

**Saturday and Sunday Registration: 7:00 am-9:30 am**

**Saturday Opening Keynotes and Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

**Diane Ravitch, President of NPE and Zeph Capo, President of Texas AFT**

**Saturday: Session 1 9:45 am-10:55 am**

**Session Title**

**Description**

**Presenters and Moderators**

**Beating Vouchers in Court: Lessons from Recent Wins and Ongoing Efforts**

There has been good news in courts in Montana, Utah, and Ohio, where voucher programs have recently been declared unconstitutional. While appeals are pending in these states, vouchers are also currently being challenged in states including Tennessee, Wyoming, Florida, and Missouri, with additional lawsuits possibly on the way. Learn about these cases, what it takes to win in court, and the many ways that stakeholders can support these efforts.

Derek Black, Jessica Levin, Fred Jones, Jr., and Sharon Krengel

**From Assistance to Advocacy: How to Create Effective Partnerships Between Schools and Congregations**

This workshop will identify ways by which public school advocates and educators can connect with local faith communities to grow grassroots support by sharing examples of successful local faith community-local school partnerships. It will also share to encourage faith communities to add advocacy to the volunteer/ service/ donations they provide for a local school without jeopardizing a faith community's 501(c)3 status.

Rev. Rachel Gunter Shapard, Rev. Suzanne Parker Miller, and Bishop John Olgetree

**The Newest Privatization Grift: Texas 1882 Charter Partnerships**

Texas public school advocates unpack how SB 1882 "partnerships" were structured to fast-track privatization under the cover of innovation and added funding. With a finance lens, this session exposes how the funding system is ripe for abuse, and why these deals harm students and public schools just as much as vouchers.

Alejandra Lopez, Ann Eagleton, Elizabeth Hordges-Freeman, and Josephine Lee

**Artificial Intelligence: What Should Be Its Role in Our Classrooms and Schools?**

As the use of Generative AI rapidly expands in schools throughout the nation, a heated debate has arisen as to its impact on students' cognitive development, critical thinking, privacy, mental health and the environment. Hear from a noted expert as well as education advocates and the President of the AFT on what steps states and districts should be taking to prevent or minimize these significant risks.

Randi Weingarten, Mary Burns, Josh Golin, and Leonie Haimson (moderator)

<p><b>Subsidizing Silicon While Schools Struggle: The Growing Pushback Against Corporate Tax Breaks</b></p>	<p>Data centers are the latest outrageous example, but across the U. S., corporate tax breaks drain billions from public education. States and localities are losing billions now to energy-hungry hyperscale data centers that deliver very few permanent jobs. This panel will explore the real cost of corporate tax breaks, including the growing controversy around data center subsidies, and how public education advocates are building grassroots movements to ensure public schools get full funding.</p>	<p>Anthony Elmo and Byron Clemens</p>
<p><b>Christian Nationalism: The Public School Battleground</b></p>	<p>This workshop will introduce participants to Christian Nationalism, explaining its ideology, symbols, and political strategies. Presenters will discuss public schools as a main battleground of Christian Nationalism, where a combination of underfunding education, expanding vouchers, and imposing prayer and the Ten Commandments in classrooms threatens religious freedom. They will share lessons learned from advocacy work at the state and federal level.</p>	<p>Susan Nogan, Jennifer Hawks, David Segal, and Natalie Hastings</p>
<p><b>Saturday: Session 2 11:05 am-12:15 pm</b></p>		
<p><b>Session Title</b></p>	<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><b>Presenters and Moderators</b></p>
<p><b>A View from the Trenches: What Universal Vouchers Are Doing to Public Schools in Florida and Arizona</b></p>	<p>Florida and Arizona have become the national testing grounds for universal Education Savings Account (ESA) vouchers. In just a few short years, these policies have dramatically reshaped how public education is funded, governed, and delivered. In this session, two Florida school board members and an Arizona teacher will offer a candid “view from the trenches.” Drawing on their firsthand experiences during the rapid expansion of universal vouchers, they will unpack both the financial impacts and the deeper philosophical shift these policies represent.</p>	<p>Laura Hine, Sue Woltanski MD, and Beth Lewis</p>
<p><b>From Ideation to Implementation: How to Build People-Powered Model Policies for Public Education</b></p>	<p>This workshop will introduce participants to our Model Policy Shop and engage them in discussion about model policy topics and how they can be used in their local contexts to promote good policies for public education. The IDRA Model Policy Shop launched in May of 2024 to equip people devoted to supporting public education with positive, evidence-based, effective model policies and advocacy tools that can support their schools and students.</p>	<p>Paige Duggins-Clay, Terrence Wilson, J.D., and Chloe Latham Sikes</p>

