



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
October 13, 2014

**Contacts:**  
Olympia Meola  
Press Secretary  
Council of Chief State School Officers  
[Olympia.Meola@ccsso.org](mailto:Olympia.Meola@ccsso.org)

Henry Duvall  
Communications Director  
Council of the Great City Schools  
[HDuvall@cgcs.org](mailto:HDuvall@cgcs.org)

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

# **Chief State School Officers and Urban School Leaders To Announce Steps to Ensure High-Quality Assessments**

**Washington, D.C. (October 13, 2014)** — The Council of Chief State School Officers and the Council of the Great City Schools this Wednesday will announce steps to help address the public's testing concerns, aimed at improving the quality and amount of student testing in the nation's public schools.

**When:** 1 p.m. EST on Wednesday, October 15

**Who:** Chris Minnich, executive director of the Council of Chief State School Officers, and Michael Casserly, executive director of the Council of the Great City Schools, will be joined by:

- New York State Commissioner John B. King, Jr.
- Louisiana State Superintendent John White
- District of Columbia Public Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson
- Oakland (CA) Unified School District's School Board Member Jumoke Hinton Hodge

**What:** Representatives from the Council of Chief State School Officers and the Council of the Great City Schools will announce their joint position on high-quality assessments and commitments they will make to improve assessment systems at state and local levels.

**To participate:** Members of the news media will be able to participate and ask questions via conference call. To participate, news media must e-mail [olympia.meola@ccsso.org](mailto:olympia.meola@ccsso.org) for webinar information.



- MORE-

***The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)** is a nonpartisan, nationwide, nonprofit organization of public officials who head departments of elementary and secondary education in the states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and five U.S. extra-state jurisdictions. CCSSO provides leadership, advocacy, and technical assistance on major educational issues. The Council seeks member consensus on major educational issues and expresses their views to civic and professional organizations, federal agencies, Congress, and the public.*

***The Council of the Great City Schools** is the only national organization exclusively representing the needs of urban public schools. Composed of 67 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.*