

# 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CURRICULUM, RESEARCH, AND INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERS CONFERENCE



**Leading with Purpose: Aligning Vision, Systems, and Practice**



**JULY 7-10, 2026**

Hyatt Regency Atlanta | Atlanta, GA

**REGISTRATION & SPONSORSHIP  
BROCHURE**

# Council of the Great City Schools Curriculum, Research, and Instructional Leaders Conference

Leading with Purpose: Aligning Vision, Systems, and Practice

This transformational national convening brings together curriculum, research, and instructional leaders from the nation’s 82 largest urban school districts to tackle the unique challenges and opportunities encountered in urban education. Through inspiring keynotes, role-alike sessions, district-led learning, and collaborative discussions, participants will connect across districts, exchange best practices, and leave with actionable insights for translating vision into coherent systems and day-to-day practices that improve student outcomes. This year’s conference focuses on how districts align priorities, strategy, and implementation to produce meaningful results, particularly for historically underserved students. Participants will benefit from insights on today’s educational landscape, overcoming systemic obstacles, and the conditions that strengthen student performance and experiences.

- Chief Academic Officers
- English Language Learner (ELL) Leaders
- Chief Accountability Officers/Performance Officers
- Educational Wellness (SEL, Mental Health, School Counseling, Restorative & Trauma Informed Practices)
- Chief Innovation Officers
- Equity Leaders
- Chiefs of Schools
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Leaders
- Curriculum/Instructional Leaders (ELA/ Math, Science, Social Science/History)
- Research and Accountability Directors
- Early Learning Leaders (Birth-Grade 2/3)
- Principal Supervisors
- Special Education Leaders

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Participants will work collaboratively with their peers and invited speakers to learn about programs and processes that have been successful in Council member districts. **Districts are welcome to submit proposals for presentations at the conference by following this [link](#). Proposals are due by May 8th. Presenters will be notified no later than May 29th.**

## AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE (TENTATIVE)

Time	Tuesday, July 7	Wednesday, July 8	Thursday, July 9	Friday, July 10
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Registration	Registration	Registration	
8:00 am – 8:45 am	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:45 am – 9:00 am	Break/Transition	Break/Transition	Break/Transition	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Welcome and Keynote Speaker	Keynote Speaker	Keynote Speaker	Legislative Updates
10:00 am – 10:15 am			Break/Transition	AI in Education
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break/Transition	Joint Role-Alike Session	District-Led Presentations	
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Role-Alike Sessions			Break/Transition
11:00 am – 11:15 am			Role-Alike Sessions	Lunch & Awards
11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Lunch			
12:00 pm – 12:15 pm			Lunch	
12:15 pm – 1:00 pm				
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Keynote Speaker	Panel Presentation	Role-Alike Sessions	
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	Break/Transition			
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Role-Alike Sessions	Break/Transition	Role-Alike Sessions	
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm		Break/Transition		
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm		District-Led Presentations		
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm				
Evening	Onsite Reception (5:30 – 7:30 pm)	Offsite Reception – The Carter Center (5:30 – 8:00 pm)	Evening on Your Own	

Registration/Break	Meals	Joint/General Session	Role-Alike Sessions	District-Led Presentations
--------------------	-------	-----------------------	---------------------	----------------------------

# Council of the Great City Schools Curriculum, Research, and Instructional Leaders Conference

REGISTER ONLINE HERE:

<https://cvent.me/DaVXaZ>

\*\* All companies must sponsor the conference to attend. Additionally, all non-profit organizations with an annual revenue of \$20 million or more must sponsor the conference.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- \$300 Council School District Member
- \$450 Nonmember School Districts, Institutions of Higher Education & Non-profit Organizations
- \$450 Institutions of Higher Education
- \$1,000 Additional person from company sponsoring
- \$75 added late fee registration after June 26, 2026

## SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

### Diamond Level: \$15,000 - 6 Companies ~ 3 Free Registrations

- District-led, sponsored presentation (Guidance below)
- All sessions will be on Wednesday or Thursday.
- Early distribution of attendees list (2 times before meeting)
- Sponsor of conference welcome reception with a one (1) minute sponsored video opportunity to be played during welcome reception. (Requirements below)
- Recognized via conference program, sign, banner and the Council's Annual Report.
- Opportunity to display materials and/or giveaways on shared resource table.
- Brief description & logo of your company to be added to the agenda program and conference
- 3 free registrants
- 2 additional paid sponsor attendees (\$1000 each)

#### Sponsored presentation guidance:

- Presentations will be 45-minutes, must be district-led, and should not be 'sales pitches' for products.
- Districts presenters must be registered no later than June 20
- A presentation submission link will be emailed once the sponsorship is confirmed.
- Presentations must be submitted for review no later than June 20
- If district presenters are unable to attend meeting, the presentation will be canceled.