<p><b>Lessons Learned. Strategies and Fighting Takeovers</b></p>	<p>This workshop draws on hard-fought experience from the front lines of the fight to protect New Orleans public schools from takeover. We'll share what worked, what we'd do differently, and what we wish we'd known sooner. Whether you're just starting to organize or already deep in the fight, you'll get practical guidance on building coalitions, choosing the right political allies, and running campaigns that cut through the noise on social media — plus how to surface stories that shift the narrative in your favor. We'll map out what a sustained, strategic response looks like — from grassroots mobilization to running candidates — because the fight for public education never ends, but how early you enter it changes everything.</p>	<p>Ashana Bigard, Ray Sanders, Rahsaana Ison, and Antonio Travis</p>
<p><b>Taxation Without Representation - Using a Conservative Argument to Combat Charter Schools</b></p>	<p>This workshop will the Long Island Against Charter Schools campaign and how we succeeded in changing the narrative about charter schools with a message of taxation and fiscal accountability, resulting in not only a community movement but also proposed legislation.</p>	<p>Gregory Wallace, Alison Chaplar, Betsy Flanagan, Daniel Marcano Jr., and Jennifer Simões</p>
<p><b>Defending Public School Revenue from Sweeping Property Tax Cuts</b></p>	<p>In 2024 and 2025, 17 states enacted property tax cuts or caps that threaten resources for public schools. Governors and legislators in some states are even considering eliminating property taxes altogether. During this session, national experts will provide an overview of the relationship between local property tax revenue and school funding and a landscape analysis of the property tax cut threats sweeping across states, and state experts will share lessons from campaigns to protect property tax revenue for public schools in Texas, Florida, and Ohio, including why public school advocates are critical to the debate and how they can engage.</p>	<p>Esteban Santis, Hannah Halbert, Joanna LeFebvre, Neva Butkus, and Shannon Halbrook</p>
<p><b>Engaging Faith Leaders for Good Public School Policy In Hard Places</b></p>	<p>Our workshop will address the imperative of mobilizing faith leaders for sound public education policy in state government, particularly in states seemingly hostile to public education.</p>	<p>Rev. Charles Foster Johnson, Sarah Nader, and Bishop John Ogletree</p>
<p><b>Union &amp; Alternative Ed Prep Partnerships That Help Aspiring Teachers Reach Certification</b></p>	<p>This session will explain how this pilot program functions to certify teachers in critical shortage areas. It will describe the opportunity for union members made possible through a partnership between Cy-Fair AFT, Texas AFT, and iTeach. A successful participant would be a panelist.</p>	<p>Nikki Cowart, Demetrius Lott, Dr. Claudia Morales, and Dr. Diann Huber</p>
<p><b>Lunch Keynote: 12:25 pm - 2:10 pm.</b></p>	<p><b>Raymond Pierce: CEO of the Southern Education Foundation</b></p>	
<p><b>Saturday: Session 3 2:20 pm - 3:30 pm</b></p>		
<p><b>Session Title</b></p>	<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><b>Presenters and Moderators</b></p>

