



Achieve

American Diploma Project Network

Supporting College-and Career-Ready Graduation Requirements

The Westin Alexandria, Virginia

June 17-18, 2010

Thursday, June 17

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration

Edison Foyer

Snacks will be available.

3:00 p.m. – 3:45p.m.

Opening Plenary: Welcome and Overview of State Accomplishments

Edison A-C

Achieve will provide a brief overview of progress made and challenges ahead. We will identify promising practices across states, particularly those policies that address common challenges. We will ask selected states to share examples of early and promising work.

Matt Gandal, Executive Vice President, Achieve

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Public Views on College-and Career-Ready Graduation Requirements

Edison A-C

We will share new polling on what the general public thinks about college- and career-ready graduation requirements. We will also discuss messages that resonate and those that don't from a national poll commissioned by Achieve this spring.

Sandy Boyd, Vice President, Strategic Communications and Outreach, Achieve

Neil Newhouse, Partner and Co-Founder, Public Opinion Strategies

Dave Walker, Vice President, Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research

5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

Small Group Conversations: Developing and Advancing a College- and Career-Ready Communications Plan

Participants will be able to choose from 3 concurrent sessions. The objectives of each session are to create a forum for peer networking and cross-state fertilization and to identify actionable strategies.

Group 1: Identifying Your Audiences: Tapped and Untapped

Edison A-C

This session will focus on identifying key audiences, including those often untapped, to build statewide and grassroots support for the college- and career-ready graduation requirements.

Sandy Boyd, Vice President, Strategic Communications and Outreach, Achieve

Erin Hart, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Alliances and Programs, National PTA

Henry Stewart, Director of Policy and Outreach, Campaign for High School Equity

Group 2: Developing Targeted Messages

Whitney

This session will build from the plenary session to help states utilize the new research to craft state-specific messages that will resonate with targeted audiences and inform the broader communications strategy.

Kate Blosveren, Senior Policy Analyst, Achieve

Frances Cox, Senior Account Manager, Fratelli Group

Neil Newhouse, Partner and Co-Founder, Public Opinion Strategies

Dave Walker, Vice President, Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research

Group 3: Developing a Transition Strategy to Protect the Policy and Engage and Inform Candidates in the 2010 Election

Wright

This session will be designed to identify strategies for shoring up support for the college- and career-ready graduation requirements through engagement of third-party advocates and candidate outreach.

Margaret Horn, Director, State Leadership & Policy Development, Achieve

Will Pinkston, Managing Director of Advocacy and Communications, SCORE

Senator Jamie Woodson, Speaker Pro Tempore, Tennessee State Legislature

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Reception

Edison Foyer

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Dinner

Edison A-C

Dinner Speakers: A Facilitated Conversation with High School Principals, Teachers and Students Who Have Created a College-Going Culture and Changed Expectations in their Schools

Janae Crockett, Charles Herbert Flowers High School in Prince George's County, Maryland, Class of 2009, current student at North Carolina A&T

Rashid Davis, Principal, Bronx Engineering and Technology Academy, New York City, New York

J.B. Schramm, Founder and CEO, College Summit

Miranda Smalls, College Advisor and College Summit Coordinator, Humanities and the Arts High School, New York City, New York

Cathy Tooley, Director, ICE Small Learning Community, Decatur, Indiana

Friday, June 18

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

Edison Foyer

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Identifying Capacity Gaps and Ramping Up for Implementation: Lessons Learned from Education Trust West’s Opportunity Audit

Edison D

The Education Trust—West will share its experiences working to implement college-and career-ready expectations, highlighting its Educational Opportunity Audit and Blueprint process. This comprehensive process allows districts to determine current levels of college preparation and access to rigorous coursework, and it identifies the changes necessary to implement a college preparatory curriculum for all students. This session will draw heavily from lessons learned in working closely with districts and will discuss strategies for scaling up the transcript analysis process.

Carrie Hahnel, Director of Policy, The Education Trust—West

Linda Murray, Superintendent in Residence, The Education Trust—West

Arun Ramanathan, Executive Director, The Education Trust—West

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Break

9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Small Group Conversations

Participants will be able to choose from 4 concurrent sessions. The objectives of each session are to create a forum for peer networking and cross-state fertilization and identify potential policy solutions.

Group 1: Moving Away from One Size Fits All

Bannecker

This session will explore ways to create a rigorous and multi-faceted strategy for ensuring all students meet college-and career-ready graduation requirements. This session will highlight Dayton, Ohio and its regional strategy to collaborate and coordinate efforts with local businesses, the military and postsecondary institutions to develop educational pathways.

