

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS

2024 Conference Schedule

Executive Committee Meeting

Hilton Long Beach, Long Beach CA
January 19 & 20, 2024

Chief Human Resource Officers (CHRO) Meeting

Embassy Suites by Hilton Louisville Downtown, Louisville, KY
February 5-8, 2024

Legislative/Policy Conference

Mayflower Hotel Autograph Collection, Washington, DC
March 16-19, 2024

Chief Operating Officers Conference

Hilton Phoenix Tapatio Cliffs Resort, Phoenix, AZ
April 15-21, 2024

Bilingual Directors Meeting

The Royal Sonesta Minneapolis Downtown, Minneapolis, MN
May 6-11, 2024

Chief Information Officers Conference

Hilton Portland Downtown, Portland, OR
June 2-8, 2024

Curriculum & Research Directors' Meeting

Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago
July 9-12, 2024

Public Relations Executives Meeting

Hyatt Regency Bellevue, Bellevue, WA
July 11-13, 2024

Executive Committee Meeting

St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul, MN
July 19-20, 2024

Annual Fall Conference

Sheraton Dallas Hotel, Dallas, TX
October 16-20, 2024

Sheraton Philadelphia Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
October 22-26, 2025

Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA
October 21-25, 2026

Chief Financial Officers Conference

West Palm Beach Marriot, West Palm Beach, CA
November 18-22, 2024

**SUMMER 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING**

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS
Summer Meeting of the Executive Committee
July 19 & 20, 2024

CONFERENCE HOTEL:

The Saint Paul Hotel
350 Market Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
Tel. (651) 292-9292

GROUP RATE: \$179/night for Single and Double Occupancy
Plus 15.875% tax

This historic 1910 hotel has been serving the Twin City area for generations. The Hotel Saint Paul overlooks Rice Park and is a five-minute drive from the River Center Convention Center.



FALL CONFERENCE 2024



CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

An Invitation to Present at the 68th Annual Fall Conference of the Council of the Great City Schools in Dallas, TX.

We invite school districts, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations to submit a proposal for a **10-minute presentation** on what's working for you to improve academic achievement for all students through efforts in one of the following areas in Urban Schools:

- **High Quality Curriculum, Instruction, and Research**
- **Mental Health/Social and Emotional Learning**
- **Professional Development**
- **Business Management**
- **Leadership and Governance**
- **Bilingual Education Programs**
- **Special Education Programs**
- **Communications/Public Relations**
- **Other Initiatives**

SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL FOR PRESENTATION

It is our intent that the Annual Conference serves the membership by providing a forum for the presentation, consideration, and discussion of the needs of urban education. This year's discussion groups and concurrent breakout sessions will be arranged to facilitate the exchange of information around increasing academic achievement in urban schools.

We invite you to submit a proposal for presentation that addresses how programs, initiatives and/or practices in the areas of closing achievement gaps, professional development, finance, leadership, and bilingual and special education programming are aligned and related to making a difference in improving academic achievement for all students. We are especially interested in receiving proposals that provide clear, convincing data that the program/initiative is effective in raising achievement and closing gaps between students in core academic subjects, such as reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. You may submit more than one program for presentation.

The title and the 75-100 word description should summarize and accurately reflect the content of what you are proposing for the session. As you develop your proposal, think about real and concrete results, what your urban colleagues most want to know, and how your session can be interactive and engaging for conference attendees.

PRESENTER ELIGIBILITY

The Council considers school districts, institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations eligible to present at the Annual Conference. School districts do not have to be Council members to submit proposals. **For-profit consultants and/or businesses are not eligible to present.** Proposals from for-profit consultants and/or businesses will not be considered. This includes proposals for the district-led corporate presentations.

Additionally, we ask that all proposals be approved by the appropriate district superintendent and/or college dean in order to be considered for presentation. Please be sure to check the appropriate box on the application form to confirm that the submitted proposal has been approved.

PRESENTATION FORMAT

The format for presentations is one of concurrent sessions. Each session will include a panel comprised of one or more presenters from different districts or colleges of education or partner organizations presenting on similar topics. All concurrent sessions will be held on **Thursday, October 17th and Friday, October 18th**. Each session will run for approximately one hour and fifteen minutes. **Presenters are to limit formal presentations to approximately 10 minutes.** This will encourage discussion between the panelists and participants and maximize sharing of important ideas and information. All rooms will be arranged in conference-style to facilitate discussion.

ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION

The deadline for submitting a proposal is **April 5, 2024**. The receipt of all proposals will be acknowledged by e-mail within a week of submission. All correspondence will be sent to the presenter(s) acknowledged in the submitted proposals. Accepted and declined proposals will be acknowledged via e-mail by **June 14, 2024**.

STRAND DESCRIPTIONS

Presentations should be designed to help participants:

- Become more knowledgeable about quality programs and practices that promote student achievement
- Develop a deeper understanding of the principles for effective teaching and learning for all students

Priority in selection will be given to proposals that provide clear and convincing data demonstrating that the program/initiative is effective in raising student achievement.

1. **Curriculum, Instruction, and Research**

This strand seeks proposals about research-based practices and tiered supports that impact teaching and learning across content areas, systemic levers that dismantle opportunity gaps and inequities, and demonstrate evidence of advancing academic performance for all learners.

2. **Social and Emotional Learning**

Proposals under this strand might address different approaches to addressing the mental health and social/emotional needs of students. Of particular interest are proposals addressing methods for evaluating the effectiveness of supports and their impact on student achievement.

3. **Professional Development**

Proposals submitted under this strand might address how different approaches to the recruitment, preparation, induction, and retention of qualified teachers, principals, and school site leaders have impacted student achievement. Of particular interest are proposals addressing methods for evaluating the effectiveness of professional development and individual teachers on student achievement.

4. **Business Management**

Proposals in this strand might address areas of finances to deal with federal, state, and local budget cuts, equitable distribution of funding, cost beneficial ways to allocate district resources to boost student achievement, and meeting special education costs. As well as operational areas (facilities, transportation, procurement, etc.) that address efficient operations and have financial impacts.

5. **Leadership and Governance**

Critical topics that proposals in this strand might address are the recruitment and preparation of personnel for leadership roles, expanding the capacity of building leadership, role of board members, community relationships, and models of effective urban governance and management systems.

6. **Bilingual Education Programming**

Proposals in this strand might include programs that successfully improve student achievement, especially for recent immigrants, older students and long-term ELLs, comprehensive assessment strategies, and the development of curriculum that impact ELL student achievement.

7. **Special Education Programming**

Proposals in this strand might include programs that successfully improve student achievement, especially for students with mental, emotional and physical disabilities, comprehensive assessment strategies, and the development of curriculum that impact special education student achievement.

8. **Communications/Public Relations**

Proposals in this strand should be relevant to improve district internal or external communications and should equip conferees with skills and information they can take back to their districts and utilize in their public relations/communication offices.

Please submit your proposal at
[2024 CGCS Call for Presentations](#)
by April 5, 2024

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS

2024 Annual Fall Conference

**Hosted by
Dallas Independent School District**

October 16-20, 2024

CONFERENCE HOTEL:

**Sheraton Dallas Hotel
400 North Olive Street
Dallas, TX 75201
Telephone: 214-922-8000**

**GROUP RATE: \$234/night for Single and Double
Occupancy Plus 15.26% tax**

Set in the Arts District, this upscale hotel is a 3-minute walk from the Pearl Street/Arts District light rail station, and a 7-minute walk from shopping at the landmark Neiman Marcus Building.

Streamlined rooms have flat-screen TVs and Wi-Fi (fee), plus work desks with ergonomic chairs. They also have minifridges and coffeemakers. Club rooms provide access to a lounge with complimentary continental breakfast, all-day snacks and evening appetizers. Room service is available.

Amenities include a casual restaurant, a cafe and a sports lounge, as well as a fitness center and an outdoor pool. There's also meeting space and a 24/7 business center.



FALL CONFERENCE 2025

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS

69th ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

Hosted by
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
Philadelphia, PA

OCTOBER 22-27, 2025

CONFERENCE HOTEL:

Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown
201 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

GROUP RATE: \$244/night for Single and Double Occupancy, Plus 16.37% tax

Begin your Philly adventure at the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown. Part of Downtown Philadelphia's prestigious Logan Square neighborhood, this hotel is walking distance from the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Love Park and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Venture a bit further to reach Citizens Bank Park, Temple University and historic sites like Liberty Bell and Franklin Square. Surrounded by subway and bus stops, and under a mile from 30th Street Station, our central location makes it easy to explore the city.