<p><b>The Federal Voucher Scheme: Where Things Stand and What We Do Next</b></p>	<p>The federal tax credit voucher scheme is due to kick off in January 2027. Learn about the framework of the program, the latest on federal regulations, the anticipated harmful effects, and which states will participate. Join in a discussion of what public education supporters can do in states that opted into the program and the ones that opted out.</p>	<p>Chloe Latham Sikes, Patrick Cremin, Sharon Krengel, and Beth Lewis</p>
<p><b>From Awareness to Action: Building Community</b></p>	<p>This joint session pairs grassroots organizing with candidate development. EDUVOTER Action Network builds public awareness and civic participation around education policy, while Educated We Stand identifies, trains, and supports pro-public education candidates. Together, they offer a full-circle approach: closing the information gap on education policy, building community engagement structures, crafting messaging that resonates with educators and families, and recruiting candidates who reflect public education values — turning engagement into electoral results.</p>	<p>Crystal Etienne, Nancy Lawther, Ph.D., Jeff Garcia, and Karla Hernandez-Mats</p>
<p><b>Youth Organizing Against the HISD State Takeover</b></p>	<p>A multiracial panel of Houston high school students will share how they spoke out, wrote publicly, and organized their peers to challenge the harmful state takeover of Houston ISD. They will also discuss how they built coalitions across racially and socioeconomically diverse schools to defend public education and amplify student voices.</p>	<p>Aubrie Barr, Emily Yanez, Ella Taylor, Mallika Mohan, and Micah Gabay</p>
<p><b>Advocating for Healthy and Sustainable Learning Environments for All</b></p>	<p>Healthy school facilities are an underappreciated tool for student and staff wellness, better teaching and learning, and community engagement and resilience. This workshop will provide actionable policy, practice, and funding strategies, for grassroots public education advocates to advance healthy and sustainable schoolhouses. Panelists include a Michigan public health scientist and State Board of Education president, a North Carolina-based teacher-turned-researcher, and a California parent advocate and nonprofit founder. The panel will be moderated by Richard Doss, Managing Director of LifeWings Peak Performance, who has worked with numerous school districts to improve their learning environments.</p>	<p>Richard Doss, JuNelle Harris, JD, PhD., Pamela Pugh, and Matthew Palmer</p>
<p><b>What's Next for Charter Schools? A Review of Charter Strategies Across State Lines</b></p>	<p>In many states, charter schools continue to expand policies and enrollment with few guardrails, little consideration of local impact, and limited public engagement. This panel will be an interactive discussion of these charter activities in key states, and which national charter initiatives support and finance them. The panel will also present potential strategies, issues, and research that can challenge these charter actions and how public education advocates in different states can share research, policy initiatives, messaging, and lessons learned.</p>	<p>Patti Everitt and Carol Burris</p>

<p><b>Elected School Board: But No Power. The Takeover of the Indianapolis School Board</b></p>	<p>For years, Indianapolis has served as the proving ground for the City Fund through The Mind Trust’s aggressive school privatization model. This session will explore how state legislation and Mayoral actions left an elected school board in place, but transferred control over all public school buildings, transportation, and property taxes to a newly created charter dominated body - and why these efforts are now expanding into Connecticut and South Carolina. Learn the red flags communities should watch for when similar reforms begin targeting their local school districts.</p>	<p>Bryan Duarte, Nigel Long, MaryAnn Schlegel Ruegger, and Dountonia Batts</p>
<p><b>Anti-DEI Governance and the Reconfiguration of Public Higher Education</b></p>	<p>Efforts to dismantle DEI in public universities aren't just a cultural backlash — they're a deliberate strategy to reshape how higher ed is governed. Drawing on research in Texas and Florida, this session looks at how laws like Texas SB 17 and Florida SB 266 strip away the offices, staff, and budgets that support equity work, often pushing colleges to over-comply out of fear rather than legal necessity. But the story doesn't end there: students, faculty, and community members are building new spaces for solidarity and learning — reimagining what a public university can be.</p>	<p>Angela Valenzuela, Julian Vasquez Heilig, Maria del Carmen Unda, and Julio Mena Bernal</p>
<p><b>Saturday: Skill Builders 3:45-5:15</b></p>		
<p><b>Session Title</b></p>	<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><b>Presenters and Moderators</b></p>
<p><b>How to Use New Media for Messaging</b></p>	<p>The social media landscape is shifting fast. Blogs, Facebook, and X are no longer the whole story — Instagram, Substack, TikTok, and Reddit have become essential terrain for anyone trying to reach an audience and move them to action. Knowing where to show up isn't enough; you have to know how to tell your story once you're there.</p> <p>Join Jessica Piper and NPE Communications Director Joanna O. for a hands-on session on building a social media strategy that actually works across platforms. Joanna will walk participants through the art of the whiteboard presentation: a simple, powerful tool for capturing attention and turning complex policy issues into stories people stop scrolling for.</p> <p>Whether you're managing a single account or a full communications strategy, you'll leave with practical tools to expand your reach and sharpen your message.</p>	<p>Jessica Piper and Joanna Oszeyczik</p>