Dr. Greg Bernhardt, Dean of Education at Wright State University

Susan Bodary, Achieve’s State Leadership Team

Tom Lasley, Executive Director, EDVention

Group 2: Achieving a GradNation: Mobilizing America to End the Dropout Crisis and Increase College-and Career-Ready Graduation Rates

Edison E-F

This session will address community approaches to support education reform. District and local leaders will discuss strategies for engaging businesses, parents, schools and the entire community in supporting young people on their path to a college-and career-ready diploma.

Brad Bryant, Member, Georgia State Board of Education

Lisa Gray, Achieve’s State Leadership Team

Brian Shumate, High School Liaison, Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville, Kentucky

Richard Wells, Vice President, America’s Promise Alliance

Brad Weston, Assistant Principal, Fairdale High School, Kentucky

Group 3: Aligning Higher Education Incentives and Policies

Wright

This session will identify and discuss a set of mutually reinforcing policies and actions higher education leaders can take to support the development and implementation of college- and career-ready graduation requirements.

Marc Frazer, Achieve's State Leadership Team

Teresa Lubbers, Commissioner for Higher Education, Indiana

Amy Mast, Director, Georgia's Alliance of Education Agency Heads

Karen Nicodemus, President Emeritus, Cochise College

Dominique Raymond, Director, Alliance State Relations, Complete College America

Group 4: Getting the Information Your State Needs to Answer Critical Questions

Edison G

This session will explore how longitudinal data, in particular transcript data on student course-taking, can help your state improve student achievement and inform policy and programmatic decisions.

Lyndsay Pinkus, Policy Manager, Data Quality Campaign

Bi Vuong, Senior Associate, Data Quality Campaign

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. **Break**

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Small Group Conversations**

Participants will be able to choose from 4 concurrent sessions. The objectives of each session are to create a forum for peer networking and cross-state fertilization and identify potential policy solutions.

Group 1: Approaches to Integrating Academic and Technical Studies

Bannecker

This session will explore the various approaches states can take to integrate rigorous academic and career and technical studies, coursework and content. This session will also include a discussion about innovative ways states can foster coordination and collaboration between academic and CTE leadership, programs and policies to advance the college- and career-ready agenda.

Kate Blosveren, Senior Policy Analyst, Achieve

Kimberly Green, Executive Director, National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium

Donna Pearson, Associate Director, National Research Center for Career and Technical Education

Group 2: Identifying and Implementing Math Pathways in Support of College- and Career-Ready Graduation Requirements

Edison E-F

This session will be informed by the work Achieve has undertaken to develop Math Pathways that reflect how the Common Core State Standards content might be parsed into courses that provide a strong foundation for, and pathways to, college and career readiness and college credit-bearing courses during the high school years.

Doug Sovde, Associate, Mathematics, Achieve

Jennifer Vranek, Achieve's State Leadership Team

Group 3: Developing New Educational Pathways to Support Low-Income and Underserved Youth

Wright

This session will discuss the considerations state leaders must make as they implement new graduation requirements in order to ensure that complementary college-connected pathways can grow and thrive. This session will also include a discussion of strategies that are marked by an accelerated program of study – including college courses as part of the core curriculum for all – student support structures, and bridge programming that provides a supported transition into the first crucial year of higher education.

Terry Grobe, Program Director, Jobs for the Future

Joel Vargas, Program Director, Jobs for the Future

Group 4: Developing System Incentives: Rewarding Schools and Districts

Edison G

This session will identify ways to incentivize increased participation in the college- and career-ready course of study. We will highlight existing state examples that illustrate ways in which states are building college- and career-ready expectations into their public reporting and accountability systems.

Daria Hall, Director, K-12 Policy Development, The Education Trust

Alissa Peltzman, Associate Director, State Leadership & Policy Development, Achieve

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. **Working Lunch: State Team Time**

Edison D

State teams will discuss the state’s priorities, challenges and strategies for advancing the policy objectives. Achieve staff, consultants and resource experts will be available to meet with state teams.

1:45 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. **Reaching College- and Career-Ready Expectations: The Critical Role of Teachers in Preparing All Students for Success**

Edison D

Jon Schnur, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, New Leaders for New Schools

Bill Porter, Achieve’s State Leadership Team

2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Next Steps**

Edison D

State teams will have the opportunity to both identify any key take-aways or actionable strategies they anticipate pursuing as well as ways Achieve can support states and foster continued cross-state sharing.

3:00 p.m. **Adjourn**