GRADNATION

MOBILIZING AMERICA TO END THE DROPOUT CRISIS

AGENDA

Building a Grad Nation Summit
March 21-23, 2011
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC

Monday, March 21

2:00 PM **Registration Opens** *(Marriott Ballroom Foyer, Mezzanine level)*

5:30 – 7:00 PM **Welcome Reception** *(Marriott Ballroom, Salon II, Lobby Level)*

Opening Remarks:
- Mrs. Alma Powell, Chair, America's Promise Alliance
- Michael Powell, Co-Chair, Grad Nation, America's Promise Alliance

Presenters:
- Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education
- Rand Harbert, Senior Vice President, State Farm Insurance Companies
- Cindy Valverde, Simon Scholar
- Tichina Arnold, Actress & Education Advocate

Closing Remarks:
- Michael Powell, Co-Chair, Grad Nation, America's Promise Alliance

Entertainment:
- High School for Recording Arts, St. Paul, Minn.

6:30 PM **Registration Closes**

Tuesday, March 22

7:00 AM **Registration / Info Desk Opens** *(Marriott Foyer, Mezzanine Level)*

7:30 – 8:30 AM **Breakfast & Opening Session** *(Marriott Ballroom, enter Mezzanine Level)*

Opening Remarks:
- Mrs. Alma Powell, Chair, America's Promise Alliance
- Michael Powell, Co-Chair, Grad Nation, America's Promise Alliance

Keynote Speakers:

- Governor Jeb Bush, President, Foundation for Excellence in Education
- Patrick Corvington, CEO, Corporation for National & Community Service
- Melody Barnes, Director, White House Domestic Policy Council

Closing Remarks:

- Michael Powell, Co-Chair, Grad Nation, America's Promise Alliance

8:30 – 10:00 AM **Civic Marshall Plan Plenary Session** *(Marriott Ballroom, enter Mezzanine Level)*

Welcome:

- Christian Jurado, Simon Scholar

Opening Remarks:

- Marguerite Kondracke, President & CEO, America's Promise Alliance
- Mark Nieker, President, Pearson Foundation
- Ken Dodge, Director, Center for Child & Family Policy, Duke University

Featured Speakers:

- John Bridgeland, President & CEO, Civic Enterprises
- Robert Balfanz, Co-Director, The Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University
- Daniel Bryant, Senior Vice President, Global Public Policy and Government Affairs, PepsiCo

Panelists:

- *Moderator:* John Bridgeland, President & CEO, Civic Enterprises
- Jim Balfanz, President, City Year
- Robert Balfanz, Co-Director, The Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University
- Dan Cardinali, President, Communities In Schools
- Claire Lyons, Architecture & Management of Global Grant Portfolios, CSR, PepsiCo
- Peter Beard, Senior Vice President, Community Impact, United Way Worldwide
- Governor Bob Wise, President, Alliance for Excellent Education

10:15 – 11:30 AM **Concurrent Sessions** *(Washington Rooms, Exhibition Level)*

- **Combating the "ABCs" of Dropout with Early Warning Systems** *(Washington I)*
  - *Moderator:* Robert Balfanz, Co-Director, The Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University
  - Leslie Cornfeld, Chair, Mayor's Interagency Task Force on Truancy, Chronic Absenteeism and Student Engagement, and Special Advisor to the Mayor, New York City
  - William R. Hite, Jr., Superintendent, Prince George's County Public Schools
  - Becky James-Hatter, CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri
  - Christopher Wagner, Policy Analyst, Civic Enterprises

- **Promising Practices in Delivering Wraparound Services** *(Washington II)*
  - *Moderator:* Dan Domenech, Executive Director, American Association of School Administrators

- Jim Balfanz, President, City Year
- Sherrie Brach, President & CEO, United Way of Greater Richmond
- Dan Cardinali, President, Communities In Schools
- Roxanne Spillett, President & CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of America
- Valerie Truesdale, Superintendent, Beaufort County School District

- **State-Level Strategies for Raising Graduation, College & Career Readiness Rates** *(Washington III)*
  - *Moderator:* Dane Linn, Education Division Director, Center for Best Practices, National Governors Association
  - Sunny Deye, Program Principal, National Conference of State Legislatures
  - Representative Gregory W. Porter, 96th District, Indiana State Legislature
  - Brenda Welburn, Executive Director, National Association of State Boards of Education
  - Gene Wilhoit, Executive Director, Council of Chief State School Officers

- **Transforming Secondary Schools to Improve Student Success** *(Washington IV)*
  - *Moderator:* John Wilson, Executive Director, National Education Association
  - Andres Alonso, CEO, Baltimore City Public Schools
  - Harold Brown, President of EdWorks, KnowledgeWorks
  - Justin Cohen, President, School Turnaround Group, Mass Insight
  - JD Hoye, President, National Academy Foundation

