

2024 Meeting of the Southern Regional Education Board and the 73rd Annual Legislative Work Conference

June 22-24, 2024 • Sheraton Dallas Hotel • Dallas, Texas

Opportunity's Knocking. Who's Answering?

Agenda

Saturday, June 22

All general sessions are in the Chaparral Ballroom on the 37th floor of the center tower.

All general meals are on the Majestic level, 36th floor of the center tower.

11:30 a.m. **Orientation Luncheon** for new Board and Legislative Advisory Council members
(Majestic 1)

1 p.m. **Attendee and Guest check-in opens** (Chaparral Preconvene area)

GENERAL SESSION

Presiding: Felicia Cumings Smith, President and CEO, National Center for Families Learning, Kentucky, and Vice Chair, SREB
Bob Plymale, State Senator, West Virginia, and Chair, SREB Legislative Advisory Council

3 p.m. **Opening Remarks and Introductions**

State of the States

Stephen Pruitt, President, SREB

3:45 p.m. **Friendly Feud: The Student Success Edition**

This interactive session will highlight how SREB defines postsecondary student success through its four fundamental components, identifying promising practices and gaps that need to be addressed.

Harriette Scott, Vice President, Postsecondary Education, SREB
Michael DeJesus, Director Student Success and Access, SREB

6:30 p.m. **Dinner**

Sunday, June 23

7:30 a.m. **General Breakfast Buffet**

7:30 a.m. **SREB Executive Committee Breakfast Meeting** (Majestic 1)

9 a.m. **Business Meeting of the Southern Regional Education Board**

All meeting participants are encouraged to attend.

Includes the report of the Executive Committee, the report of the Nominating Committee and election of Board officers.

GENERAL SESSIONS

Presiding: Felicia Cumings Smith, President and CEO, National Center for Families Learning, Kentucky, and Vice Chair, SREB

10 a.m. **Building a First-Rate Teacher Workforce in High Poverty Schools**
A deep dive session on how impactful it is to attract and foster great teachers in high poverty areas to improve student success.
Megan Boren, Project Manager, SREB
Amanda Merritt, Division Director, Development and Innovation, SREB
Rebecka Peterson, 2023 National Teacher of the Year, Oklahoma
Taniece Thompson-Smith, 2024 Texas Teacher of the Year, Stafford Elementary School
Alejandro Diasgranados, 2021 DC Teacher of the Year, Whitlock Elementary School, District of Columbia
Leron McAdoo, Teacher, Little Rock Central High School and TeachPlus Policy Fellow, Arkansas

11:15 a.m. **Using AI to Increase Effectiveness and Educational Outcomes**
This session will explore how AI technologies can revolutionize education across our region. We will examine common AI solutions, discuss the skills needed for an AI-ready workforce, and engage in discussions on policy considerations, ethical implications and strategic steps to harness AI's full potential.
Ivy Coburn, Division Director, Education and Workforce, SREB
Jeff Gagne, Director, Policy Analysis, SREB

12:30 p.m. **Lunch** *Featuring the presentation of the 2024 Jack Hill Champion of Education Award*

GENERAL SESSIONS

Presiding: Bob Plymale, State Senator, West Virginia, and Chair, SREB Legislative Advisory Council

2 p.m. **Career Pathways: Paving the Way for Economic Success**
Communities must address the mismatch between the supply of certificates and associate degrees and the future demand for workers. This session will highlight a new report from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, followed by a panel discussion.
Dale Winkler, Senior Vice President, School Improvement, SREB
Zach Mabel, Ed.D., Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, District of Columbia
Robert Rescigno, Wilmington University, Delaware
Charles Appleby, South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce
Rhonda Baker, State Representative, Oklahoma

3:15 p.m. **Answering the Call — State Exemplars and Actions**
State teams will reflect on SREB's five key education priorities for southern states and identify existing exemplars for their state and further actions needed for their state to answer the call.

5 p.m. *Buses depart hotel for evening dinner*

6 p.m. **Special Dinner**
(The Star, in Frisco — the Dallas Cowboys World Headquarters and practice facility)

Agenda

Monday, June 24

7:30 a.m. **General Breakfast Buffet**

7:30 a.m. **Legislative Advisory Council Breakfast Meeting** (Majestic 1)

GENERAL SESSIONS

Rhonda Baker, State Representative, Oklahoma, and Vice Chair,
SREB Legislative Advisory Council

9 a.m. **Empowering Generations: Addressing Diverse Literacy Needs Across Lifespans**

Longitudinal literacy entails a comprehensive, multigenerational approach to literacy learning that spans from early childhood through adulthood. This session will show how addressing literacy needs across the age continuum can equip individuals to succeed in the workforce, contribute meaningfully to their communities and drive economic growth.

Allyson Morgan, Director, State and District Partnerships, SREB

Donn Kirkwood, Senior Leadership Coach, SREB

Felicia Cumings Smith, President and CEO, National Center for Families Learning,
Kentucky

10:15 a.m. **Break for hotel check-out**

10:30 a.m. **Embracing Opportunities — Summary of State Actions**

State teams will complete their reflections on SREB's five key education priorities for southern states, ranking each priority for their state and summarizing state actions and needs to advance those priorities across the region.

11:15 a.m. **Closing Remarks and Meeting Adjournment**

11:30 a.m. **Lunch**

SREB

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