As guests, take advantage of the hotel's state-of-art fitness center and free Wi-Fi. Discover new culinary favorites every day at the two hotel restaurants. During your stay, feel at home in a light-filled room or suite with refined décor, a mini fridge, flat-screen TV with premium cable and views of Benjamin Franklin Parkway.



FALL CONFERENCE 2026

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS

70th ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

**Hosted by
BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Boston, MA**

OCTOBER 21-25, 2026

CONFERENCE HOTEL:

Boston Marriott Copley Place
Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02116

GROUP RATE: \$339/night for Single and Double Occupancy, Plus 16.45% tax

This upscale hotel in the Back Bay neighborhood is a 22-minute walk from both Fenway Park and historic Boston Common, and just four miles from the airport. The hotel is connected to two large shopping malls, and Back Bay's designer boutiques, art galleries and patio cafes are walking distance.

The relaxed rooms have flat-screen TVs, Wi-Fi (fee) and desks, as well as minifridges and coffeemakers. Some rooms provide access to a lounge offering free continental breakfast and evening appetizers. Suites add separate living areas.

There's a lively sports bar with wall-to-wall TVs, along with a laid-back lounge offering casual American fare. Other amenities include a spa, an indoor pool and a fitness center, plus 45 meeting rooms and a business center.





CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MARTIN J. WALSH

January 15, 2020

Michael Casserly
Executive Director
Council of Great City Schools
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 702
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Michael:

The Boston Public Schools and the City of Boston would enthusiastically welcome the opportunity to serve as the host city and school district for the 2024 annual conference of the Council of Great City Schools.

As the home of the nation's first public school district, Boston and the Boston Public Schools offer a rich history of change and progress over time. With a freshly developed strategic plan, unprecedented new education investments from Mayor Walsh and passage of the Student Opportunity Act, Massachusetts' historic new funding and accountability law, Boston Public Schools are poised to make significant progress to ensure all of our students have access to high quality schools and an excellent education that prepares them for success in college, career and life.

From the walkable, history-rich streets of downtown Boston to the booming tech industry, Boston provides a unique opportunity to experience the old and new together. This summer, Boston will serve as the host city for the NAACP's 2020 convention, an event that is estimated to attract 10,000 attendees. The event's planners selected us as the host city not only because of the impactful history of being home to the NAACP's oldest branch, but because of Boston's international reputation as a visitor destination, its rich historical significance, and recent innovations that make our city even more welcoming to visitors.

Hosting the 2024 annual conference in Boston would be an honor. We are confident that the Boston Public Schools and our entire community will make the event a memorable and meaningful experience for conference attendees.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have about our candidacy. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Walsh
Mayor of Boston

Michael Loconto
School Committee Chair

Dr. Brenda Cassellius
Superintendent



**GREATER BOSTON
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**

January 13, 2020

Michael Casserly
Executive Director
Council of Great City Schools
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 702
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Michael,

On behalf of the Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau, I want to express how honored we would be to once again host the Council of Great City Schools Annual Conference in the fall of 2024. When we last hosted this event, in 2011, the meeting enjoyed record-breaking attendance. We would be thrilled to welcome the Conference back to Boston during a period when we will be commemorating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, and the catalytic events in Boston that ushered in the Revolutionary Era. Educational programming is at the core of how we will mark these important anniversaries.

The fall in Boston is simply spectacular. Our historic parks and urban green spaces pop in myriad hues as our famous foliage takes over the city. Our history and heritage invite exploration, our diverse neighborhoods offer vibrant culture and delicious restaurants, our sports and performing arts calendars begin to heat up, and our iconic museums introduce exciting new exhibitions.

Boston is a walking city where visitors can bask in 4 centuries of history while easily strolling from neighborhood to neighborhood. And Boston is still making history. We are a city of innovation, where institutions of higher education interact with world-class research hospitals, start-up incubators, and life sciences clusters to drive an ecosystem of collaboration and discovery. This buzz of innovation, and these guideposts of the future, are most palpable in Boston's emerging Seaport District, where fun nightlife, great restaurants, and eclectic art galleries exist alongside engines of economic development.

We hope that you will consider returning to Boston for the 2024 Annual Conference of the Council of Great City Schools. We take very seriously our role in this nation's past and future, and education plays a central role in that story. We are very excited about this possibility and look forward to hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact me at msheridan@bostonusa.com with any additional questions or follow-up information you may need.

Sincerely,

Martha J. Sheridan
President & CEO
Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau