will be valuable to those new to state education finance and will provide a look at the latest issues and innovations in school funding.

#### **FACILITATOR:**

**JOHN L. MYERS**

*Partner, Augenblick, Palaich and Associates, Inc.*

### **Roundtable 2: Higher Education Vouchers**

How does giving tuition vouchers to students, instead of institutions, affect higher education in the states? Does this method ensure money is going where it will be used most effectively? What do states hope to accomplish?

### **Roundtable 3: Powerful Partnerships for Closing Achievement Gaps**

At the core of the current movement to close achievement gaps for minority students and low-income students is the explicit understanding that parents, students, educators and policymakers must be engaged in the work of increasing student success from pre-K through postsecondary education. One difficult challenge is to get all the stakeholders at the table to collaborate on solutions. Come learn about one of the nation's longest running partnerships dedicated to the academic achievement of minority students and low-income students and discuss the challenges and solutions to developing sound policy and programs for these students populations.

#### **FACILITATORS:**

**JENNIFER GODINEZ**

*Associate director, Minnesota Minority Education Partnership, Inc.*

**CARLOS MARIANI-ROSA**

*Representative, House of Representatives, Minnesota; executive director, Minnesota Minority Education Partnership, Inc.*

### **Roundtable 4: Value-Added Analysis 101**

Battelle for Kids, a nonprofit organization committed to enhancing student learning by bringing clarity to school improvement, will share information about a 105-district, value-added initiative in Ohio, known as Project SOAR (Schools' Online Assessment Reports). SOAR is based on the value-added methodology of William Sanders and is one of the largest value-added initiatives in the United States. Battelle for Kids will provide a conceptual understanding of the methodology, share Ohio's implementation story and address how value-added information connects with school improvement efforts.

#### **FACILITATOR:**

**JIM MAHONEY**

*Executive director, Battelle for Kids*

### **Roundtable 5: Latino Student College Choices**

Increasing Latino student success in higher education is critical to sustaining the U.S. talent base for a strong society and a thriving economy. To help address this need, Excelencia in Education is systematically reviewing critical issues affecting higher education and will release *A Closer Look at Latino College Students' Choices* later this year. Funded by the Ford Foundation, this report will examine the patterns of admissions, financial aid and enrollment for selective Latino college students using both national quantitative data and qualitative data from focus groups and interviews with current Latino students and recent graduates. Please join us for a discussion of the preliminary findings that build on Excelencia's previously published works: *Latino Student Success at Hispanics Serving Institutions* (2002) and *How Latino Students Pay for College* (2006 in partnership with the Institute for Higher Education Policy). Roundtable participants will receive a pre-publication copy of the brief.

#### **FACILITATORS:**

**SARITA E. BROWN**

*President, Excelencia in Education*

**DEBORAH SANTIAGO**

*Vice president for Policy and Research, Excelencia in Education*



WED 12

4:00-5:00 p.m.

GARDEN COURT, FIRST FLOOR

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS (CONT.)****Roundtable 6: Involving Students in Policymaking**

School, district and state leaders realize the benefit of authentic, meaningful learning experiences for students of all ages. Districts and states across the country are engaging young people in policy decisions at the school, school board and state levels to both develop better policies and to provide students with experience participating in our democratic processes. Join this discussion around the benefits and challenges of involving students in policymaking.

**FACILITATOR:**

TIFFANI LENNON

*Assistant policy analyst, National Center on Service Learning and Citizenship, Education Commission of the States*

**Roundtable 7: Educational Technology**

Technology provides the means to bridge the divided structures of education, to use resources more efficiently and effectively, and to recognize and adapt more quickly to changing needs, trends and demands. It also provides the means not just to repackage current educational models in digital form, but to develop new and better models of teaching and learning; not just to deliver education at a distance, but to transform the process and experience of learning itself. This discussion will focus on the psychological, organizational, political and cultural barriers to employing new technologies.

**FACILITATOR:**

NANCY STURM

*Education technology advisor to the governor, West Virginia Office of Technology; ECS Commissioner*

**Roundtable 8: The Data Quality Campaign**

Come learn about the Data Quality Campaign and discuss how you can play a role in your state to build and use longitudinal data systems to improve student achievement. The DQC is a national, collaborative effort to encourage and support state policymakers to improve the collection, availability and use of high-quality education data; and implement state longitudinal data

systems to improve student achievement. The campaign provides tools and resources that states can use as they develop quality longitudinal data systems, and will serve as a national forum for reducing duplication of effort and promoting greater coordination and consensus among like-minded organizations.

**FACILITATOR:**

AIMEE R. GUIDERA

*Director, Data Quality Campaign, National Center for Educational Accountability*

**Roundtable 9: Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Reauthorization**

As Congress continues its work on renewing the No Child Left Behind Act, please join Mike Hudson, President and CEO of the National Center for Educational Accountability, for a discussion of the issues state and federal education officials and advocates hope to address during the reauthorization.

**FACILITATOR:**

MIKE HUDSON

*President and CEO, National Center for Educational Accountability, Texas*

**Roundtable 10: Full-Day Kindergarten – What’s Happening Now?**

One year after the release of the ECS report, *Full-day Kindergarten: A Study of State Policies in the United States*, many states and districts continue to grapple with the challenges of offering full-day kindergarten. Come hear the latest research on the impact of full-day kindergarten and its efficacy as a strategy to close the achievement gap, and learn about what states are doing to implement or expand full-day kindergarten programming.

**FACILITATORS:**

BECKY HILL

*Education policy advisor, Office of the Governor, Arizona*

MIMI HOWARD

*Early Learning program director, Education Commission of the States*

Wednesday

WED 12

4:00-5:00 p.m.

CYBER CAFÉ  
BLOOMINGTON ROOM

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS (CONT.)**  
**Roundtable 11: Testing the MetLife Leadership Toolkit: How Can You Increase the Capacity of District Leadership?**

This toolkit will provide the information policymakers need to increase leadership capacity in states and districts. Through a focus group of ECS constituents, this session will highlight what we have learned from four exemplary leadership case studies conducted this year.

**FACILITATORS:**

KATY ANTHES  
*Partner, The Third Mile Group*  
ARIKA LONG  
*Partner, The Third Mile Group*

4:00-5:00 p.m.

GARDEN COURT, FIRST FLOOR

**Roundtable 12: Trends and Emerging Issues in High School Policymaking**

Since early 2005 ECS has been researching state policies in numerous areas of high school reform, including: graduation requirements and their alignment with post-secondary entrance requirements, college-and work-ready standards, individual student graduation plans, P-16 councils, assessment, accountability, data systems and more. Come find out what trends are emerging in state policymaking in these and other areas, and learn about ECS' work in the field of high school reform.

**FACILITATOR:**

JENNIFER DOUNAY  
*Policy analyst, Education Commission of the States*

**Roundtable 13: Building Integrated Education-to-Workforce Systems**

Creating greater linkages between education policy and workforce development policy requires greater collaboration and communication among agencies and stakeholders who often do not engage one another in substantive policy development and program coordination. The Midwestern Higher Education Compact has begun a three-year strategy in each of its partner states to create roundtables of education, business, economic development and government leaders to explore how to create a more seamless

transition from education to the workforce for residents. The session will discuss the project and engage attendees on how to create stronger alignment between state education and workforce development efforts.

**FACILITATOR:**

CHRISTOPHER RASMUSSEN  
*Director of policy research, Midwestern Higher Education Compact*

**Roundtable 14: Policies and Assessments in Arts and Citizenship Education**

Can student competencies in the arts and citizenship education effectively be assessed? Join this discussion of assessment tools and methodologies in the arts and citizenship education, and the policy infrastructure and resources needed to support district or statewide assessment.

**FACILITATOR:**

SUSAN VERMEER LOPEZ  
*Arts in Education program director, Education Commission of the States*

**Roundtable 15: College Financial Aid in a Time of Reduced State Support and Rising Tuitions**

At a time of renewed urgency to increase access to and success in higher education, many states are faced with declining resources for higher education. Will limited public dollars be targeted at students who are the most economically disadvantaged at the expense of middle income families? Or will financial aid be a combination of need- and merit-based strategies that intend to serve those students who have the highest potential for success? The session will explore what the next generation of financial aid will need to look like to serve a changing student population.

**FACILITATOR:**

CHERYL BLANCO  
*Senior program director, policy analysis and research, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

wednesday

WED 12

4:00-5:00 p.m.

GARDEN COURT, FIRST FLOOR

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS (CONT.)****Roundtable 16: The Cost of Teacher Turnover: Results from a Study by the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future (NCTAF)**

Teacher turnover is receiving increased attention at the local, state and national levels with the result that policymakers are beginning to understand and act upon the need to retain high-quality teachers. With reliable data on costs and turnover at the district level, policymakers can identify problem areas, implement retention strategies and measure the effectiveness of these strategies. NCTAF has made significant progress helping five districts collect data on turnover and its costs, and believes that if school districts have the ability to track and control these costs, they would be able to recoup significant resources that could be redirected to quality teacher induction, retention and professional development strategies. This session will review the findings of this work.

**FACILITATOR:**

TOM CARROLL

*President, National Commission on Teaching and America's Future*

**Roundtable 17: Engaging Professional Schools in School Reform**

This roundtable introduces an innovative model that goes beyond P-16 to P-20 to engage professional schools in the work of school reform, particularly around issues of engagement, academic rigor and aspirations. It reviews a continuum of approaches with participants encouraged to share their work as well. Illustrations will be drawn from current work of the national consortium of law school teams and include the University of New Mexico medical and law schools' work with ENLACE grades 6-16, the University of the Pacific's law, education and liberal arts schools with a law-themed high school, and others.

**FACILITATOR:**

SARAH REDFIELD

*Professor, University of the Pacific and McGeorge School of Law; ECS Commissioner, Maine*

**Roundtable 18: Aligning Accreditation, Accountability and Improvement Initiatives: Partnership Opportunities Between SEAs and K-12 Accrediting Commissions**

Fiscal realities challenge state policymakers to leverage and align existing resources to meet/exceed NCLB and state accountability requirements. Toward that end, growing numbers of states are forging partnerships with the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). The two accrediting organizations have recently unified to provide accreditation and school improvement services to schools and districts across 30 states. This session will highlight how states are partnering with NCA CASI and SACS CASI to support, enhance and align accreditation, accountability and improvement initiatives to benefit districts, schools and ultimately students.

**FACILITATOR:**

PEGGY SIEGEL

*Director of strategic alliances, NCA CASI and SACS CASI*

**Roundtable 19: Maximizing Cost Savings and Efficiency in Higher Education**

In times of limited public resources for education, colleges and universities must find ways to stretch their dollars as far as they can. The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) has become a national leader in creating collective purchasing networks for telecom and computer technology, property and casualty insurance, and office products that have resulted in tremendous cost savings for participating institutions, school districts, and municipal governments. This roundtable will discuss the success of MHEC's cost savings initiatives and provide insights into how institutions can work together to create similar networks for themselves.

**FACILITATOR:**

ROB TREMBATH

*Director of cost savings initiatives and legal counsel, Midwestern Higher Education Compact*

Wednesday

WED 12

4:00-5:00 p.m.

GARDEN COURT, FIRST FLOOR

## Roundtable 20: Engaging All Students in the Life and Work of High Schools: Data from the 2006 High School Survey of Student Engagement (HSSSE)

Understanding the levels and dimensions of students' engagement in the life and work of a school is critical to improving learning, raising achievement, and creating a positive environment for effective teaching and learning. The HSSSE, administered by the Center for Evaluation & Education Policy at Indiana University, is a project designed to help high schools explore, understand and strengthen student engagement through research and professional development. In this roundtable session, we will examine the data from the 2006 survey to tackle central questions related to student engagement and school culture.

