Council of the Great City Schools

Annual Legislative and Policy Conference
March 14 – 17, 2026

The Mayflower Hotel
1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

AGENDA

Saturday, March 14, 2026

8:00 am – 5:00 pm	**Conference Registration**	**East Ballroom Foyer**
8:00 am – 10:00 am	**Continental Breakfast**	**East Ballroom**
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	**Superintendent's Meeting** (by invitation only)	**New York Room** (2nd Floor)
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	**The ABCs of Federal Education Policy** • *A "primer" on education policy in Washington*	**State Ballroom**
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	**Buffet Lunch**	**East Ballroom**
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	**Executive Committee Lunch and Meeting** (closed session)	**Rhode Island Room** (2nd Floor)
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	**Education Issues at the State Level** (school districts only)	**State Ballroom**
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	**Legislative Liaisons Meeting** (school districts only)	**State Ballroom**

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	**Committee Meeting:** • *Urban School Achievement*	**Grand Ballroom**
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	**Committee Meeting:** • *Leadership, Management, and Governance*	**Grand Ballroom**
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	**New Members and Newcomers Orientation**	**State Ballroom**
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	**Welcome Reception at the Mayflower Hotel**	**Palm Court Ballroom**

EVENING ON YOUR OWN

Sunday, March 15, 2026

7:30 am – 5:00 pm	**Conference Registration**	**East Ballroom Foyer**
7:30 am – 9:30 am	**Breakfast Buffet**	**Grand Ballroom**
8:30 am – 12:00 pm	**Board of Directors Meeting** • *Spring Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Great City Schools*	**East Ballroom**
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	**Lunch and Speaker** • *Jonathan Capehart* *Journalist and Television Commentator*	**Grand Ballroom**
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	**Council of the Great City Colleges of Education** • *General Meeting*	**Virginia Room** (2nd Floor)
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	**Washington Update** • *Briefing on federal education action provided by CGCS Legislative and Legal Staff*	**State Ballroom**
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	**Blue Ribbon Meeting:** • *Blue Ribbon Corporate Advisory Group* (by invitation only)	**Virginia Room** (2nd Floor)
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	**Reception at the Mayflower Hotel:** "Taste of Boston"	**Palm Court Ballroom**

EVENING ON YOUR OWN

Monday, March 16, 2026

7:30 am – 3:00 pm	**Conference Registration**	**East Ballroom Foyer**
8:00am – 9:30 am	**Breakfast and Speaker**	**East Ballroom**
9:45 am – 10:45 am	**Recent and Upcoming Action at ED** • *Hayley Sanon* *Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary* *Office of Elementary and Secondary Education* *U.S. Department of Education*	**State Ballroom**
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	**Education Priorities on Capitol Hill** <u>House Committee on Education and Workforce</u> • RJ Martin, *Professional Staff Member for Chairman Tim Walberg (R-MI)* • Ilana Brunner, *General Counsel for Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA)* <u>Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions</u> • Brianna Tibbetts, *Education Policy Advisor for Chairman Bill Cassidy (R-LA)* • Manuel Contreras, Senior *Education Director for Ranking Member Bernie Sanders (I-VT)*	**State Ballroom**
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	**Lunch and Speaker**	**East Ballroom**
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	**Congressional Office Visits** (Make your own appointments) *Transportation provided from The Mayflower Hotel (DeSales entrance)* • *Shuttle stops at the House Rayburn Building & Senate Russell Building*	
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	**Reception at the Mayflower Hotel**	**Chinese Ballroom**

EVENING ON YOUR OWN

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

8:00 am – 9:00 am	**Breakfast Buffet**	**Chinese Ballroom**
9:00 am – 11:00 am	**Debriefing with Council Staff**	**Chinese Ballroom**
11:00 am – 5:00 pm	**Congressional Office Visits** (Make your own appointments)	
5:00 pm	**ADJOURN**	