



ESSA Leadership Learning Community (ELLC)
September 25-26, 2017
The Roosevelt Hotel
45 East 45th St & Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017
AGENDA as of September 15, 2017

Goal of the ELLC:

To assist states and districts in using ESSA funding to build the capacity of education leaders to implement supports and interventions to turn around schools most in need of improvement. We will pursue these goals by working with a group of states, districts and community organizations prioritizing this issue to create models and to capture and share lessons learned.

Goal for Year Two:

For each state:

- Each state—through its team members—will have made good progress on further defining its ESSA Title I and Title II state and district strategies to include specific activities in the School Improvement Plans for participating districts that use principals and other school leaders as a main strategy for turning around schools most in need of improvement. They will have defined their strategies by using the evidence and by learning from their colleagues from other states in the ELLC.

For the ELLC community and the larger field:

- Each state has contributed to the development of shared lessons, has taken action on one of the *Leading with Equity* commitments and some states will be documented as models.

Pre-reading:

- Case study, *Back from the Brink*
- School Improvement strategy from your state ESSA plans (to be gotten on your own)
- CCSSO school improvement principles
- CGCS, *School Improvement Grants: Progress Report from America's Great City Schools*

Sunday, September 24, 2017

6:00pm

State team dinners

Please join your facilitator for dinner conversation at a nearby restaurant. Your facilitator has provided dinner location and details via email.

¹ Wallace funds may not be used to advance legislation or to support activities that would be deemed lobbying under applicable state law.



Monday, September 25, 2017

7:30am-8:30am Registration and breakfast

Mezzanine Level

8:30am-9:00am Opening session: ELLC steering committee

Ballroom

Jody Spiro, Director, Education Leadership, The Wallace Foundation

Chris Minnich, Executive Director, Council of Chief State School Officers

Michael Casserly, Executive Director, Council of the Great City Schools

Hal Smith, Senior Vice President, National Urban League

9:00am-9:45am

Ballroom

General session I: Review of ESSA provisions, requirements on school improvement, and a framework for action (with Q&A)

Carissa Moffat Miller, Deputy Executive Director, Council of Chief State School Officers

Manish Naik, Manager of Legislation, Council of the Great City Schools

9:45am-10:45am

Ballroom

General session II: Overview of research on school improvement: What works? What does not? (with Q&A)

Ray Hart, Director of Research, Council of the Great City Schools

Carlas McCauley, Executive Director, Center for School Turn Around, WestEd

10:45am-11:00am

Break

11:00am-12:15pm

Ballroom

General session III: Guided discussion among State Chiefs, Great City School Superintendents, and Urban League Heads on broad strategies moving forward

Discussion Drivers: Carol Johnson and Ann Clark

1. What approaches are you planning to take for school improvement?
2. What roles might school leadership and equity play?
3. What questions do you have for other ELLC members?
4. How might ELLC assist your school improvement efforts?

12:15pm-1:15pm

**Foyer and Various
Breakout Rooms**

Lunch

Participants are encouraged to network with colleagues from other states. Please see assignments in your packets.



**1:15pm-2:30pm
Ballroom**

General session IV: Case study: Back from the brink, Lawrence Public Schools, MA (with Q&A)

Alan Ingram, Former Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education

Representative from Lawrence Public Schools (*invited*)

Principal from Lawrence Public Schools (*invited*)

Lawrence Community Partner (*invited*)

Facilitated by Isabel Rahm, Director, Leadership Academy, Council of Chief State School Officers

**2:30pm-4:00pm
Breakouts**

Facilitated state team time I: The school improvement component of the state's ESSA plan

State team members review and discuss the school improvement component of the state ESSA plan.

Probing Questions:

- (a) What is the state's theory of action and plan for supporting turn-around efforts?
- (b) Does this initial school improvement plan align with CCSSO's principles, statute requirements?
- (c) What are the expectations of districts in the work of school improvement—from the federal requirements and state plan?
- (d) How should the communities surrounding the schools be involved?
- (e) Does the proposed plan reflect the research findings presented?

Room	State Team
Ballroom	New York
Ballroom	Maryland
Promenade	Minnesota
State	Missouri
Hudson	Oregon

Room	State Team
Plaza	Tennessee
York	Wisconsin
Lexington	Ohio
Broadway	Pennsylvania
Fifth Avenue	Nebraska



**4:00pm-5:00pm
Breakouts**

Facilitated state team time II: Coordinating the state's school improvement plans with ELLC planning

Probing Questions:

- (a) How can we build on the work of Year I to emphasize the turnaround focus?
- (b) What is the game plan for school turn around and leader capacity at the local level?
- (c) Is there an opportunity for tighter integration between Title I and Title II in ESSA? Examples?
- (d) How does the team know what the community wants?
- (e) What does accountability look like?
- (f) How will we know when we have achieved our ELLC goals? (From the Year Two goal statement: What does "good progress" look like?)

**5:00pm-5:30pm
Ballroom**

General session V: Summary of day's discussions and expectations for next day

Panel discussion with ELLC Discussion Drivers: Catherine Barbour, Carol Johnson, Steve Gering
Moderated by Jody Spiro

6:00pm

Dinner for Chiefs with Chris Minnich
Dinner for CGCS Superintendents with Michael Casserly
Dinner for National Urban League Affiliate Executives with Hal Smith
Dinner for Facilitators and Discussion Drivers with Wallace and NYCLA

Other participants are encouraged to enjoy an evening on their own in New York City.

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

**8:00am-9:00am
Breakouts**

Room	State Team Pairings
Plaza	Tennessee – Pennsylvania
Hudson	Nebraska – Oregon
Promenade	Missouri – Ohio
State	Maryland – New York
Broadway	Wisconsin - Minnesota



9:00am-10:00am Ballroom General session VI: Case studies: Individual school turnaround examples and lessons learned

Cherice Williams, Principal, Druid Hill Elementary School, Omaha Public Schools

Sonya Stewart, Principal, Pearl Cohn High School, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Other principals TBD

Moderated by Michael Casserly

10:00am-11:00am Breakouts Facilitated state team time III: Summary and action plan for Year Two ELLC work

State team facilitators record and summarize information for report out.

Discussion questions:

Starting point from Day One: What does “good progress” look like for Year Two?

- (a) What is our basic ELLC strategy over the next year?
- (b) How should we coordinate our ELLC work going forward?
- (c) What should be our next steps?
- (d) How do we ensure a through-line for our discussions?
- (e) How will we know we are being successful?

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11:00am-12:00pm Ballroom General session VII: Report out from teams and concluding remarks

12:00pm Adjourn – Boxed lunches are available

NOTE: CCSSO will host a working lunch for ELLC participants attending the ESSA meeting in Washington, DC on September 27-28. Monica Taylor, Senior Program Director, School Leadership and Improvement, CCSSO, will facilitate and engage participants in discussions on how to incorporate the work done over the past two days into the larger ESSA work on accountability and school improvement. Please grab a boxed lunch and meet in the Plaza Suite.