### FACILITATOR:

ETHAN YAZZIE-MINTZ

*Project director, High School Survey of Student Engagement, Center for Evaluation & Education Policy, Indiana University*

## Roundtable 21: Universal Pre-K: The Illinois Experience

More and more states are considering the benefits of pre-kindergarten for all children. Known as universal pre-K (UPK), this voluntary program has primarily been available to 4-year-olds. This year, with strong support from Governor Rod Blagoivich, Illinois passed landmark legislation making pre-K available to all 3- and 4-year-olds in the state. Please join two veterans of this effort to hear about the program's development and operation as well as the political process that helped make the program a reality

### FACILITATORS:

BRENDA HOLMES

*Member, Illinois State Board of Education; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering Committee*

KAY HENDERSON

*Division administrator of early childhood education, Illinois State Board of Education*

## Roundtable 22: State Scholars Initiative

Funded by the U. S. Department of Education and administered by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, the State Scholars Initiative (SSI) is a national program that works to motivate students to

complete a rigorous course of study in high school. The goal of State Scholars is to prepare students for success in postsecondary education or training as well as in their future careers.

### FACILITATOR:

TERESE RAINWATER

*Project director, State Scholars Initiative, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

## Roundtable 23: Targeting Teacher Attrition in Large Urban Settings: Lessons Learned from NYC

Teacher attrition has emerged as one of the most pervasive education challenges in our nation. The New Teacher Center at the University of California, Santa Cruz has developed an evidence-based, replicable induction program that addresses new teacher needs, improves teacher quality and stems teacher turnover. The Center has recently partnered with NYC public schools in one of the largest, most aggressive overhauls of new teacher support in the country. This session will discuss the lessons learned through this effort and will explore strategies that state policy makers and urban district leaders can take with them to use in their regions.

### FACILITATORS:

ELLEN MOIR

*Executive director, New Teacher Center, University of California, Santa Cruz*

DARA BARLIN

*Policy analyst, New Teacher Center, University of California, Santa Cruz*

## Roundtable 24: Making Schools Work

Middle schools have been called by some the "dumping ground" of public education. They represent a difficult level of education often characterized by ill-defined curriculums, inadequate resources and teachers inexperienced at coping with a hard-to-manage age group sandwiched between the enthusiasm of early elementary students and the greater maturity of high school students. Watch a segment of PBS' *Making Schools Work* about one solution to this dilemma, the *Knowledge is Power Program* (KIPP), and discuss charter schools as a disruptive innovation to public education.

5:30-6:30 p.m.

VERANDA BALLROOM

Reception in the Exhibit Hall

wednesday



**THURSDAY**  
**JULY 13, 2006**

7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. GRAND BALLROOM FOYER

Registration Desk Open

7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. ATRIUM 3

Media Office Open

7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. BLOOMINGTON ROOM

Cyber Café Open – DRC

8:00-9:30 a.m. GRAND BALLROOM CENTER & WEST

**Session # 410**  
**Chairman's Breakfast**

Sponsored by: ETS

*Presiding: Mike Huckabee*, governor, Arkansas, 2004-06  
ECS Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering  
and Executive Committees

*Presentation of Chairman's Award to Neil Portnow*,  
president, National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences

*Presentation: A Conversation with Governors about the  
Challenges of Education Reform*

Former ECS Chairman Roy Barnes will lead a discussion about the challenges governors face as they pursue education reform. Barnes is the co-chairman of a nonpartisan, independent commission examining the impact of the No Child Left Behind law. He will ask Governors Huckabee and Sebelius about the barriers to and benefits of the law and changes they deem necessary for the law to achieve its intended results. They will also discuss how governors balance state education needs with the other demanding public policy issues as they govern.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

ROY BARNES (MODERATOR)

*Former governor, Georgia*

MIKE HUCKABEE

*Governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS  
Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees*

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS

*Governor, Kansas; 2006-08 ECS Chair-elect; ECS Commissioner;  
member, ECS Executive and Steering Committees*

9:30-9:45 a.m.

GRAND BALLROOM  
CENTER & WEST FOYER

Coffee Break

9:45-11:30 a.m.

ATRIUM 7

**Session # 415**  
**Evolution, Intelligent Design and the  
First Amendment**

Efforts to include "intelligent design" in the public school curriculum have divided states and communities across the nation. What can policymakers do to address this conflict under the First Amendment? This session will examine the current state of the law, and explores the constitutional and educational issues surrounding the teaching of intelligent design in a public school. Is it possible for schools to teach this controversial subject matter? If so, how should it be done?

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

CHARLES C. HAYNES (MODERATOR)

*Senior scholar, Freedom Forum First Amendment Center*

WARREN A. NORD

*Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, University of North Carolina*

OLIVER THOMAS

*Consultant, Niswonger Foundation*



photo by Rachael Kerns

thursday

THUR 13

9:45-11:30 a.m.

ATRIUM 4

**Session # 416**  
Easing the Transition from High School to Community College

Community colleges traditionally have been the primary access point into higher education for low-income or first-generation students. While an important role for community colleges is to provide remediation to students lacking key skills and knowledge, far too few of these remedial students ever complete a higher education program. Partnerships between high schools and community colleges are one key strategy for preparing prospective postsecondary students. These partnerships have the potential to align curriculum, provide information about the expectations of college, and offer support for students as they prepare academically and socially for education and training beyond high school. This session hopes to answer the question: How can high schools and community colleges effectively work together to increase college success?

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- JACK R. WARNER (MODERATOR)  
*Commissioner of higher education, Rhode Island Office of Higher Education*
- JON ALEXIOU  
*Director, Community College Initiatives, ETS*
- MICHAEL COLLINS  
*Program director, Jobs for the Future*
- LAURANCE J. WARFORD  
*Project director, College and Career Transitions Initiative, League for Innovation in the Community College*

9:45-11:30 a.m.

ATRIUM 1

**Session # 417**  
Are We Using Value-added Assessment to its Greatest Potential?

“Growth” or “value-added” assessments that provide year-to-year results for individual students have captured policymakers’ attention as they look for ways to improve student achievement and assess teacher effectiveness. However, there is a question as to whether these types of assessment systems are being used to their fullest potential for teacher quality. This session will explore the use of value-added assessment as a powerful diagnostic tool for measuring the effect of pedagogy, curricula and professional development on

student achievement, and its potential for providing a fair and accurate foundation on which to build a new system of accountability.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- TED HERSHBERG  
*Professor, public policy and history; director, Center for Greater Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania*
- WILLIAM E. LOADMAN  
*Director, Office of Education Research, associate dean for research Ohio State University, College of Education*

9:45-11:30 a.m.

ATRIUM 8

**Session # 418**  
Educating Native American, Alaskan and Hawaiian Students

Many states struggle with appropriate education strategies for native student achievement. This session will address the following questions: What are the current trends in native student achievement? How can state policies increase native student achievement? What pedagogies lead to increased student education aspirations and academic proficiency? What roles should the community play in motivating and educating native students? At this session, panelists will share successful strategies to motivate and educate native students while ensuring cultural relevance, engaging the community and employing effective pedagogies.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- DAVID BEAULIEU  
*Editor, Journal of American Indian Education, Arizona State University*
- ROBIN BUTTERFIELD  
*Senior liaison, Minority Community Outreach, National Education Association*
- NORBERT S. HILL JR.  
*Executive director, American Indian Graduate Center, New Mexico*
- COLIN KIPPEN  
*Executive director, Native Hawaiian Education Council*

thursday

THUR 13

9:45-11:30 a.m.

EDINA ROOM

**Session # 419**

Higher Education, Workforce Development and Global Competitiveness: What's the Relationship?

Global competitiveness has created an interesting frame for examining the current state of higher education. While there has always been a connection between the economic vitality of states and their higher education institutions, the stakes have been raised as demand for highly skilled workers rises within a knowledge-based, global economy. Higher education has often been criticized for not being responsive to the rapid changes occurring in the marketplace, but many institutions have proven to be innovative through the creation of strong partnerships with business at the local, regional and international levels. This session will look at the "emerging policy triangle" of economic development, workforce development and higher education, and its implications for states and institutions. The session also will feature examples of business/higher education partnerships that have contributed to the economic competitiveness of their states.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

LARRY ISAAK (MODERATOR)

*President, Midwestern Higher Education Compact*

DENNIS P. JONES

*President, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems*

KEVIN KOPISCHKE

*President, Alexandria Community and Technical College, Minnesota*

JOANN SHAW

*Vice president/chief HR officer, BJC Healthcare; board member, Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, Missouri*

9:45-11:30 a.m.

ATRIUM 6

**Session # 420**

Creating Longitudinal Data Systems To Improve Policymaking and Student Achievement

The Data Quality Campaign is a national collaborative effort to encourage policymakers to implement state longitudinal data systems to improve student achievement. Come learn how some states have successfully developed, implemented and used such a longitudinal data system to develop and refine state policies that are designed to support student achievement.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

MARI PEARLMAN (MODERATOR)

*Senior vice president, Higher Education Division, Educational Testing Service*

AIMEE R. GUIDERA

*Director, Data Quality Campaign, National Center for Educational Accountability*

LAN W. NEUGENT

*Assistant superintendent for technology, Virginia Department of Education, Virginia*

JOHN R. PHILLIPO

*Chairman/chief executive officer, CELT Corporation*

9:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

VERANDA BALLROOM

Exhibit Hall Open

thursday

photo by Rachael Kerns

THUR 13

12:00-1:30 p.m.

GRAND BALLROOM,  
CENTER & WEST

**Session # 425**

Plenary Luncheon: National Curriculum – The Elephant in the Room

Sponsored by: CELT Corporation

*Presiding:* **Mike Huckabee**, governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees

*Presentation of the Frank Newman Award for State Innovation to the Commonwealth of Kentucky*  
*Accepting:* **Virginia C. Fox**, Secretary, Kentucky Education Cabinet

*Presentation: National Curriculum – The Elephant in the Room*

The clarion cry for the United States to look better on international assessments raises the issue of whether states should agree to a common set of standards and a common curriculum. While a national curriculum or national standards appear to be common within the other countries that participate in international assessments, these terms quickly provoke serious discussions in the states. Leaders with deep knowledge of fundamental state-level beliefs and culture will discuss the issues related to national standards, national goals and national assessment. The elephant will be in the room, and we will be talking about it.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- DAVID P. SOKOLA (MODERATOR)  
*Chairman, Senate Education Committee, Delaware; ECS Vice Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Executive and Steering Committees*
- PAUL RAMSEY  
*Senior vice president, International Division, Educational Testing Service*
- NORMAN SAKAMOTO  
*Chairman, Senate Education and Military Affairs Committee, Hawaii; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and National Forum Committees*
- WILLIAM SCHMIDT  
*University distinguished professor, Michigan State University*
- SUE WINDELS  
*Chairman, Senate Education Committee, Colorado; ECS Commissioner*

1:30-1:45 p.m.

Coffee Break

1:45-3:45 p.m.

ATRIUM 4

**Session # 430**

State School Funding – What Is Adequate?

Policymakers in many states are being forced to examine if their education funding systems are “adequate.” This question of adequacy is often the result of a lawsuit or sometimes in response to higher state or federal education standards that schools and students are required to meet. Is this new focus on school funding adequacy good news for schools, states and students? A panel of national experts will discuss this issue.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- JOHN L. MYERS (MODERATOR)  
*Partner, Augenblick, Palaich and Associates, Inc.*
- JAY G. CHAMBERS  
*Senior research fellow, American Institutes for Research*
- MOLLY A. HUNTER  
*Director, National Access Network, Campaign for Educational Equity, Teachers College New York*

1:45-3:45 p.m.

ATRIUM 7

**Session # 431**

The State and District Role in Turning Around Low-Performing Schools

States and districts have taken different approaches to assisting low-performing schools (or those not meeting adequate yearly progress). In some cases, contractors have been hired to work in schools, others have set up assistance teams in state education agencies, and some states are relying on leadership academies to train turn-around teams or are assigning the responsibility to districts. State leaders will showcase what is working in their different states and the challenges ahead.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

- ALICE SEAGREN (MODERATOR)  
*Commissioner of education, Minnesota; ECS Commissioner*
- BEVERLY ELLIOTT  
*Executive director, Arkansas Leadership Academy*
- KENNETH F. HALL  
*Founder and chairman emeritus, School Services of California*
- LINDA M. WALLINGER  
*Assistant superintendent for instruction, Virginia Department of Education*

thursday



THUR 13

1:45-3:45 p.m.