<p><b>How to Channel Grassroots Energy into Legislative Change</b></p>	<p>Talking to legislators who already champion public education is the easy part. The real test of advocacy comes when you're standing in front of lawmakers who see public schools as the problem, not the solution. Three seasoned public education advocates share what actually works when the room isn't friendly: how to build a message that lands even with skeptical or hostile legislators, how to turn a hard conversation into real relationships, and how to move from getting a hearing to getting a bill. Drawing on their own wins (and hard-earned lessons) on statehouse floors across the country, these experts will walk participants through the strategies that turn advocacy into legislation. Whether you're testifying for the first time or you've been in the fight for years, you'll leave with concrete tools for making your case to the legislators who need to hear it most.</p>	<p>Rachel Coyle and Susan Spicka</p>
<p><b>How to Talk About School Privatization</b></p>	<p>Privatizers spent decades and millions of dollars rebranding vouchers and unregulated charters as "school choice" — a phrase engineered to sound like freedom, not defunding. Public school advocates can't out-market that kind of investment, but they can out-message it — if they know what actually moves people. Join Charles Siler, a former Goldwater Institute lobbyist who spent years building the privatization playbook before turning against it, and Manny Garcia, co-founder of Seeker Strategies, for a candid, behind-the-curtain conversation on messaging. Siler will expose how privatizers test, refine, and deploy language designed to neutralize public school advocates. Garcia will share what message discipline and research actually show works. Walk away with language you can use tomorrow, in your community, on your campaign, in your newsletter.</p>	<p>Charles Siler and Manny Garcia</p>
<p><b>How to Follow the Money</b></p>	<p>Billionaires and right-wing foundations are bankrolling efforts to dismantle democratically governed public education — often hiding behind dark money PACs, astroturf "parent" groups, or quietly slipping millions through 501(C)(4)s. Three national experts on financial transparency will teach you their best techniques for tracing these hidden networks, so you can uncover who's defunding public schools in your own state.</p>	<p>Maurice Cunningham, Mercedes Schneider, and David Armiak</p>

<p><b>How to Gather Input from the Community to Strengthen Advocacy Efforts</b></p>	<p>This session equips participants with practical tools for community-centered policy work. Attendees will explore methodological approaches for gathering public input at scale, from statewide surveys to local listening sessions, and learn strategies for translating qualitative and quantitative data into clear, actionable policy priorities. Using Strong Ohio Schools as a real-world case study, presenters will walk through how research insights can be applied directly to statewide and local advocacy efforts. Participants will leave with a replicable model for community-centered policy formation — one built on data-informed, relationship-centered engagement that strengthens public trust and shapes a collective education agenda.</p>	<p>Piet van Lier, Tricia Niesz, and Dana Oleskiewicz</p>
<p><b>How to Get the Media Traction You Need: Beyond the Press Release</b></p>	<p>A press release is just the starting point. Getting real media traction — the kind that shapes the narrative and shifts public opinion — takes a sharper toolkit. This session unpacks tactical and strategic tips for breaking through the noise and getting your story covered. Each tip comes paired with a real-world example, including how the Center for Voucher Transparency was built from the ground up into one of the most effective tools for generating sustained press coverage on school vouchers in Texas. Whether you're pitching your first story or looking to level up a seasoned media strategy, you'll leave with concrete, battle-tested techniques for getting public education's story told — and getting it told right.</p>	<p>Patti Everitt and Kyle Spencer</p>
<p><b>Sunday: Session 4 8:00 am -9:05 am</b></p>		
<p><b>Session Title</b></p>	<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><b>Presenters and Moderators</b></p>
<p><b>Fighting Vouchers in Four States: Tips, Tricks, Wins and Challenges</b></p>	<p>Advocates from Wisconsin, Texas, Arizona, and Ohio will talk about how they are taking on vouchers and privatization with a focus on accountability, transparency, and fairness. People who come to this panel will leave with action steps that they can put to work in their states.</p>	<p>Beth Lewis, Heather DuBois Bourenane, Piet van Lier (moderator), and Dee Carney</p>
<p><b>How Nontraditional Public School Advocates Support Public Education</b></p>	<p>Participants will learn how nontraditional public school advocates can effectively support public education and grow advocacy in unique ways. Presenters are a pastor, a student and a grandparent, all representing pro-public school advocacy organizations.</p>	<p>Cameron Samuels, Rev. Charles Foster Johnson, and Robert Norris</p>

