PURPOSE
To provide professional development and networking opportunities for the Legislative Education Staff Network (LESN) meeting participants.

8:30 - 9 a.m. **Check-In and Breakfast**

9 - 9:45 a.m. **Welcome, Introductions, Overview and Icebreaker**
- Jeremy Anderson, President, Education Commission of the States
- Stephanie Aragon, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States and LESN Coordinator
- Joellen Kralik, Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures and LESN Coordinator

9:45 - 10 a.m. **Education Commission of the States’ Services and Supports**
- Julie Woods, Senior Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States

10 - 11:15 a.m. **SESSION 1**
**Teacher Recruitment and Retention Workshop**
The session lead will provide a national overview of the teacher shortage problem. Then, participants will hear from their peers about state strategies underway through rotating roundtable discussions.

**Session Lead:**
- Stephanie Aragon, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States and LESN Coordinator

**Peer Experts:**
- Tricia Elite, Education Policy Committee Administrator, Minnesota Senate
- Scott Fuji, Committee Clerk, Office of Sen. Michelle Kidani, Hawaii State Legislature
- Steven Hernández, Executive Director Commission on Women, Children and Seniors, Connecticut General Assembly
- Pierce McNair, Director of Research, House Education and Public Works Committee, South Carolina General Assembly
- Nathan Schwanz, Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. John Nygren, Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance, Wisconsin State Legislature

11:15 - 11:30 a.m. **Break**

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **SESSION 2**
**Accountability Systems and School Improvement**
Session leads will provide an overview of accountability systems and school improvement efforts across states, with an emphasis on the questions Education Commission of the States receives from policymakers. Q&A will follow.

**Session Leads:**
- Alyssa Rafa, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States
- Julie Woods, Senior Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States
12:30 - 1:15 p.m. Lunch

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. SESSION 3

Ed Talk Mix-Up — School Discipline and Finance
Session leads will provide a national overview of two very different — but important — topics in K-12 education: school discipline and school finance. Q&A will follow.

Session Leads:
- Emily Parker, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States
- Alyssa Rafa, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States

2:15 - 2:30 p.m. Break

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. SESSION 4

College Affordability — Dialogue with Peers
College affordability is a perennial issue in state legislatures. Listen to how Nevada has studied the issue over the 2017-18 interim session, and have the opportunity to engage in a discussion with the session lead and peer expert.

Session Leads:
- Neal Holly, Assistant Director, Postsecondary and Workforce Development, Education Commission of the States

Peer Experts:
- Jen Sturm, Senior Policy Analyst, Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BREAKOUT 1

Program and Policy Evaluation — What Works?
John Turcotte will discuss the unique processes related to evaluating education-specific policies, and help legislative staff understand how to incorporate program evaluations and audits into the policymaking process. Q&A will follow.

Session Leads:
- Joellen Kralik, Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures and LESN Coordinator
- John Turcotte, Director, Program Evaluation Division, North Carolina General Assembly

4:30 - 5:45 p.m. Break

6 p.m. Networking Dinner at Petit Plats
2653 Connecticut Ave. NW, one block from the hotel
Meet outside of Harry’s Pub, near the center tower elevators, at 5:45 p.m.
8:30 - 9 a.m. Joint Networking Breakfast

9 - 9:30 a.m. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BREAKOUT 2

2018 Elections, Transitions and Changes in State Education Leadership
The session lead will provide a brief snapshot of the 2018 elections and the transitions and changes in state education leadership that may result. This is a joint session with all three ancillary meeting participants.

Session Lead:
■ Sara Shelton, Director, State Relations, Education Commission of the States

9:30 - 9:45 a.m. Break

9:45 - 10:45 a.m. SESSION 5

Career Technical Education — Key Policy Components and Trends
The session lead will provide an overview of key state policy components — including CTE and work-readiness endorsements in high school diploma requirements and CTE dual enrollment — that can support high-quality, CTE programs that prepare students for education and training after high school or successful entry into the workforce.

Session Lead:
■ Jennifer Zinth, Principal, High School and STEM, Education Commission of the States

10:45 – 11:45 a.m. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BREAKOUT 3

Lessons Learned — A Conversation with LESN Veteran Staff
The session lead will facilitate a lessons-learned conversation with veteran LESN staff, leaving plenty of time for participants to ask questions of their veteran colleagues.

Session Lead:
■ Lauren Sisneros, State Relations Strategist, Education Commission of the States

LESN Veteran Staff:
■ Sara Fidler, Principal Policy Analyst, Maryland Department of Legislative Services
■ Subira Gordon, Executive Director, Connecticut Commission on Equity and Opportunity
■ Mary Kenfield, Policy Director, Washington State House of Representatives
■ LaMont Rainey, Legal Counsel, Education Committee, Nebraska Legislature
■ Melissa White, Chief Counsel, Education Committee, West Virginia House of Delegates

11:45 a.m. - 12 p.m. Presentation of 2018 LESN Recognition Award and Adjourn
■ Stephanie Aragon, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States and LESN Coordinator
■ Scott Fuji, Committee Clerk, Office of Sen. Michelle Kidani, Hawaii State Legislature

12 - 1 p.m. Break before the 2018 National Forum on Education Policy begins. Grab a boxed lunch on your way out!
1 p.m. 2018 National Forum on Education Policy Kickoff — Room Salon 1 & 2

Session resources are available online at: bit.ly/ECSNFI8Resources