- **Ensuring Teacher Effectiveness** *(Washington V)*
  - *Moderator:* Randi Weingarten, President, American Federation of Teachers
  - Cheree Davis, Senior Facilitator of Professional Development, Talent Development High Schools, Johns Hopkins University
  - Sara Heyburn, Education Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor, State of Tennessee
  - David Steele, Chief Information & Technology Officer, and Project Director, Empowering Effective Teachers Grant, Hillsborough County Public Schools
  - Cheryl Vedoe, CEO, Apex Learning

- **The Unique Challenge of Rural Education** *(Washington VI)*
  - *Moderator:* Donald T. Floyd, Jr., President & CEO, National 4-H Council
  - Carol Costello, Supervisor of Student Services, Washington County Public Schools
  - Robert Mahaffey, Director of Communications & Marketing, The Rural & Community Trust; and President, Organizations Concerned About Rural Education
  - Jeffrey H. Schwartz, Education Program Manager, Appalachian Regional Commission
  - John White, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Rural Education, US Department of Education

12:00 – 1:30 PM **Lunch Plenary** *(Marriott Ballroom, enter Mezzanine Level)*

Welcome:

- Chelsea Johnson, Simon Scholar

Opening Remarks:

- Laysha Ward, President, Community Relations and Target Foundation

Moderators:

- Gwen Ifill, Moderator & Managing Editor, "Washington Week;" Senior Correspondent for "The PBS Newshour"
- Morton Kondracke, Executive Editor, Roll Call

Panelists:
- Governor Robert F. McDonnell, State of Virginia
- Governor Martin O'Malley, State of Maryland
- Mayor Gregory A. Ballard, Indianapolis, IN
- Mayor Cory Booker, Newark, NJ
- Mayor Mick Cornett, Oklahoma City, OK

1:45 – 3:00 PM **Concurrent Sessions** *(Washington Rooms, Exhibition Level)*

- **Alternative Pathways & Dropout Recovery** *(Washington I)*
  - *Moderator:* Ken Smith, President & CEO, Jobs for America's Graduates
  - Mark Claypool, President & CEO, Educational Services of America - Ombudsman
  - Gregg Croteau, Executive Director, United Teen Equality Center
  - Daniel Hamburger, President & CEO, DeVry, Inc.
  - Dorothy Stoneman, Founder & President, YouthBuild USA
  - Zurell Toney, 2009 Graduate, YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School, and Member, YouthBuild USA National V.O.I.C.E.S Council

- **Expanding Learning to Close Achievement & Opportunity Gaps** *(Washington II)*
  - *Moderator:* Jennifer Davis, President, National Center on Time and Learning
  - Jodi Grant, Executive Director, Afterschool Alliance
  - Priscilla Little, Research & Evaluation Consultant
  - Margaret McKenna, President, The Walmart Foundation
  - Eric Schwarz, Co-Founder & CEO, Citizen Schools
  - Lynsey Wood Jeffries, Executive Director, DC Metro Higher Achievement Program

- **Family Engagement in Student Success** *(Washington III)*
  - *Moderator:* Mishaela Duran, Interim Executive Director, National PTA
  - Vito Borrello, President, Every Person Influences Children (EPIC)
  - Rev. Larry Snyder, President, Catholic Charities USA
  - Vanessa Taylor-Dotison, Program Manager, Parent's Challenge
  - Abby Weiss, Executive Director, Full-Service Schools Roundtable

- **Developing College & Career Ready Students** *(Washington IV)*
  - *Moderator:* Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary, Office of Vocational & Adult Education, US Department of Education
  - Jan Bray, Executive Director, Association for Career and Technical Education
  - Karen Pittman, President & CEO, Forum for Youth Investment
  - Ryan Underwood, Executive Director, California DECA
  - Michael Wotorson, Executive Director, Campaign for High School Equity

- **Redesigning the Middle Grades** *(Washington V)*
  - *Moderator*: Robert Balfanz, Co-Director, The Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University

- Caroline Bloxom, Principal, Pocomoke Middle School (MetLife Foundation-NASSP Breakthrough Schools grant recipient)
- Deborah Kasak, Executive Director, Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform
- Sandy Kress, Fellow in Education Policy, George W. Bush Institute

- **The Importance of Grade-Level Reading in Student Success** *(Washington VI)*
  - *Moderator:* Ralph Smith, Executive Vice President, Annie E. Casey Foundation
  - Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
  - Dean Kephart, Group Manager, Target
  - Neil Nicoll, President & CEO, YMCA of the USA
  - Audrey Suker, Executive Director, ServeMinnesota

3:00 PM **Registration Closes**

3:15 – 4:15 PM **Grad Nation Super Seminars (Two Concurrent Sessions)** *(Lobby Level)*

- **A Path Toward Post-Secondary Success** *(Virginia Suite, Lobby Level)*
  - *Moderator:* John Bridgeland, President & CEO, Civic Enterprises
  - Jennifer Blatz, Director of Advocacy, Strive
  - Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary of Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor
  - Eduardo Padrón, President, Miami Dade College
  - Robert Schwartz, Francis Keppel Professor of Practice of Educational Policy, and Administration & Academic Dean, Harvard Graduate School of Education
  - Khadijah Williams, Student, Harvard University, and Student Blogger, Center for Student Opportunity

- **Strategies for Communicating Your Message through Traditional Media & Social Networking** *(Maryland Suite, Lobby Level)*
  - *Moderator:* Rehema Ellis, Education Correspondent, NBC News
  - Eliza Byard, Executive Director, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)
  - Julia Cartwright, Senior Vice President of Communications, American Legacy Foundation
  - Doug McKenney, Executive Director, Public Awareness Initiatives, Corporation for Public Broadcasting
  - Cindi Williams, Director of U.S. Program Communications, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

4:30 – 5:45 PM **Grad Nation Super Seminars (Two Concurrent Sessions)** *(Lobby Level)*

- **Making Education a Data-Driven Enterprise** *(Maryland Suite)*
  - *Moderator:* Aimee Guidera, Executive Director, Data Quality Campaign
  - Bruce Hoyt, Managing Director, St. Charles Capital, and Member, Board of Education, Denver Public Schools
  - William E. Kirwan, Chancellor, University System of Maryland
  - Pam Williams, Economics Teacher, Appling County High School, Georgia and 2011 Georgia Teacher of the Year

- **Capitol Hill 101…Ready or Not? How to Talk So Policy Makers Listen!** *(Virginia Suite)*
  Strongly recommended in preparation for March 23 Hill Day
  - *Moderator:* Melinda Hudson, Executive Vice President, America's Promise Alliance

- Phillip Lovell, Vice President of Federal Advocacy, Alliance for Excellent Education
- Michael Torra, Principal, The Raben Group

6:30 – 8:00 PM **Dinner** *(Marriott Ballroom, enter Mezzanine Level)*

Entertainment:
- Duke Ellington School of the Arts Show Choir

Welcome:
- Forest Ogunyankin, Simon Scholar

Opening Remarks:
- Laura Sanford, President, AT&T Foundation

Panelists:
- *Moderator:* Andrea Mitchell, Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent, NBC News
- Marc Ecko, Founder & Chief Creative Officer, Marc Ecko Enterprises
- Vicki Phillips, Director of Education – College Ready, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Barry Schuler, Former CEO, AOL; and Board Member, KnowledgeWorks
- Governor Bob Wise, President, Alliance for Excellent Education

Closing Remarks:
- Brian Gallagher, President & CEO, United Way Worldwide

8:30 – 9:30 PM **Grad Nation Summit Steering Committee Reception**
A Conversation with Jon Schnur, Chairman of the Board & Co-Founder, New Leaders for New Schools; hosted by Marguerite Kondracke, President & CEO, America's Promise Alliance

Wednesday, March 23

Two Optional Concurrent Events

Optional Event 1:

8:15 AM – 5:00 PM **Grad Nation Hill Day** *(offsite; transportation will be provided)*

Starting at 8:15 AM **Luggage Drop-Off and Storage** *(Capitol Hill Club, 300 First Street SE, Washington, DC)*

9:00 – 10:30 AM **Congressional Breakfast & Education Briefing** (*Capitol Hill Club)*

Moderator:
- Governor Bob Wise, President, Alliance for Excellent Education

Panelists:
- Lindsay Hunsicker, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee
- David Johns, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee
- Laura Schifter, House Education and Workforce Committee

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM **Visits to Congressional Offices**

12:30 – 2:00 PM **Lunchtime Peer Exchange: How Did That Go? And What Now?** *(Hart Senate Office Building, Room 902)*

2:00 – 4:00 PM **Visits to Congressional Offices**

Until 5:00 PM **Luggage Pick-Up** *(Capitol Hill Club, 300 First Street SE, Washington, DC)*

Optional Event 2:

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Roundtable on the Education of Military Children** *(Virginia Suite, Lobby Level)*

- **Welcoming Remarks:**
  - Deborah Mullen, military families advocate and spouse of Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

- **Panelists:**
  - Robert Gordon, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community & Family Policy
  - Kelly Hruska, Deputy Director of Government Relations, National Military Family Association
  - Angela Huebner, Associate Professor, Department of Human Development, Virginia Tech
  - Marcia Kropf, Chief Operating Officer, Girls, Inc.
  - Charles Patterson, Director of Training and Transition, Military Impacted Schools Association
  - Dave Splitek, Vice President, Programs and Services, Military Child Education Coalition
  - Terrill D. Wicks, Vice President, Military Services & International Projects, Boys & Girls Clubs of America