EDINA ROOM

**Session # 432****Report and Recommendations of the Governor's Commission on the Arts in Education: A Call to Action**

As part of his two-year chairmanship of ECS, Governor Mike Huckabee created and chaired the Commission on the Arts in Education. This session will feature the report issued by the Commission, including the underlying principles for the governor's focus on the arts in education, current research, policy examples and recommendations with a call to action. Join Arts in Education Commission members for a report of their work and a discussion on what needs to be done to ensure the arts are a part of the curriculum for all students.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

DAVID O'FALLON (MODERATOR)

*President, MacPhail Center for Music, Minneapolis*

RICHARD J. DEASY

*Director, Arts Education Partnership*

SANDY GARRETT

*State superintendent of public instruction, Oklahoma Department of Education; ECS 2004-06 Treasurer; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering, Finance and Executive Committees*

DOUG HERBERT

*Special assistant on teacher quality and arts education, U.S. Department of Education*

MIKE HUCKABEE

*Governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees*

1:45-3:45 p.m.

ATRIUM 1

**Session # 433****Developing Principals: Different Types of Principals for Different Types of Schools**

A strategy for creating high-quality schools is to prepare principals using different approaches. This session will highlight work – funded by the MetLife Foundation – on how leaders are being prepared to become change agents through leadership academies and other nontraditional approaches. Panelists will reflect on who these modern leaders are in very different contextual settings than yesteryear, and will ask if traditional colleges of education can produce this new cadre of leadership.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

ELIZABETH L. HALE (MODERATOR)

*President, Institute for Educational Leadership*

ANN DUFFY

*Director of policy development, Georgia's Leadership Institute for School Improvement*

BILLY KEARNEY

*Executive Director, New Leaders for New Schools, Memphis Office*

TIM SCOTT

*High school principal, Houston County Public Schools, Georgia*

1:45-3:45 p.m.

ATRIUM 8

**Session # 434****Adult Education: The Other Education Challenge**

With so much attention being placed on the traditional education pipeline and its implications for U.S. competitiveness in a global economy, considerably less attention is being paid to the other end of the education spectrum: adult learners. Recent reports detail how high percentages of adults in certain demographic categories lack the basic skills required to participate in today's workforce. Data also indicate that 73% of people enrolled in higher education are not the traditional, full-time 18-to-24-year-old student, suggesting that there is a tremendous need to adapt our education systems to serve the large number of adults seeking a postsecondary education. This session will feature information on the current challenges that many states face in terms of educating their adult populations and strategies for how more coordinated state efforts can have an impact on the economic competitiveness of states.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

PATRICIA MCCLURG (MODERATOR)

*Dean, College of Education, University of Wyoming; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering Committee*

BRUCE CHALOUX

*Director, Adult Learning Campaign, Southern Regional Education Board*

BARBARA L. ENDEL

*Senior program officer, KnowledgeWorks Foundation*

RICHARD LAPOINTE

*Deputy assistant secretary, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education*

thursday

THUR 13

1:45-3:45 p.m. ATRIUM 6

**Session # 435**  
**Teacher Education and Community Colleges: A Revolutionary Innovation**

As some states face a teacher shortage that could grow to approximately 2.5 million nationally by 2010, there has been momentum to expand and enhance the role of community colleges in teacher preparation. No longer used just for lower-division transfer courses, community colleges now offer baccalaureate degrees, post-baccalaureate degrees, 3+1 programs and alternative routes to teacher certification. Drawing from examples of each type of program, this session will discuss the impetus behind these programs, their strengths and challenges, the biggest barriers to success, and evidence of the impact these types of programs have on teacher education and supply.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

THOMAS E. FURLONG JR. (MODERATOR)  
*Senior vice president, Baccalaureate Programs and University Partnerships, St. Petersburg College, Florida*

DANNY GONZALES  
*Deputy to the president, Great Basin College, Nevada*

BRENDA KIHLE  
*Associate dean of strategic initiatives, Collin County Community College District, Texas*

MICHAEL A. MILLER  
*Dean, College of Education, Minnesota State University at Mankato*

4:00-5:00 p.m. PLAZA 1, FIRST FLOOR

**ECS Commissioners' Business Session**

Join your colleagues and represent your state at the annual business meeting of the commission. Each ECS commissioner is entitled to one vote on matters brought before the commission. Make yours count.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

MIKE HUCKABEE  
*Governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees*

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS  
*Governor, Kansas; 2006-08 ECS Chair-elect; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Executive and Steering Committees*

PIEDAD F. ROBERTSON  
*President, Education Commission of the States; member, ECS Executive Committee*

SANDY GARRETT  
*State superintendent of public instruction, Oklahoma Department of Education; ECS 2004-06 Treasurer; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering, Finance and Executive Committees*

DAVID P. SOKOLA  
*Chairman, Senate Education Committee, Delaware; ECS Vice Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Executive and Steering Committees*

6:00-7:00 p.m. GRAND BALLROOM, CENTER & WEST FOYER

**Reception**

**Sponsored by: Measured Progress**

**REMARKS:**

MIKE HUCKABEE  
*Governor, Arkansas; 2004-06 ECS Chairman; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees*

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS  
*Governor, Kansas; 2006-08 ECS Chair; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Executive and Steering Committees*

7:00-8:45 p.m. GRAND BALLROOM, CENTER & WEST

**Session # 470**  
**James Bryant Conant Award Banquet Dinner**

**Sponsored by: Pearson, Inc.**

**Presiding: Kathleen Sebelius**, governor, Kansas; ECS 2006-08 Chair, ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering and Executive Committees

*Presentation of the 2006 James Bryant Conant Award to Nancy S. Grasmick, state superintendent, Maryland Department of Education. Named in memory of ECS' co-founder, the award is given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to American education.*

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

SANDY GARRETT  
*State superintendent of public instruction, Oklahoma Department of Education; ECS 2004-06 Treasurer; ECS Commissioner; member, ECS Steering, Finance and Executive Committees*

PIEDAD F. ROBERTSON  
*President, Education Commission of the States; member, ECS Executive Committee*

**THE 2006 NATIONAL FORUM WILL ADJOURN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE BANQUET.**

thursday

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**FRIDAY**  
**JULY 14, 2006**

Post-Forum Sessions

7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

EDINA FOYER

Registration Desk Open

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

ATRIUM 1

National Forum Committee Meeting

8:00-9:30 a.m.

EDINA ROOM

**Session # 520**  
**Aligning P-20 Education**

This post-forum session will provide an opportunity for forum participants to engage in conversations on how states – in particular, Minnesota – are successfully aligning their education systems to assure smooth transitions and student success.

8:00–8:10 a.m.

**Welcome**

8:10–8:30 a.m.

**P-16 Partnerships in the States: An Overview**

ECS recently surveyed states to determine the nature and structure of P-16 work happening across the country. This short presentation will provide attendees a snapshot of the current state efforts to create seamless education systems from pre-K through college graduation.

8:30–9:30 a.m.

**Minnesota's P-16 Roundtable**

Minnesota's P-16 Roundtable is one of the nation's most comprehensive P-16 partnerships. With representatives from all of the key statewide education organizations, higher education systems, business, and philanthropic and community organizations, Minnesota is able to engage in substantive policy strategies to create a seamless education system. Representatives from the Minnesota P-16 Roundtable will showcase their work and discuss what they have learned about the power and challenges of working collaboratively across multiple organizations and institutions.

**PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:**

SEAN KERSHAW

*Executive director, Citizens League, Minnesota*

JAMES H. MCCORMICK

*Chancellor, Office of the Chancellor, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities*

MARK MISUKANIS

*Director of fiscal policy & research, Minnesota Higher Education Services Office, State of Minnesota*

ALICE SEAGREN

*Commissioner of education, Minnesota; ECS Commissioner*



photo by Rachael Kerns

# WHO'S WHO

## *Lois Adams-Rodgers*

joined the Council of Chief State School Officers after a 32-year career as a Kentucky educator at a variety of levels. She has served as a teacher, elementary and middle school principal, special education program coordinator, assistant superintendent, superintendent of schools, associate professor and director of programs at two universities and a state department official in multiple leadership roles, and as deputy commissioner for the past 12 years in the Kentucky Department of Education under three commissioners of education. She holds a doctorate in education from the University of Louisville.



## *Jon Alexiou*

is the director of Community College Initiatives at Education Testing Service (ETS) of Princeton, New Jersey, and has been in this role for four years. In part, he acts as a liaison between ETS and the nation's community college movement. He has more than 30 years in higher education as a community college leader, professor and administrator, and has been involved in efforts that include workforce development, college preparatory instruction, disadvantaged and minority student participation, international education and community colleges. Prior to ETS, he was with Miami-Dade Community College in Miami, Florida. During his 33-year tenure at MDCC, he served in a variety of roles including chief academic officer for the six-campus college for a decade, president of the largest campus for one year, and the urban downtown Wolfson Campus for four years. He has taken leadership roles in numerous international, national and statewide organizations, task forces and committees such as the Pew Charitable Trusts, National Commission on Economic and Workforce Development, and Caribbean Telecommunications Council.



## *Dennis K. Baxley*

is a Florida state representative and chairman of the Florida House Education Council; he also serves on the Education Appropriations and Judiciary Committees, and the Rules and Calendar Council. He is a member of the Emergency Medical Service Task Force for Marion County and the Independent Funeral Directors of Florida. Baxley is an ECS Commissioner.

## *Roy E. Barnes*

Governor of Georgia from 1999-2002, is currently a practicing attorney in Marietta. Before becoming governor, Barnes was elected to the Georgia Senate eight times. After two terms he was named chairman of the Senate Judiciary



Committee and he served as administration floor leader for Governor Joe Frank Harris for seven years. Barnes also served in the Georgia House of Representatives. As governor, he focused on education issues such as lowering class size and raising standards by requiring accountability, and he pushed for legislation that required more discipline in the classroom. In May of 2003, Barnes was awarded the Kennedy Library Foundation's Profile in Courage Award for his unpopular position on reducing or removing the Confederate Battle Flag from Georgia's state flag.

## *David Beaulieu*

is professor of education leadership and policy studies and director of the Center for Indian Education at Arizona State University. Previously he was vice president of Sinté Gleska College, Rosebud, South Dakota, which was the first tribally chartered Indian-controlled college to achieve accreditation at the bachelor and master degree-granting level. In 1991, he was appointed by Governor Carlson as the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, and served as director of the Office of Indian Education, U.S. Department of Education. He is currently on the board of the National Fund for Excellence in Native American Education established by the U.S. Congress. Beaulieu is an enrolled member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, White Earth Reservation.



## *Hank M. Bounds*

is the state superintendent of education for Mississippi. Previously, Dr. Bounds served as superintendent of the Pascagoula School District for four years. In this role he improved test scores at every school in the district while significantly closing the achievement gap among all subgroups. Prior to being named superintendent, he served as principal of Pascagoula High School for two years; he was awarded the National Association of Secondary School Principals' Administrator of the Year for Mississippi in 2001. Dr. Bounds also directed a strategic planning process for the district that involved more than 300 community members, and designed and implemented a public relations campaign, "Superior – Expect It!" that involved the community in achieving the goal of "superior" on the newly revised State Accreditation Model for the Pascagoula School District in 2002. Dr. Bounds also implemented an individualized student reading program that has gained national exposure as students in grades K-8 read an average of 100 books per year. He has served on the Southeast Regional Advisory Board for the U.S. Department of Education, and the USDE National Forum on Education Statistics.



# WHO'S WHO

## *Sarita E. Brown*

founder and president of Excelencia in Education in Washington D.C., has spent more than two decades at prominent national academic and educational institutions and at the highest levels of government working to develop more effective strategies to raise academic achievement and opportunity for low-income and minority students. She has served as executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans from 1997-2000, as the founding president of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Institute, and senior fellow at the Pew Hispanic Center. Launched in June 2004, Excelencia aims to accelerate Latino success in higher education and links research, policy and practice to serve Latino students and the institutions and programs where they participate.



