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Council of the Great City Schools
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. ♦ Suite 702 ♦ Washington, D.C. ♦ 20004
<http://www.cgcs.org>

MEDIA ADVISORY

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CONTACT: Henry Duvall at (202) 393-2427

or hduvall@cgcs.org

City School Leaders to Discuss Strategies to Improve Urban Education

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2 – The nation’s big-city school leaders will exchange strategies to advance best practices and guide instructional and organizational reforms when they converge at the Council of the Great City Schools’ 59th Annual Fall Conference, Oct. 7-11, in Long Beach, Calif.

Some 75 discussion sessions will focus on topics such as equity and equality issues in education, common core standards, the school-principal pipeline, teacher effectiveness and evaluation, as well as programs contributing to President Obama’s *My Brother’s Keeper* initiative.

Nearly 1,000 big-city school superintendents, board members and senior administrators from around the nation will meet at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach Hotel under the banner “Sailing to Success in Urban Education.”

The pinnacle event of the conference will be the **National Town Hall Meeting -- “Urban Students Speak Out on Education, Race and Their Futures”**-- moderated by news correspondent and journalist Maria Hinojosa. The town meeting is scheduled for Oct. 9 from 2:30-4 p.m., Pacific Time.

On the evening of Oct. 8, anticipation will be in the air when the **“Urban Educator of the Year”** is named. Four school board members are in the running.

Hosted by Long Beach Unified School District, the conference will also feature:

- Educator of movie fame George McKenna (Oct. 8 lunch);
- NASA astronaut Jose Hernandez (Oct.9 breakfast); and
- CNN host Fareed Zakaria (Oct.9 lunch).

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For complete conference information, access the agenda:

<http://www.cgcs.org/cms/lib/DC00001581/Centricity/Domain/4/Agenda-at-a-glance.pdf>

The *Twitter* hashtag for the conference is #cgcs15