<p><b>The Struggle to Govern Ourselves: State Takeovers and the Fight to Save Our Schools</b></p>	<p>In the late 2000s and early 2010s, hostile state takeovers of school districts proliferated. Proponents of state takeovers claimed that districts were "failing" and accused school boards of corruption and ineffectiveness. However, research shows legislatures overwhelmingly choose to take over majority-Black school districts or districts with Black leadership. The late 2010s and early 2020s saw successful campaigns to take back control of their schools and restore their local school boards. Unfortunately, that progress is now being met with backlash. Attendees will learn from organizers fighting to regain local control</p>	<p>Denise Ghartey, Dr. Steven L. Nelson, Ronsha Dickerson, and Ruth Kravetz</p>
<p><b>From Schools of Hope to Schools of Nope: Organizing for Public Schools</b></p>	<p>Across Florida, families and educators are pushing back against privatization schemes that undermine public education. This panel will explore the impact of "Schools of Hope," share lessons from grassroots organizing, and highlight strategies to build power and demand accountability. Attendees will leave with tools to advocate for policies that truly support students, families, and public schools.</p>	<p>Ami Marie Granger Welch, Damaris Allen, Norin Dollard, and Leonie Haimson</p>
<p><b>"Houston's Children Deserve Better": Lessons from the Commission on the Houston Independent School District Takeover</b></p>	<p>In summer 2025, the Commission on the HISD Takeover formed after the Texas Education Agency replaced HISD's elected board and superintendent with an appointed Board of Managers. The commission has spent the past year gathering testimony through listening sessions and focus groups for a report launching summer 2026. This panel of four Commission members (a student, a teacher/parent, a researcher, and the clerk), moderated by the chair, shares how the Commission formed, how it collected community testimony amid fears of retaliation, key findings on eroding relationships, curriculum, and educator respect under takeover, and how groups elsewhere can build their own commissions and turn findings into advocacy.</p>	<p>Daniel Dawer, Melissa Yarborough, Rev. Colin Bossen, Ruth Hoffman-Lach, and Emily Yanez</p>
<p><b>Using Local Data to Impact State Policy</b></p>	<p>A brief look at how four states are providing data and other advocacy tools in support of public schools and in opposition to privatization for local organizers. Panelists are public education advocates from North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, and Michigan. They will discuss tools that grassroots organizers in their states are using in the fight to stop privatization and strengthen public schools.</p>	<p>Jamie Puentes, Heather Spies, Heather Koons, Julian Vasquez Heilig, and Yevonne Brannon</p>

<p><b>The People's Board: Restoring Democratic Control of School Boards over Corporate Creep</b></p>	<p>Increasingly, more local school boards are looking into adopting a corporate-style governance model called Student Outcomes Focused Governance (SOFG). Marketed as a way to achieve better student outcomes, in practice, SOFG centers standardized testing as the only measure of school quality; restricts the ability of parents, students, and community members to have a say in decisions that affect their school community; and limits the policy-making power of the elected school board members. We will discuss what community members can do to fight back against SOFG, and fight for public schools that meet the needs of and are governed by elected officials who are accountable to communities.</p>	<p>Carrie Sampson, Rachel White, Jessica Alcantara, Moira Kaleida, and Danielle Ford</p>
<p><b>Brunch: 9:15-10:40 Keynote</b></p>	<p><b>Katherine Stewart: Investigative Journalist and Author</b></p>	
<p><b>Sunday: Session 5 10:50 am -11:55 pm</b></p>		
<p><b>Session Title</b></p>	<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><b>Presenters and Moderators</b></p>
<p><b>Fighting Back Against the New Wave of School Closures</b></p>	<p>Two decades ago, mass closures of neighborhood public schools — overwhelmingly in Black, low-income communities — harmed students without saving districts a dime. Now we're on the brink of a new wave, driven by the unprecedented expansion of privatization laws, starving public schools of resources. Once again, Black and historically marginalized communities are on the front lines of efforts to dismantle public education. Advancement Project attorneys, who've spent years supporting grassroots organizers fighting to save their schools, lead this session on the new wave of school closures: the warning signs to watch for in your district and the strategies organizers are using to fight back.</p>	<p>Jessica Alcantara, Gloria Nolan, Cristi Brewster, and Ronsha Dickerson</p>
<p><b>Frontline Stories from the Student-Led Movement for Public Schools</b></p>	<p>This panel will highlight the experiences and strategies of youth advocates at the helm of Students Engaged in Advancing Texas (SEAT), the leading statewide coalition for students in education policy. Participants will hear firsthand accounts of organizing at school board meetings, the Texas legislature, Congress, and the Supreme Court.</p>	<p>Cameron Samuels, Sumya Paruchuri, Hayden Cohen, Ayaan Moledina, and Paige Duggans-Clay</p>
<p><b>Religious Nationalism, Education, and Democracy: A Conversation with Katherine Stewart</b></p>	<p>Public higher education and K-12 schools share common threats, including the imposition of ideological agendas, privatization, and deliberate underfunding. But has it been harder to impose a particular agenda on colleges and universities than on our public schools? This session examines the tools used to narrow students' educational opportunities and override faculty governance — and what that means for our democracy. Panelists will also explore what it will take to reclaim shared decision-making, protect freedom of inquiry, and strengthen and improve our educational institutions.</p>	<p>Angela Valenzuela, Katherine Stewart, and Sarah Hernandez</p>