## *Jeff Buck*

is ProComp liaison to Human Resources for Denver Public Schools in Colorado. He has taught math and science for seven years. Two years ago he took a special assignment with DPS to support the implementation of the Professional Compensation System for Teachers (ProComp). He is a teacher member of the transition team providing policy direction and oversight for ProComp, and has just finished a term on the Denver Classroom Teachers Association board of directors. He has served on the DPS Commission on Secondary Reform and on the Joint Task Force for Teacher Compensation, the group that designed ProComp.



## *Robin Butterfield*

is senior liaison for Minority Community Outreach at the National Education Association, and is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska with ancestry also from the White Earth Ojibwa Tribe of Minnesota. Butterfield has over 30 years of experience as an educator. Before coming to NEA, she was the professional development specialist at the Center for School Improvement within the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She recently managed the contracts with 13 tribally controlled community colleges and state universities, providing staff development to BIA-funded schools. Butterfield has worked at the classroom level in tribal and public schools in Wisconsin; coordinated the Salem-Keizer Indian Education Program at the district level; served in the position of Indian Education/Civil Rights specialist for the state of Oregon for nine years; and worked at two different regional educational technical assistance centers – Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory in the Research and Development for Indian Education Program, and the Gonzaga University Indian Education Center. She has served in many leadership

capacities at the state and national levels, and has been elected president while serving three, three-year terms on the National Indian Education Association Board of Directors.

## *Barbara Cegavske*

has been a Nevada State Senator since 2002. During the 2005 Nevada legislative session, she served as chair of the Legislative Operations & Elections Committee, vice chair of the Human Resources & Education Committees and as a member of the Senate Finance Committee. Previously, she served three terms as an assemblywoman, was assistant minority leader for the Nevada State Assembly and a member of the Ways & Means, Education and Transportation committees. Cegavske is a member of the Southwest Area Command's Community Leadership Team and is program chair for the Adoption Exchange Advisory Board. She also serves on the board of directors for Las Vegas Performing Arts, Inc. In 2003, she was honored by the Asian Chamber of Commerce as Elected Official of the Year and was also selected as a recipient of a Community Achievement Award for Public Service by the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce.



## *Bruce Chaloux*

directs the 16-state Electronic Campus of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). The Electronic Campus includes more than 15,000 online courses and 600 degree programs from 300 institutions in the region. He also directs SREB's Adult Learning Campaign, a Lumina-supported project targeting adult learning needs across the South. He previously served in the Graduate School at Virginia Tech for 13 years as associate dean for Extended Campus Programs and as director of the Northern Virginia Graduate Campus in suburban Washington, DC. Previously, he was on the staff of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and was an academic administrator and faculty member at Castleton State College in Vermont.



## *Jay G. Chambers*

is a senior research fellow at the American Institutes for Research (AIR) and a consulting professor in the Stanford University School of Education. He served as president of the American Education Finance Association in 2002-03, and in 2002 served on President Bush's Commission on Excellence in Special Education. Chambers is a leading expert in the field of education adequacy research. He recently directed a team of researchers in determining the cost of a sound basic education in New York State, and is currently co-directing a similar study focusing on California's public schools.

# WHO'S WHO

## Michael Cohen

became president of Achieve, Inc. in January 2003. He is responsible for overseeing and enhancing Achieve's efforts to ensure that the quality of standards-based reforms states undertake remains high. Prior to joining Achieve, he was a senior fellow at the Aspen Institute. His work there focused on high school reform, in particular on identifying state and local strategies for transforming urban high schools. He has been a leading figure in the national push to boost academic performance by leveraging higher standards since it began. Previously, he was director of education policy at the National Governors Association, director of the National Alliance for Restructuring Education, and served in several senior education policy positions in the Clinton administration. He started his career at the National Institute for Education.



## Michael Collins

is a program director at Jobs For the Future where his work focuses primarily on state policy issues for the *Early College High School Initiative*, *Achieving the Dream* and the *Double the Numbers* campaign to increase the number of young people from low-income and minority families who attain postsecondary credentials. Previously, he worked to improve public education at the local and state levels, working in multiple capacities on education reform and higher education policy. Most recently, he served as assistant commissioner at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, where he led efforts to increase the number of students enrolling and succeeding in higher education. He also oversaw the implementation of Texas' *Education. Go Get It* Campaign – an innovative, research-based public awareness and motivational campaign to increase student participation and success in the state's colleges and universities.



## Richard J. Deasy

is the director of the Arts Education Partnership (AEP), a coalition of more than 100 education, arts, business, philanthropic and government organizations that promotes the essential role of arts education in enabling all students to succeed in school, life and work. Deasy has been a senior state education official in Maryland and Pennsylvania, president and CEO of the National Council for International Visitors, and a prize-winning political reporter in Philadelphia and the metropolitan area. Under his leadership, AEP has published seminal research studies and reports that are credited with major advances in arts education in the United States.



## Ann Duffy

is the director of policy development at Georgia's Leadership Institute for School Improvement (GLISI). On assignment with the Board of Regents, she comes to GLISI with over 10 years of experience in public education advocacy and policy. In her work with the Board of Regents, Ann was appointed director of the Teacher Career Center for the University System of Georgia. Previously, she was associate commissioner for educator quality at the Massachusetts Department of Education; was national field director for Parents for Public Schools, a community-based network of public school advocates; and was a founding member of The New Teacher Project. She began her career with Teach For America.



## Robert H. Dugger

is a managing director of Tudor Investment Corporation, an asset management company active in currency, bond, equity and commodity markets worldwide. He was previously director for policy and chief economist at the American Bankers Association, where he led a panel of nationally recognized bank officers in developing a plan to deal with the U.S. savings and loan crisis. He also served as chief economist of the Senate Banking Committee and senior staff member of the Financial Institutions Subcommittee of the House Financial Institutions Committee. Dugger began his career at the Federal Reserve Board. He is a member of Virginia Governor Kaine's Strong Start universal pre-kindergarten council and recently served as co-chairman of Governor Warner's Virginia Early Learning Council, is a trustee of the Committee for Economic Development, and chairman of the Invest in Kids Working Group and the Partnership for America's Economic Success.



## Beverly Elliott

is the director of the Arkansas Leadership Academy and an associate professor of educational leadership at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Elliott was a high school mathematics teacher, counselor, assistant superintendent, superintendent and assistant to the director of education for the state of Arkansas. The Arkansas Leadership Academy is designed to support reform in the Arkansas education system. In addition, the Academy is responsible for the design and operation of the Arkansas Master Principal Program and the Arkansas School Support Program.



# WHO'S WHO

## *Barbara L. Endel*

is a senior program officer with KnowledgeWorks Foundation in Cincinnati. KnowledgeWorks Foundation is Ohio's largest educational philanthropic foundation working to promote high school reform and to create postsecondary education opportunities for all students, particularly low-wage adult learners. Barbara joined KnowledgeWorks in February 2005 after spending the last seven years in Iowa City, Iowa, working with community colleges and assessment solutions on a national basis. She earned her master's and doctorate from the University of Iowa.



## *Virginia G. Fox*

serves as education secretary in Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher's administration. A life-long educator and public television executive, she retired from Kentucky Educational Television (KET) as executive director and CEO in 2002, and was Governor Fletcher's first cabinet appointment. As CEO of the National Educational Telecommunications Association, Fox became the first female CEO of a national organization in public broadcasting, and was among a group of people involved in the launch of KET in 1968, helping transform it into the largest Public Broadcasting Service member network in the United States. Prior to her public broadcasting career, she spent four years as an elementary school teacher and three years as an elementary school librarian.



## *Norm Fruchter*

is director of New York University's Community Involvement Program. For the past decade, he served as director of NYU's Institute for Education and Social Policy. He was previously the program advisor for education at the Aaron Diamond Foundation, a foundation committed to improving public education in New York City. Fruchter has also worked as senior consultant with the Academy for Educational Development and Advocates for Children of New York and as director of the Institute for Citizen Involvement in Education in New Jersey. He was co-founder and co-director of Independence High School, in Newark, New Jersey, an alternative high school for dropouts. For 10 years he served as an elected school board member for Brooklyn's District 15.



## *Thomas Furlong*

is senior vice president for baccalaureate programs and university partnerships at St. Petersburg College in St. Petersburg, Florida. He serves as chief executive officer of four-year programs offered by the college directly, and the university partnership baccalaureate programs offered at the college as part of the University Partnership Center. Previously, Furlong served as executive director of the Florida Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, where he worked with public and private colleges in Florida, and as Florida's State Higher Education Executive Officer (SHEEO) representative as well as the chairman of SHEEO's Data Clearinghouse project with the National Center for Educational Statistics. Furlong also served as vice president for educational services at Tallahassee Community College, and most recently as deputy executive director for educational services, State Board of Community Colleges.



## *Veronica C. Garcia*

was appointed by Governor Bill Richardson as New Mexico's first education secretary in 2003. Garcia brings a diverse background to the position, having previously served as superintendent of Santa Fe Public Schools, regional superintendent for Albuquerque Public Schools, a teacher, school psychologist, coordinator and assistant director for special education, principal of an alternative high school for pregnant and parenting teens and as executive director of the New Mexico Coalition of School Administrators. In her role as Santa Fe's superintendent, she oversaw a positive financial turnaround of a financially troubled school district. She was named the 2002 Superintendent of the Year by the New Mexico School Superintendents Association and was named a Top Ten Hispanic Woman in New Mexico by the New Mexico Legislature in 2000.



## *Sandy Garrett*

Oklahoma's state superintendent of public instruction, is an outspoken advocate of and active participant in school reform. She has 15 years of experience as a classroom teacher; has worked for the state education department as coordinator of gifted programs; and was administrator of programs in rural education, technology, satellite education and library resources. In the 1980s, Garrett played a pivotal role in the state's Learning by Satellite program, which drew national attention to Oklahoma. She has received numerous honors and awards, including being selected for induction into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame. Garrett is ECS treasurer, Commissioner and member of ECS' Steering, Executive and Finance Committees.



# WHO'S WHO

## Andy S. Gomez

is assistant provost at the University of Miami, Florida. Previously, Gomez served as dean of the School of International Studies from 1999 to 2002 as associate dean of international studies. Before joining the University of Miami, he served as the undersecretary of education and chief of staff at the Executive Office of Education in Boston. At the University of Houston, Gomez served as assistant vice president for academic affairs, special assistant to the president, executive director of university relations, special assistant to the chancellor, and assistant professor of public administration.



## Danny A. Gonzales

is deputy to the president at Great Basin College (GBC) in Elko, Nevada. He was hired by GBC to assist faculty, staff and administration in the implementation of select baccalaureate degrees. Gonzales is also an adjunct political science faculty member. He oversees new program development and workforce training, strategic planning, adjunct faculty, the Great Basin Indian Archives, the Small Business Development Center, faculty and staff professional development and a regional entrepreneurial education initiative. Prior to moving to Elko, he worked as a research analyst for the Nevada System for Higher Education. In fall 1995, he was appointed by the Nevada Supreme Court to serve two years as the executive director of the Nevada Supreme Court Task Force for the Study of Racial and Economic Bias.



## Aimee R. Guidera

is director of the Data Quality Campaign at the National Center for Educational Accountability in Washington, D.C. As director, Aimee manages a growing partnership among national organizations collaborating to improve the quality, accessibility and use of education data. Through her role as director of NCEA's Washington office, Aimee builds and manages relations with leaders in the business and education organizations and the Administration around the Just for the Kids school improvement model. During her previous years in various roles at the National Alliance of Business, Aimee supported the corporate community's efforts to increase achievement at all levels of learning. At the Alliance, as vice president of programs, she managed the Business Coalition Network, comprised of over 1,000 business-led coalitions focused on improving education in communities across the country. Prior to joining the Alliance, Aimee worked at the National Governors Association and taught for the Japanese Ministry of Education in five Hiroshima high schools.



## Elizabeth L. Hale

is president of the Institute for Educational Leadership. For over two decades, she has been involved in IEL's efforts to create and work through action and learning networks to improve outcomes for children and youth. She has played a role in all of IEL's leadership initiatives, ranging from the Education Policy Fellowship Program to the School Leadership Learning Community. Her professional experiences include serving as an education budget analyst in the Illinois governor's office, as the director of training programs for Head Start in the Region III office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and as the director of Head Start training for the state of West Virginia. She began her career as a public school teacher. She serves on the advisory board of a number of nonprofit organizations, including Cable in the Classroom and Pre-K-Now.



## Kenneth F. Hall

is founder and chairman emeritus of School Services of California, Inc. (SSC) and executive in residence at the University of Southern California. Hall started SSC in 1975 and led the company through its first 25 years as president and the next five years as its chairman. Today, SSC serves virtually all California school districts and county offices and numerous education associations in its areas of specialty: public education management, finance and governance, State Capitol legislative assistance, collective bargaining and fact-finding assistance, and school executive training. As a member of the faculty of the Roosier School of Education at USC, he co-directs the University's School Business Management Program training school executives to be Chief Business Officials. He has also served as chief deputy director of the Department of Finance for California, where he shared responsibility for state expenditures, revenues and general state fiscal policy.



## Charles C. Haynes

is senior scholar at the First Amendment Center. He works on First Amendment issues in schools and communities throughout the nation. Over the past decade, he has been the principal organizer and drafter of a series of consensus guidelines on religious liberty in public education endorsed by a broad range of religious and educational organizations. Haynes is the author or co-author of six books, including *First Freedoms: A Documentary History of First Amendment Rights in America* and *Finding Common Ground: A Guide to Religious Liberty in Public Schools*. His column, "Inside the First Amendment," appears in newspapers nationwide.





# WHO'S WHO

Haynes is a founding board member of the Character Education Partnership and serves on the Steering Committee of the Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools and the American Bar Association Advisory Commission on Public Education.

## Mary Heath

is deputy commissioner for the New Hampshire Department of Education. Previously she has worked as a grant writer for the Manchester School District, with the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and the Principals Association. She has been an assistant superintendent of schools, and at the New Hampshire Department of Education was the team leader for the Improving America's School Act (IASA) programs and assisted in writing the IASA state plan to the U.S. Department of Education. Heath began teaching in 1970 as an elementary teacher in New Hampshire. She currently serves as a trustee for the Manchester City Library and serves on the advisory board for the Greater Manchester Mental Health Center.

## Doug Herbert

is a special assistant and acting chief of staff in the Office of Innovation and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education. Previously, he was the director of arts education at the National Endowment for the Arts.



Under his leadership, the Endowment partnered with the U.S. Department of Education to support the development of national voluntary standards in arts education; to establish a framework and testing specifications for inclusion of the arts in the National Assessment of Educational Progress; to evaluate the conditions of arts education in elementary and secondary schools nationwide; and to create the Arts Education Partnership. As the program's assistant director for more than four years, he coordinated cooperative efforts with the Department's Office of Educational Research and Improvement to develop an arts education research agenda and recognize schools nationwide for their exemplary arts education programs. Herbert was also the national program director for Very Special Arts, an educational affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

## Theodore Hershberg

is professor of public policy and history and director of the Center for Greater Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania. Previously, he served as assistant to the mayor for strategic planning and policy development and was acting dean of Penn's School of Public and Urban Policy. In his long career at Penn, Hershberg has had several research interests, including urban-industrial transformation, urban public policy and strategies of regional cooperation. In 1996, pursuing his interest in human capital development, he organized a consortium of 31 public school districts to work



collaboratively on standards-based reform. Hershberg founded Operation Public Education (OPE) in 2000 to develop a new set of rules and incentives to govern K-12. OPE is now introducing its model for comprehensive school reform to education stakeholders across the nation.

## Norbert S. Hill Jr.

is executive director of the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) in New Mexico, a nonprofit organization providing funding for American Indians and Alaska Natives to pursue graduate and professional degrees. Previous positions include executive director of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, assistant dean of students at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, and director of the American Indian Educational Opportunity Program at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He founded *Winds of Change* and *The American Indian Graduate*, magazine publications of AISES and AIGC, respectively. Current board appointments include Environmental Defense, the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian, and the University of Colorado Graduate School Advisory Board.



## Charles R. Hokanson Jr.

is a principal advisor to the assistant secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education in the U.S. Department of Education on the formulation, development and execution of federal policy affecting the delivery of public education in grades pre-K through 12. In addition to coordinating special initiatives on high school reform, math and science education, early childhood education, teacher professional development and educational excellence for Hispanic Americans, he focuses on the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act. From 2003-05, Hokanson served as chief of staff and senior counsel to the General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Education. Prior to joining the Administration, he served on the professional staff of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce, where he was a key negotiator during the House-Senate conference on NCLB.



## Jane Holl

is assistant professor of pediatrics at the Institute for Healthcare Studies and Children's Memorial Hospital. She is also currently an attending physician at Children's Memorial Hospital, and holds faculty positions at the Feinberg School of Medicine and the Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University. She is executive committee member of the Northwestern Center for Patient Safety, and chair of the Pediatric Patient Safety Consortium, Chicago Patient Safety Forum, Chicago Institute of Medicine.

# WHO'S WHO

## Mike Huckabee

is governor of Arkansas and ECS' 2004-06 Chairman. He leads *The Arts – A Lifetime of Learning*, an ECS initiative designed to ensure every child has the opportunity to participate in, learn about and enjoy the arts. Huckabee is recognized as a national leader in the areas of education and health care reform and also serves as the next chairman of the National Governors Association. He also is immediate past president of the Council of State Governments and the former chairman of the Southern Governors' Association, the Southern Growth Policies Board, the Southern Technology Council, the Southern International Trade Council and the Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission. He is an ECS Commissioner and a member of the ECS Steering and Executive committees.



## David R. Johnson

is director of the Institute on Community Integration, College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota, and holds the Emma M. Birkmaier endowed professorship in Educational Leadership, Department of Educational Policy and Administration. His research interests include investigations of post-school outcomes and the status of young adults with disabilities, and evaluations concerning access and participation of young adults with disabilities in postsecondary education programs. He has served as consultant to several national and state organizations including the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, the Council for Exceptional Children, National School-to-Work Office, Rehabilitation Services Administration, and several congressional committees.



## Molly A. Hunter

is director of the National Access Network, Campaign for Educational Equity, Teachers College, New York. Since graduating from New York University's School of Law, she has practiced education and employment law in New York City. Hunter has conducted and overseen research for major Campaign for Fiscal Equity initiatives, including CFE's monograph series, *Studies in Judicial Remedies and Public Engagement*, the litigation in *CFE v. State* and CFE's public engagement programs. She also has published several articles, including "All Eyes Forward: Public Engagement and Fiscal Equity in Kentucky," which appeared in the *Journal of Law and Education*.



## Dennis P. Jones

is president of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, a nonprofit research and development center founded to improve strategic decisionmaking in higher education institutions and agencies. He is widely recognized for his work in such areas as the changing environment for postsecondary education, formulation of state and institutional policy in light of this changing environment, strategic planning at all levels of postsecondary education, alternative approaches to budgeting and resource allocation at both state and institutional levels and use of information in policymaking. Jones has written many monographs and articles on these topics, presented his work at many conferences, and consulted with hundreds of institutions and state higher education agencies.



## Larry Isaak

was appointed president of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) in November 2003. Previously, Isaak was the chancellor of the North Dakota University System for nearly 10 years and was named chancellor emeritus upon his departure in October 2003. He also served as vice chancellor for administrative affairs from 1984 to 1994 and during this time his portfolio also included student affairs responsibilities. Isaak also worked in the North Dakota Office of Management & Budget, serving both as acting director and as the state executive budget analyst, as the assistant legislative budget analyst and auditor for the North Dakota Legislative Council, and with a private CPA firm. Isaak has been the chair of the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) and a commissioner to both Midwestern Higher Education Compact and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.



## Sharon Lynn Kagan

is the Virginia and Leonard Marx professor of Early Childhood and Family Policy, co-director of the National Center for Children and Families, associate dean for Policy at Teachers College, Columbia University and professor adjunct at Yale University's Child Study Center. Kagan has helped shape early childhood practice and policies in the United States and in countries throughout the world. Author of over 200 articles and 12 books, Kagan's research focuses on the institutions that impact child and family life. She consults with numerous international, federal and state agencies, Congress, governors and legislatures, and is past president of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and Family Support America. She is the only woman in the history of American education to receive the 2004 Distinguished Service



# WHO'S WHO

Award from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education. She was also the recipient of the 2005 James Bryant Conant Award from the Education Commission of the States.

## *Billy Kearney*

is executive director of New Leaders for New Schools, Memphis Program. He leads all aspects of the New Leaders for New Schools program for Memphis City Schools including recruiting, preparing and supporting school leaders. He has worked with Teach For America as a national recruiter, school director for teacher trainings and executive director of TFA Atlanta for nine years. Kearney taught 7th-grade pre-algebra and 9th-grade environmental science in Washington, D.C. He has served as director of Maryland Leadership Workshop's senior high program.



## *Sean Kershaw*

is the president of the Citizens League. He has been a member of the Citizens League Board since 1996, and co-chaired the Citizens League's 50th Anniversary report on Doing the Common Good Better. Previously he was a deputy director for the City of Saint Paul's Department of Planning and Economic Development. During his tenure, he chaired the-Mayor Norm Coleman's e-Government initiative and coordinated Coleman's information technology, charter school and education initiatives. He has worked as a project manager on a variety of housing initiatives, developed and managed the city's Small Business Resource Center, and led several reorganization efforts to improve teamwork, efficiency and contact with the community.



## *James C. Kielsmeier*

is president and CEO of the National Youth Leadership Council. As NYLC's founder, he has committed his life to building youth-adult partnerships that help young people grow from recipients of information and resources to contributing members of a democratic society. He has worked toward developing comprehensive youth service and service-learning models since 1984. A frequent speaker and writer on service-learning, youth development and education reform, he holds a doctorate in education from the University of Colorado and a master's in international relations from American University in Washington, D.C.



## *Brenda Kihl*

is associate dean of strategic initiatives at Collin County Community College District in Texas. For the past six years, she directed Collin's successful post-baccalaureate teacher certification program, the first of its kind in the nation. Kihl has been a leader in teacher education, serving on state committees, on the executive board of the National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs and as president-elect of the Texas Community College Consortium for Teacher Education Programs. She holds a masters of education in teaching from the University of Minnesota.



## *Cheryl King*

is senior project director at the Center for Leadership and Learning Communities, Education Development Center (EDC), Inc. Since joining the EDC team, King has played a prominent role in the overall conceptual design, development, implementation and administration of a multi-million dollar *Leadership for Learning* grant to provide technical assistance to 34 states and urban school districts across the country in their work to strengthen education leadership in urban school districts for the purpose of improving student achievement. She has served the field of public education for over 30 years as a teacher, principal, chief academic officer, and deputy superintendent of schools. For more than a decade she has held executive level management positions with responsibility for elementary, middle and high school programs.



## *Jason Kingston*

is the head of analytical applications for the School Evaluation Services (SES) Business Unit within Standard & Poor's. In this capacity, he served as the director and lead analyst for the Kansas Education Resource Management Study. Prior to joining SES, Jason was the director for Mass Insight Education, a leadership consulting and communications firm specializing in K-12 public education. In that role, Jason developed and directed a consulting service for public school districts designed to deliver integrated management consulting and professional development services. Jason holds a bachelor's degree from Columbia University and a masters of education from Harvard University.

# WHO'S WHO

## Colin Kippen

is the executive director for the Native Hawaiian Education Council, and holds an appointment from the secretary of the Department of Interior as a member of the Review Committee of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. He is an advocate for Native people generally and for Native Hawaiians specifically. Previously, he was senior counsel to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, deputy director for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, judge for various Northwest Indian tribes, and a trial lawyer and prosecutor in Washington State.



## Ted Kolderie

senior associate, Center for Policy Studies, Saint Paul, Minnesota, is the author of *Creating the Capacity for Change: How and Why Governors and Legislatures Are Opening a New-Schools Sector in Public Education*. He was involved in Minnesota's 1991 chartering legislation and in discussions about chartering in more than 20 states. He was a reporter and editorial writer for the *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, executive director of the Citizens League and a senior fellow at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota. He graduated from Carleton College and has a master's from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public Affairs, Princeton University.