Please submit all presentation related inquiries to [cri\\_conference@cgcs.org](mailto:cri_conference@cgcs.org)

### Platinum Level: \$10,000 ~ 3 Free Registrations

- Early distribution of attendees list (2X before meeting).
- Sponsor conference luncheons with a one (1) minute sponsored video opportunity to be played during the luncheon on Wednesday or Thursday. (Requirements below)
- Special recognition as conference app sponsors
- Recognized via conference program, sign, banner and the Council's Annual Report.
- Opportunity to display materials and/or giveaways on shared resource table.
- Brief description & logo of your company to be added to the agenda program.
- 3 free registrations
- 2 additional paid sponsor attendees (\$1000 each)

#### Sponsor Video Submission Requirements:

- The video must be in MP4 format. We **DO NOT** accept videos that are linked to YouTube or Vimeo.
- The video should be no longer than one minute in duration.
- Please include your company's name on the name of your video. Example: Voyager\_SponsorVideo.

Please upload sponsor video to this folder: [2026 Sponsor Videos](#)

### Gold Level \$7,500 ~ 2 Free Registrations

- Early distribution of attendees list (1X before meeting).
- Recognized via conference program, sign, banner and the Council's Annual Report.
- Opportunity to display materials and/or giveaways on shared resource table.
- Brief description & logo of your company to be added to the agenda program.
- 2 free registrations
- 2 additional paid sponsors attendee (\$1000 each)

### Silver Level \$5,000 ~ 1 Free Registration

- Opportunity to display materials and/or giveaways on shared resource table.
- Recognized via conference program, signs and the Council's Annual Report.
- Brief description & logo of the company to be added to the agenda program.
- 1 free registration
- 2 additional paid sponsor attendees (\$1000 each)

## HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Call the Hyatt Regency Atlanta directly to book your room at 404-577-1234. Ask for the CGCS or Council of the Great City Schools meeting rate.

Room rates are \$220 per night, single or double, plus 16.9% tax and a \$5 Georgia hotel fee. The cut-off date for the group rate is Friday, June 12, 2026. You may also make reservations online by clicking: [Council of the Great City Schools Hyatt Regency Atlanta Registration](#).



## REFUND & CANCELLATION POLICY

All cancellations and substitution requests must be made in writing and emailed to Gregory Bacon at [gbacon@cgcs.org](mailto:gbacon@cgcs.org). Registrations cancelled on or before June 17, 2026, will receive a full refund. Cancellations received from June 17- June 26 will receive a 50% refund of the registration fee. Cancellations made after June 26 and no-shows on July 7 will not receive a refund and will be billed the full amount. Purchase orders will not be accepted on-site. An additional \$75 late registration fee will be added for registrations received after June 26, 2026.

## ABOUT THE COUNCIL

[Council of the Great City Schools](#) is the only national organization exclusively representing the needs of urban public schools. Composed of 81 large city school districts, its mission is to promote the cause of urban schools and to advocate for inner-city students through legislation, research, and media relations. The organization also provides a network for school districts sharing common problems to exchange information and to collectively address new challenges as they emerge in order to deliver the best possible education for urban youth.

## COUNCIL DISTRICT MEMBERS

Albuquerque, Anchorage, Arlington (Texas), Atlanta, Aurora (Colorado), Austin, Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Bridgeport, Broward County, Buffalo, Charleston, Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Chicago, Cincinnati, Clark County (Las Vegas), Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas, Dayton, Denver, Des Moines, Detroit, Durham, Duval County, East Baton Rouge, El Paso, Fayette County (Lexington), Fort Worth, Fresno, Guilford County (Greensboro, N.C.), Hawaii, Hillsborough County, Houston, Indianapolis, Jackson, Jefferson County (Louisville), Kansas City, Little Rock, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Madison, Memphis-Shelby, Miami-Dade County, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, New York City, Newark, Norfolk, Oakland, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Orange County (Florida), Palm Beach County, Philadelphia, Phoenix Union, Pinellas County, Pittsburgh, Portland, Providence, Puerto Rico, Richmond, Rochester, Sacramento, San Antonio, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Ana, Seattle, St. Louis, St. Paul, Toledo, Tulsa, Wake County, Washington, D.C., Washoe County (Reno), Wichita, and Winston Salem/Forsyth County

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**