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MEDIA ADVISORY
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Political Analyst Chuck Todd, Best-Selling Author Isabel Wilkerson and Science Communicator Katya Echazarreta Address Urban School Leaders

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 – Chuck Todd, chief political analyst at NBC News and former moderator of *Meet the Press*, will be one of three keynote speakers at the Council of the Great City Schools’ 68th Annual Fall Conference, Oct. 16-20, in Dallas.

Also addressing the nation’s urban school leaders will be best-selling author and Pulitzer Prize winner Isabel Wilkerson, and Katya Echazarreta, the first Mexican-born woman to go to space.

The conference will feature a national town hall meeting on Oct. 18 at 2:30 p.m., moderated by Todd and featuring an all-student panel tackling issues being discussed in the 2024 presidential campaign such as reproductive rights, the economy, immigration, growing racial and ethnic diversity, and gun violence. The town hall will feature high school students from Albuquerque, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, Nashville, and Philadelphia.

On the evening of Oct. 17, the Council will announce the “Urban School Superintendent of the Year.” Five superintendents are finalists for the Green-Garner Award, the nation’s top award in urban education leadership, sponsored by the Council and Scholastic.

The four-day conference, hosted by the Dallas Independent School District, will also feature over 200 presentations on issues such as social and emotional learning, addressing unfinished learning and improving student achievement, the needs of English learners and students with disabilities, effective school board governance, and community engagement efforts. More than 1,200 big-city school superintendents, board members, senior administrators, and educators from around the nation will attend the conference at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel in Dallas.

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The hashtag for the conference is #CGCS24