## Kevin J. Kopischke

president of Alexandria Technical College (ATC) in Minnesota, began his career in education at ATC as a student teacher, and taught in the Marketing and Hotel, Motel & Restaurant Management programs for 10 years. His first administrative experience was at Brainerd Technical College where he served as vice president for six years. Kopischke brings a great deal of energy and passion for the critical and changing role of the community/technical college and its impact on rural economic vitality and rural communities. He holds a doctorate in education from the University of Minnesota, St. Paul.



## Kurt M. Landgraf

joined Educational Testing Service (ETS) as president and chief executive officer in 2000, having served for the company three decades earlier as associate director of marketing. Before returning to ETS, he was executive vice president and chief operating officer of DuPont and chair of DuPont Europe. Before joining DuPont,



he was with the Upjohn Company from 1974 to 1980, holding various positions responsible for domestic and international economic analysis, worldwide markets and product research, licensing and acquisition, financial analysis and health economics planning. He has been an instructor in economics, sociology and labor relations in various colleges throughout the United States and has chaired United Way of Delaware and the Delaware Association for Rights of Citizens with Mental Retardation. He is a graduate of the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program.

## Richard T. LaPointe

is deputy assistant secretary for vocational and adult education, U.S. Department of Education. He has more than 30 years of experience in education at the local, state and national levels, serving as superintendent of public instruction for the Commonwealth of Virginia and in several positions with the U.S. Department of Education. LaPointe has been selected as a Fulbright Scholar, a Title VI foreign language fellow, a postdoctoral fellow in special education and a Council of State Government Henry Toll fellow.



## Andrea Martin

is the lead teacher at Avalon School, a 7-12 grade charter school located in St. Paul, Minnesota. She serves on the boards of EdVisions, Inc. and the Minnesota Association of Charter Schools. Previously, she was the middle school director and conflict resolution director at Friends School of Minnesota, a K-8 school located in St. Paul. While at Friends School she gave numerous conflict resolution workshops nationwide. Andrea has been a science educator in both public and private schools for 20 years. In addition, she served as director of technology for Abington Friends School in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania.



## Patricia McClurg

is dean of the College of Education at the University of Wyoming. Previously, she directed a five-state NASA-funded Education Public Access Resource Center that has made GIS data sets available to educators; conducted professional development opportunities enabling teachers to integrate GIS, GPS and remote sensing technologies into their teaching; and published case study curriculum resources simulating and demonstrating the application of these technologies to solving real problems in the five-state region. Her research areas include investigating appropriate integration of technology into teaching/learning environments, spatial/visual cognition and teacher education and professional development.



# WHO'S WHO

## *James H. McCormick*

is chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. He began his term of service in July 2001. With seven state universities and 25 two-year colleges on 53 campuses across the state, the system serves about 370,000 students each year. He also is the founding chair and continuing member of the Minnesota P-16 Education Partnership. A former chair and member of the National Association of System Heads, he also works closely with AASCU, AACC, SHEEO and the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. Prior to coming to Minnesota, he was the founding chancellor of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, a post he held for 18 years.



## *Mark Misukanis*

is director of fiscal policy and research for the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office. His responsibilities include the direction of higher education policy development and research in the office, oversight of the analytical aspects of state grant program and other related aid programs, supervisory responsibilities for the financial management and auditing obligations in the office, and communications concerning policy issues with the Minnesota Legislature. Previously he was the director of the Office of Fiscal Policy in the Minnesota Senate for eight years culminating in a total of 20 years in the Senate in related capacities. In that position he managed a staff of eight analysts responsible for the development of a budget of about \$48 billion for the state for a biennial period.

## *Tony Milanowski*

is an assistant scientist with the Consortium for Policy Research in Education (CPRE) at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where he has been researching teacher compensation since 1997. He has taught courses in compensation, staffing and human resource management for the schools of Business and Education at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Before coming to CPRE, he worked in human resource management for 16 years, doing staffing, job evaluation, labor market analysis and collective bargaining contract costing. His current research interests include performance evaluation, pay system innovations, teacher selection and the teacher labor market.



## *Jimmy Neitzel*

is project director at the National Center for Educational Accountability (NCEA). Prior to joining NCEA, he spent 10 years as an educator at a public high school in Dallas, Texas. During his time in secondary education, Neitzel was an assistant principal, mathematics teacher and a soccer coach. He is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and the University of Texas at Austin and earned his doctorate in education from Teachers College, Columbia University.



## *Michael Miller*

is the dean of the College of Education at Minnesota State University, Mankato. The college is known for responsive and reciprocal relationships with schools and communities. It has recently transformed its mission and many of its programs. As a part of this work, the College has successful 2+2 teacher preparation programs in partnership with Normandale Community College. This year, Miller co-facilitated a strategic planning process to strategically expand the community college partnership beyond initial preparation programs in order to better serve the children, families and communities of the state and the region.



## *Lan W. Neugent*

is assistant superintendent for technology and human resources at the Virginia Department of Education. He is responsible for establishing direction for state educational technology policy and for carrying out both gubernatorial and legislative initiatives. He came to Virginia as director of instructional media and training after having been a secondary teacher, a high school assistant principal, an international manager of proposal development and a community college administrator. Neugent has nearly 35 years of experience at the classroom, district, college and state levels. He is active in the State Educational Technology Directors Association, and is currently serving as chairman.

# WHO'S WHO

## Rich Newman

is a program officer in education at The Wallace Foundation where he helps lead the Foundation's State Action for Education Leadership Project and Leadership for Educational Achievement in Districts initiatives. His work focuses on helping states and districts improve both the development of education leaders and the systemic conditions in which they work in order to improve student learning, especially for those children with the greatest need. Prior to joining the Foundation, Newman was a research associate at the University of San Diego. His current research focuses on understanding the leader training components that impact an aspiring leader's beliefs and ways of thinking and examining how new knowledge and skills transfer into effective leadership action. He also spent 10 years as a teacher and teacher coach and was one of the early Teach for America Corps members.



## David O'Fallon

is president of MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis, Minnesota, one of the largest community music education centers in the nation. Previously, he served as executive director of the Perpich Center for Arts Education, a unique state agency in Minnesota housing the State Arts High School, a professional development institute and a research program. Prior to the Perpich Center, he served as the education director for the National Endowment for the Arts, and as a senior staff member at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He helped initiate the Arts Education Partnership. He has consulted with educational and arts organizations across the nation from small rural nonprofits to large national and multinational organizations, including the Leonard Bernstein family on the Bernstein Institute for Education through the Arts in Nashville, Tennessee. He also serves on the board of the American Composer's Forum, the nation's first national service organization in support of the American composer, and the national board of the Alliance of Young Artists & Writers, Scholastic Art Awards for Scholastic, Inc.



## Warren A. Nord

is a lecturer in the department of philosophy at the University of North Carolina. From 1979 to 2004, he was director of the interdisciplinary program in the Humanities and human values at UNC-Chapel Hill, where he continues to teach the philosophy of religion and the philosophy of education. He is the author of more than 30 book chapters and articles, and two books: *Religion and American Education: Rethinking a National Dilemma*; and, with Charles C. Haynes, *Taking Religion Seriously Across the Curriculum*.



## Tim Pawlenty

was elected Governor of Minnesota in 2002, with the state facing an historic \$4.5 billion budget deficit. In addition to balancing the budget, Governor Pawlenty has fought for and passed a dramatic overhaul of the state's education standards, significant welfare reform, lawsuit reform, healthcare reform, a range of new government efficiency initiatives, and passed the largest transportation package in modern history. His prior public service career includes being a prosecutor and Eagan City Council member. Pawlenty served 10 years in the Minnesota House of Representatives, including four as House Majority Leader.



## Caroline Bear Novak

is co-founder and president of A+ Education Foundation, an independent, non-partisan, nonprofit organization of Alabama parents, educators and citizens working to ensure a quality education for every child. Caroline also worked with the state department of education to develop the *Alabama Reading Initiative* and raised private sector funding for the first two years of implementation. Through the Congress on School Leadership and the Commission on Quality Teaching, Caroline and other A+ members are providing leadership for the efforts of the governor and state Board of Education to provide highly effective principals and teachers for every school. She continues to serve on oversight committees as the ARI expands into every Alabama elementary school. She is an ECS Commissioner and a member of the ECS Steering and National Forum committees.



## Mari Pearlman

is senior vice president and general manager of the Higher Education Division (HED) at Educational Testing Service. HED is responsible for most of ETS's large-scale, post-K-12 testing programs, including English Language Learning programs. Pearlman began her career at ETS in test development, and went on to lead several groundbreaking initiatives, including the first constructed-response test with performance-based questions for a GRE subject test (Music). Previously she served as executive director of the Professional Education & Development Group in the Teaching & Learning Division.

# WHO'S WHO

## *John R. Phillip*

is executive director of the Center for Educational Leadership and Technology, a nonprofit educational research and development organization that provides technical and planning assistance for linking education reform and technology. He is a resource consultant for school districts, businesses and state and federal departments of education on issues related to design and implementation of networks and information management systems. Phillip also has taught graduate courses, written articles and made numerous presentations on interactive learning technologies. He is a former science and mathematics teacher and school administrator.



## *Piedad F. Robertson*

ECS president, comes from Santa Monica College, where she was president for 10 years and instrumental in establishing the Academy of Entertainment and Technology, a multimedia center that prepares students for jobs in the entertainment industry. She also served on Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Transition Team and was appointed special assistant to Secretary for Education Richard Riordan. Robertson previously served as Massachusetts secretary of education, president of Bunker Hill Community College, and vice president for public affairs and vice president for education at Miami-Dade Community College. Her association with boards of numerous organizations includes the American Council on Education, Council for Higher Education Accreditation, Gates Millennium Scholarship, ETS, Tomas Rivera Policy Institute and the Institute for Higher Education Policy.



## *Paul A. Ramsey*

is senior vice president of the Global Division of Educational Testing Service, with responsibility for all ETS products and services offered outside the United States. Previously, he was vice president and senior vice president of the School & College Services Division, which included College Board programs and the work ETS performed for the National Assessment of Educational Progress, the Educational Records Bureau and the Southern Regional Education Board. He was also vice president for operations management, which oversees operations functions for all paper-based testing at ETS, and vice president of the Teaching & Learning Division, which creates assessment-, research- and standards-based professional development materials for teachers. Ramsey is a former high school English teacher and college professor.



## *Art Rolnick*

is senior vice president and director of research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. His essays on such public policy issues as *Congress Should End the Economic War Among the States*, *A Plan to Address the Too-Big-To-Fail Problem* and *The Economics of Early Childhood Development* have gained national attention. A native of Michigan, Rolnick has a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a master's degree in economics from Wayne State University, Detroit, and a doctorate in economics from the University of Minnesota.



## *Richard G. Rhoda*

is executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, a post he has held since 1997. He served previously with the Tennessee Board of Regents in numerous staff capacities, including chief academic officer and acting chancellor. While serving on the Regents staff, he also served as interim president of Nashville State Technical Community College and Austin Peay State University. He served earlier in the administration of Tennessee State University. Rhoda has taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels at Vanderbilt University where he continues as an adjunct professor. He is an ECS Commissioner and a member of the ECS Steering and National Forum committees.



## *Arthur J. Rothkopf*

serves as senior vice president and counselor to the president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. His responsibilities include several initiatives including workforce development and education, and the Chamber's program on capital markets and corporate governance. Prior to joining the Chamber staff in July 2005, Rothkopf served for 12 years as president of Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, a highly selective undergraduate college of liberal arts and engineering. Previously, he was deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, as well as general counsel, and a senior partner in the Washington law firm of Hogan & Hartson, specializing in tax, regulatory and legislative representation of U.S. and foreign clients. Rothkopf serves as a member of the Commission on the Future of Higher Education.

# WHO'S WHO

## *Norman Sakamoto*

is chair of the Education and Military Affairs Committee, Hawaii State Senate. Elected in 1996, he is majority policy leader and serves as a member of four other Senate committees. Previously, Norman worked for the City and County of Los Angeles and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. He subsequently returned to Hawaii to join the construction company headed by his father and uncle, S&M Sakamoto Inc. In 1985, he formed SC Pacific Corp, which builds hurricane and security shutters. He has a master's in civil engineering from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.



## *Tim Scott*

is the principal of Northside High School in Warner Robins, Georgia. During his tenure, the school has undergone major renovations of both the building and the school culture. Recognizing and responding to the needs of students, the school has adopted an improvement plan that is data-driven and student-centered. Northside has built an energetic instructional environment through teacher collaboration and implementation of best practices such as differentiated instruction. Northside High School has received over \$1 million in federal grants that support professional learning for teachers and updated instructional technology. His school vision is to facilitate and support change that promotes continuous student improvement.

## *Stefanie Sanford*

is the deputy advocacy director for national initiatives for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, directing national and federal policy development in education. She works with Administration officials, departmental offices and Congress, and manages a portfolio of grants to national advocacy and constituent organizations, most prominently the National Governors Association. She is a leading national speaker on education issues and serves on numerous K-12 and higher education advisory boards including the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, Education Sector, the National High School Task Force and the National Center for Teacher Quality. Prior to joining the foundation, Sanford served as deputy director of policy for Texas Governor Rick Perry.



## *Alice Seagren*

was appointed by Governor Tim Pawlenty as the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education in July 2004. As commissioner, she is responsible for MDE operations and policymaking for all aspects of K-12 education, implementing the No Child Left Behind Act in Minnesota, early learning, libraries, and adult, career and technical education. Prior to her appointment, she served six terms in the Minnesota House of Representatives. During her legislative career she was chair of the House Education Finance Committee and a member of the Education Policy, Education Finance, Ways and Means, and Transportation Policy committees. Before winning election to the legislature, she served on the Bloomington School Board and has been a volunteer in her community. She is currently a board member of the Normandale Community College Foundation and Fraser Community Services, an organization providing services to the disabled. Seagren has served as chair of the Education Committee, National Council of State Legislatures, Assembly of State Issues, reflecting her commitment to education and helping people become self-sufficient. She is an ECS Commissioner and serves on the ECS Teaching Quality & Leadership Advisory Council.



## *William H. Schmidt*

university distinguished professor at Michigan State University, is co-director of the Education Policy Center, the U.S. China Center for Research and the National Science Foundation's PROM/SE project. Previously he served as national research coordinator and executive director of the U.S. National Center, which oversaw participation of the United States in the International Energy Agency-sponsored Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). He was also a member of the senior executive staff and head of the Office of Policy Studies and Program Assessment for the National Science Foundation from 1986-88. He has co-authored seven books including *Why Schools Matter*. His current writing and research focuses on academic content in K-12 schooling, assessment theory and the effects of curriculum on academic achievement. He is also concerned with education policy related to mathematics, science and testing in general.



## *Kathleen Sebelius*

is governor of Kansas and ECS Chair-elect for 2006-08. She is the first daughter of a U.S. governor to serve in that same position. Previously, she served four terms in the Kansas House of Representatives and two terms as the state's insurance commissioner. In her first three legislative sessions, she steered the Kansas Economic Growth Act to passage, and restructured the existing comprehensive highway package. Governor Sebelius also proposed sweeping educational reforms and advanced several health care proposals to reduce costs and increase insurance coverage for Kansans.





# WHO'S WHO

She was named one of Time Magazine's Five Best Governors in America in 2005. She also serves as policy chair of the Democratic Governors Association.

## *JoAnn Shaw*

is vice president and chief human resources officer for BJC HealthCare, where she oversees human resources strategy and planning, recruitment, employee relations, compensation and benefits for BJC's hospitals and health-service organizations. Since joining BJC in 2001, she also has established the BJC Center for Lifelong Learning to open new career paths for employees through training and development opportunities. Before joining BJC, Shaw served in similar roles at University of Chicago Hospitals and Health System, Michael Reese Medical Center, Children's Memorial Hospital, and FMC Corporation in Chicago and San Jose. She has extensive experience in human resources administration with an emphasis on change management, employee-labor relations, human resources re-engineering and developing corporate "universities" for employee education. In 2005, she was recognized as one of the 10 most influential women leaders by the St. Louis YWCA. She currently serves on the St. Louis chapter of Junior Achievement and March of Dimes.

## *David P. Sokola*

has served in the Delaware State Senate for almost 14 years, including 12 as chairman of the Senate Education Committee. He has actively taken part in all aspects of Delaware's comprehensive reform movement. Sokola is a founding member and on the board of the Delaware Math Science Education Foundation, was a member of former Governor Thomas Carper's Education Improvement Commission, is a member of the Southern Regional Education Board and has served on the Business/Public Education Council. He also sponsored Delaware's Graduated Drivers License law and has pushed various land-use, environmental and business initiatives. Sokola is an avid cyclist and certified spinning instructor. He is ECS Vice Chairman, Commissioner and member of the ECS Steering and Executive Committees.



## *Jess Stairs*

a legislator since 1977, serves as chairman of Pennsylvania's House Education Committee and a member of the Transportation Committee. He also is chairman of the Commission on Rural Education (CORE). In 2003, Stairs introduced a legislative resolution establishing CORE to examine and study rural education in Pennsylvania. Some of his other civic responsibilities include serving on the Pennsylvania Higher



Education Assistance Agency Board, State Board of Education and Pennsylvania Historical Preservation Caucus. Stairs is an ECS Commissioner; member of the ECS Steering and National Forum Committees.

## *Oliver Thomas*

is the executive director of the Niswonger Foundation, a private foundation designed to improve the quality of education in Southern Appalachia. He is a Baptist minister and an active member of the Supreme Court Bar. He has practiced in the First Amendment area for 20 years, and has written and lectured extensively on the subject of religion and public education, and worked with hundreds of school districts in the last several years. He has also been involved in much of the litigation at the U. S. Supreme Court concerning religion and schools. He co-authored guidelines used by public schools on such controversial issues as religious holidays, the Equal Access Act and teaching about religion. He is a consultant to The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University. He has taught church-state law at Georgetown University Law Center, served as general counsel to the Baptist Joint Committee for Public Affairs, and chaired the Coalition for Free Exercise of Religion that drafted and provided the primary support for the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.



## *Margaret Daniels Tyler*

is executive director of the Gates Millennium Scholars Program, a \$1 billion, 20-year initiative to promote academic excellence and opportunity for thousands of minority students with significant financial need. She previously served as manager of diversity for McKinsey & Company, and in several positions at MIT including director of Masters Admissions for the Sloan School of Management and associate dean of Graduate Education. She has served on a number of national committees and governmental advisory bodies advancing science and technology-based education, including the National Science Foundation, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies and the National Institutes of Health.



# WHO'S WHO

## *Richard J.H. Varn*

is president and founder of RJV Consulting and is an internationally recognized expert and leader in information technology, privacy, identity security, public policy and digital government. Since 1988, his firm has served public and private sector clients in the areas of information technology, business strategy, innovation, education and public policy. He is a senior fellow with the Center for Digital Government, the technology policy advisor to the National Retail Federation and serves on the board of trustees for the Educational Testing Service. Varn's first career was in public service, beginning at the University of Iowa and continuing as a state legislative aide. He went on to win elected office, serving as a state representative for four years and as a state senator for eight years. He left the legislature in 1994 to teach and serve as director of telecommunications and IT Production Services at the University of Northern Iowa. Varn returned to full-time consulting in 2002.



country. Warford is a community college graduate and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Northern Iowa and a doctorate from the University of Oregon.

## *Jack R. Warner*

began work as commissioner of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education in 2002. Warner has been an educator for 34 years, primarily in the Massachusetts higher education system. He was most recently associate chancellor at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, with responsibilities for strategic planning, change management, enrollment planning, labor relations and campus leadership development. Previously, he spent nearly five years as vice chancellor of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education. He has taught courses in the Boston College Graduate School of Education for the past 11 years. His experience spans all sectors of public higher education and his agenda is designed to strengthen the state's public higher education system through data-driven discussion and decisionmaking.



## *Linda M. Wallinger*

is assistant superintendent for instruction at the Virginia Department of Education, working in elementary, middle and high school instruction; career and technical education; federal programs; and adult education. Prior to her service at the department, she was a high school French teacher and a middle school administrator. She worked on numerous projects for the General Assembly and the State Board of Education, and worked closely with Governor Warner on his *Education for a Lifetime* initiative. She has published a number of refereed journal articles and edited a book on topics related to foreign language education and school leadership.



## *Colleen Wieck*

is executive director of the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities of the Department of Administration, a position she has held for the past 24 years. The Governor's Council is a federally funded group of 25 members whose mission is to provide information, education and training to increase the independence, self determination, productivity, integration and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities and their families. Prior to her work with the Council, Wieck was a researcher at the University of Minnesota for four years and a direct-services provider in the area of day programs for adults and early intervention for children. She is also the primary creator of Partners in Policymaking, a leadership-training program for adults with disabilities and parents of young children with developmental disabilities. She has worked on numerous public policy issues including deinstitutionalization, supported employment, family support, self-determination and education.



## *Laurance J. Warford*

is the project director for the College and Career Transitions Initiative (CCTI), a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, and the League for Innovation in the Community College. In this capacity he oversees a major project concerned with the improvement of student transitions between secondary and postsecondary education and on to careers. Previously, Warford served as a community college liaison for the U.S. Department of Labor and was a community college administrator for some 40 years in Oregon and Iowa. Nationally recognized for his research and leadership in workforce training and lifelong learning, he has numerous publications to his credit and makes presentations at national conferences across the



# WHO'S WHO

## *Sue Windels*

was elected to the Colorado State Senate in November, 1998 and currently serves as chairman of the Senate Education Committee. She is also a member of the State Affairs Committee and the Capital Development Committee. Windels began her career as a teacher and a Peace Corps Volunteer in El Salvador and Honduras, and subsequently taught in Washington, Arizona and Colorado.



## *Rachel Wobschall*

is executive director of Alumni and Constituent Relations at the University of St. Thomas (UST) in Minnesota. With over 19 years in state government, Wobschall served on the personal staff of both Governor Perpich and Governor Ventura. She established the first Technology Related Assistance program for people with disabilities, which became a model for federal legislation and has been replicated in all states and territories. She is a doctoral student at UST where she earned her master's (MIM) and bachelor's (political science) degrees.



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Educational Testing Service (ETS) is the world's largest private, nonprofit educational testing and measurement organization and a leader in education research. ETS products and services measure knowledge and skills, promote learning and performance, and support education and professional development. ETS' employees produce and administer nearly 12 million tests annually in more than 180 countries. ETS is dedicated to serving the needs of individuals, educational institutions and government agencies around the world.



##### *National Evaluation Systems, Inc.*

National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES) is an educational testing company that develops and administers customized teacher certification testing programs. NES develops certification tests in more than 100 subject fields, professional teaching skills, college literacy, communications and mathematics skills. Web sites, for each testing program accessed via the Internet, provide detailed information about each program and permit candidates to register to take the tests and to receive their test scores promptly. Founded in 1972, NES is a national company with offices in Massachusetts, New York, Texas and California, which provides services to state agencies across the country



**National Evaluation Systems, Inc.™**

##### *Pearson Education*

Educating 100 million people worldwide, Pearson Education is the global leader in integrated education publishing. Pearson Education provides quality content, assessment tools and educational services in all available media, spanning the learning curve from birth through college and beyond. Pearson Education is also the global leader in online learning with nearly 2,000 textbook companion Web sites, the InformIT Web site for technology professionals and the Family Education Network, the online resource for parents, teachers and children. Pearson Education is part of Pearson, the international media company.



## ECS CORPORATE SPONSORS

## GOLD SPONSORS

*\$15,000 per year/three-year commitment**The College Board*

The College Board is a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. The association is composed of more than 4,700 schools, colleges, universities and other educational organizations. Each year, the College Board serves over 3.5 million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,500 colleges through major programs and services in college admissions, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning. Among its best-known programs are the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT and the Advanced Placement Program (AP). The College Board is committed to the principles of excellence and equity, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities, and concerns.

*Data Recognition Corporation*

Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) provides full-service educational testing and assessment programs; customized, large-scale survey programs; production of scannable forms; and digital printing and mailing services. Throughout more than 25 years of successful student achievement testing, survey development, and high quality printing services, we have developed and refined our processes to ensure the highest levels of customer satisfaction.

*Discovery Education*

As the fourth division of Discovery Communications, Discovery Education is quickly becoming the go-to source for the next generation of video-based learning. Harnessing the power of video and digital technology, Discovery Education provides educators, students and parents with high-quality digital content in easy-to-use formats in all core subject areas. Discovery Education's mission is to create scientifically proven, standards-based digital content that improves student learning. Through its public service initiatives, products and partnerships, Discovery Education reaches over 90,000 schools across the United States, serving 1.5 million teachers and 35 million students each year.

*Measured Progress*

It's all about student learning. Measured Progress provides customized, integrated, full-service assessment, professional development and instructional support for state and local educators. We continue to develop innovative products and programs, including alternate assessments for students with profound disabilities, assessment instruments for English language learners, computer-based assessments, and a growing catalog of local assessments and professional development products and services.

*PLATO Learning, Inc.*

PLATO Learning, Inc. is a leading provider of computer-based and e-learning instruction for kindergarten through adult learners, offering curricula in reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and life and job skills. The company also offers innovative online assessment and accountability solutions and standards-based professional development services. With over 4,000 hours of objective-based problem-solving courseware, plus assessment, alignment and curriculum management tools, we create standards-based curricula that facilitate learning and school improvement.

*Texas Instruments*

Texas Instruments is extending classroom technology with the resources that help teachers and students succeed. TI's powerful combination of tools, training and curricular materials for math and science education are based on research and today's best practices in education and accepted content and pedagogical standards. In addition, our offering is backed by over 15 years of experience working with educational leaders. TI's technology, support and professional development programs are widely accepted and recommended by states throughout the nation and approved by teachers and parents alike.



## ECS CORPORATE SPONSORS

### DISTINGUISHED SPONSORS

*\$15,000 minimum/one-time commitment*

#### *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) is a regional organization created by the Western Regional Education Compact, adopted in the 1950s by Western states. WICHE is governed by three gubernatorially appointed commissioners from each state and under terms of the Compact, each state commits to support WICHE's basic operations through annual dues established by the full Commission. WICHE was created to facilitate resource sharing among the higher education systems of the West. It has implemented a number of regional activities to accomplish its objectives. WICHE works with its 15 member states to assure access and excellence in higher education for all citizens of the West. Several programs extend our reach nationally and internationally.



### SUPPORTING SPONSORS

*\$10,000 minimum/one-time commitment*

#### *The Lexile Framework for Reading/The Quantile Framework for Mathematics*

MetaMetrics Inc. developed The Lexile Framework for Reading and its companion scale, The Quantile Framework for Mathematics. The Lexile Framework provides a common scale for matching reader ability and text difficulty, enabling teachers and parents to choose materials that can help to improve student reading skills, and monitoring literacy across the curriculum and at home. Quantiles measure student mathematical achievement and concept/application solvability. The Quantile Framework represents a student's ability to think mathematically in a taxonomy of math skills, concepts and applications. The Quantile strands – geometry, measurement, numbers and operations, algebra/patterns and functions, and data analysis and probability – integrate and align with the strands described by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM).



### FRIENDS SPONSORS

*\$5,000 minimum/one-time commitment*

#### *ENA*

ENA is a world-class technology company dedicated to helping customers achieve their personal and organization goals. ENA provides managed network and technology solutions for school systems, libraries, governments and small- to medium-sized businesses. ENA was founded with a vision to provide technology solutions that make reaching and using valuable information as easy and reliable as turning on the lights. Since 1996, ENA has established a reputation as experts in the design, deployment and operation of broadly distributed networks. Customers include organizations within the states of Tennessee, Indiana, Florida, Texas and Massachusetts.



#### *KnowledgeWorks Foundation*

KnowledgeWorks Foundation funds and facilitates initiatives, strategically invests in resources – including time, money and people – brings together people who might not traditionally work collaboratively, and fills temporary gaps where there may not be an individual, team or community to take on a particular challenge. KnowledgeWorks' mission is to increase the number and diversity of people who value and access education by creating and improving educational opportunity at pre-kindergarten through high school and post-high school institutions, and through community organizations. KnowledgeWorks Foundation is committed to furthering universal access to high-quality educational opportunities for individuals to achieve success and for the betterment of society.



## ECS CORPORATE SPONSORS

*MGT of America, Inc.*

MGT of America (MGT) is a national research, evaluation and management consulting firm specializing in the continuous improvement of pre-K through 16 education systems. For over 30 years, MGT has improved the efficiency and effectiveness of hundreds of school systems, state education departments, and higher education institutions in every state of the nation. Our experts in program evaluation, finance, administration, school improvement, data management technology and facilities help improve the delivery of education services for your young citizens.

*SAS*

SAS is the world's largest privately held software company. SAS solutions are used at 40,000 sites worldwide by customers in education, government and business. The SAS Education Practice is dedicated to creating a culture of leadership, authenticity and accountability in education by providing teachers, administrators, policymakers, students, parents and support staff with the best tools for aligning resources with evidence-based outcomes. SAS' mission is to supply clients and users with the information they need to make the best decisions for more effective and efficient learning throughout the education life cycle. SAS serves educators by delivering software solutions, strategic services and academic programs designed to enhance teaching, learning, administration and research.

*State Farm Companies Foundation*

State Farm Companies Foundation was established in 1963 as an independent private foundation. The Foundation is primarily committed to education, helping to raise the level of student achievement in our elementary and secondary schools, as well as supporting key higher education initiatives. The Foundation, a separate nonprofit organization funded by the State Farm Mutual Company, provides funding for our Education Excellence initiatives – K-12 public schools, service learning, systemic improvement, and teacher excellence. The Foundation supports higher education initiatives through scholarships, priority schools (designated colleges and universities), and a matching gift program.

*TIAA-CREF*

TIAA-CREF is a leading, national provider of financial services and one of the world's largest pension systems with more than \$325 billion in assets under management, serving approximately 3.2 million people and 15,000 academic, research, medical and cultural institutions nationwide. TIAA-CREF and its group of companies provide a broad range of products and services including annuities (before- and after-tax), mutual funds, IRAs, Keogh plans, life insurance, trust services and college savings programs.

*USA Funds*

USA Funds is a nonprofit corporation that works to enhance postsecondary education preparedness, access and success by providing and supporting financial and other valued services. USA Funds links colleges, universities, private career schools, private lenders, students and parents to promote financial access to higher learning. Established in 1960 to help families finance rising college costs, USA Funds has grown to become the nation's largest guarantor of loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), the largest federal source of financial aid for higher education. During the past 45 years, the USA Funds guarantee has supported a total of more than \$126 billion in financial aid for higher education. USA Funds has served more than 14.8 million students and parents, as well as thousands of educational and financial institutions.



## ECS CORPORATE SPONSORS

### CORPORATE UNDERWRITERS OF THE ECS WEB SITE *\$20,000 minimum/annual commitment*

#### *ACT, Inc.*

ACT is one of the largest independent, not-for-profit education measurement and research organizations in the world. We work actively with school districts, colleges, universities, businesses and state agencies to improve the performance of students and the workforce. Our programs address career and educational planning, academic advising, workforce development, standards-aligned assessments, professional certification and licensure, and other areas. ACT services have helped states to better prepare high school graduates for further education and training, improve course-taking patterns by majority and minority students, and enhance academic achievement.



#### *Pearson Education*

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### GENERAL SPONSORS

#### *American Student Assistance*

American Student Assistance is a private, federally funded, nonprofit organization that helps students and parents manage higher education debt. Our mission is to assist borrowers in successfully completing a program of higher education financing and repayment. Incorporated in 1956, ASA was the nation's first private student loan guarantee agency and a model for the federal student loan guarantee program. As an administrator of the Federal Family Education Loan Program, ASA delivers quality default prevention, guarantee, origination and fund delivery services to students, parents, schools and lenders nationwide. ASA guarantees more than \$2 billion in student loans annually and currently manages a student loan portfolio worth more than \$20 billion.



#### *Midwestern Higher Education Compact*

Established in 1991 as an interstate compact agency, the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) – also known as the Midwestern Higher Education Commission – is charged with promoting interstate cooperation and resource sharing in higher education accomplishing this through three core functions: cost savings programs, student access and policy research. As of 2005, the member states of MHEC are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin. The work of the Compact is financed largely through member-state obligations and foundation grants. A small, full-time staff headquartered in Minneapolis administers MHEC's daily operation and programming activities.





## ECS AWARD WINNERS

*Commonwealth of Kentucky – Frank Newman Award for State Innovation*

The Commonwealth of Kentucky is this year's recipient of the Frank Newman Award for State Innovation. Kentucky was selected for the comprehensive and sustained focus of its education reform and improvement efforts over the past decade and a half. Over the years, Kentucky has developed strong policies related to professional support and training for teachers. It is one of only 15 states to require and finance mentoring for all novice teachers. It has implemented a performance-based teacher assessment system that includes evaluation by a local team, classroom observations by state-trained assessors and teacher portfolios. And it recently launched major professional-development initiatives aimed at improving elementary school teachers' ability to identify and assist students struggling in reading and mathematics.

*PBS – ECS Corporate Award*

PBS is a nonprofit media enterprise owned and operated by the nation's 348 public television stations. A trusted community resource, PBS uses the power of noncommercial television, the Internet and other media to enrich the lives of all Americans through quality programs and education services that inform, inspire and delight. Available to 99% of American homes with televisions and to an increasing number of digital multimedia households, PBS serves nearly 90 million people each week. PBS is this year's ECS Corporate Award winner.



## EXHIBITORS ONLY

*The Center for Evaluation & Education Policy*

The Center for Evaluation & Education Policy (CEEP), a non-partisan research center, promotes and supports rigorous program evaluation and education policy research primarily, but not exclusively, for educational, human services and nonprofit organizations. CEEP is interested in working with programs which promise real impact and improvement – either locally or worldwide – in education, the lives of children, and communities. The Center's policy research activities also address a wide variety of state and national education questions. Agencies, organizations and businesses interested in objective evaluation and policy analysis are encouraged to contact the CEEP. Many decision-makers have found this to be the first step toward a partnership that enhances their organization's performance in pursuit of its mission.

*Educational Options, Inc.*

Since 1998, Educational Options, Inc. has successfully provided high-quality, cost effective Internet-based educational services to students in more than 1,200 schools in 43 states. Our record of success for at risk, credit recovery, state exam preparation, and summer school programs is unparalleled. More than 225,000 students have used our online curriculum to stay in school and achieve credits. This program has helped thousands of students graduate with a high school diploma.

*SMARTHINKING*

SMARTHINKING connects students to qualified educators up to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from any Internet connection. From supplementing current learning support programs with SMARTHINKING's qualified and trained e-structors, to licensing SMARTHINKING's technology platform, to creating a private-labeled learning assistance center, SMARTHINKING develops custom solutions to enable institutions to better support their faculty and students with live, online tutoring in mathematics, bilingual math, writing, accounting, statistics, economics, finance, chemistry, biology, anatomy and physiology, physics and Spanish. Over 500 clients use SMARTHINKING, increasing student success and retention.

*U.S. Department of Education*

The U.S. Department of Education was created in 1980 by combining offices from several federal agencies. Its original directive remains its mission today – to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation. The Department's 4,500 employees and \$71.5 billion budget are dedicated to establishing policies on federal financial aid for education, distributing as well as monitoring those funds, collecting data on America's schools and disseminating research, focusing national attention on key educational issues, and prohibiting discrimination and ensuring equal access to education.

# NATIONAL FORUM EXHIBITORS GUIDE

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# NATIONAL FORUM EXHIBITORS GUIDE

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**Education Commission**  
of the **States**

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[www.ecs.org](http://www.ecs.org)

*ECS is a nonprofit organization formed by interstate compact in 1965 to further working relationships among state governors, legislators and educators for the improvement of education in its broadest sense at all levels. Forty-nine states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and American Samoa are members of ECS. The commission serves as a forum, a resource and a catalyst.*

EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES  
HELPING STATE LEADERS SHAPE  
EDUCATION POLICY