<b>Fighting State Takeovers in Houston &amp; Fort Worth</b>	Parents from Houston, Community Voices for Public Education (CVPE), and Fort Worth, Families Organized Responding to Takeover (FORT), share how they are organizing against state takeovers that strip communities of voice. This panel highlights strategy, solidarity, and how parents fight back.	Fred Woods, Kelly Blikre, Marisol Herrera, Zach Leonard, and Ruth Kravetz (moderator)
<b>The Use of Data to Fight Vouchers</b>	As voucher expansion accelerates across Texas, advocates and policymakers are increasingly confronted with narratives that claim privatization primarily benefits struggling students in under-resourced communities. Yet emerging data tells a very different story. This session highlights tools from Every Texan and the Texas Center for Voucher Transparency—including an Interactive School Locator Map, a Voucher Watchdog Reporting Portal, a Voucher Loss Analysis, and data from Public Information Requests—to help advocates counter misleading narratives and bring transparency to the voucher debate.	Jaime Puente, Dee Carney, and Dr. Laura McReavy
<b>The Pushback vs. Ed Tech &amp; Screentime in School</b>	In schools nationwide, parents are rebelling against the overuse of screen time in schools, with research showing this is correlated with a decline in academic achievement and student engagement. In addition, a growing number of lawsuits are challenging the way ed tech is commercializing student data, and threatening student privacy and safety. Come hear from experts on the various strategies that can be used to get ed tech Pandora's box under control.	Kate Brody, Cassie Cresswell, Julie and Andy Liddell, Shaleen Title, and Leonie Haimson (moderator)
<b>Sunday Session 6: 12:05 pm - 1:10</b>		
<b>Session Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Presenters and Moderators</b>
<b>Follow the Money: Mapping Private Profiteers of the Federal Voucher Program</b>	This session will provide an overview of private firms, investors, and companies profiting from state and federal vouchers and their dual profiteering and ideological motives. It will provide tools for other state organizers to track profiteering in their state, red-flag identification, and messaging suggestions for advocates on education privatization and profiteering in their communities.	Maggie Stern, Mike DeGuire, and Maurice Cunningham
<b>It Can Happen Here: How Grassroots Organizing Is Writing (and Winning) a New School Board Playbook in Texas</b>	A practical, inside look at how grassroots campaigns in Houston ISD and Cy-Fair ISD organized, messaged, and mobilized their communities to defeat well-funded opposition, flip entrenched majorities, and replace ideologues with educators and parents to defend public schools and restore community voice.	Felicity Pereyra, Maria Benzon, Nikki Cowart, Lesley Guilmart, and Nicole Hill
<b>Texas Charter Growth and Special Education: Insights from Major Cities and Large CMOs.</b>	Public schools know that charter schools enroll fewer students with disabilities and those whose needs are less expensive to meet. A team of researchers from the University of Texas at Austin presents eye-opening research that highlights differences in enrollment by disability and disability type across Texas public schools and charter schools.	David DeMatthews, Pedro Reyes, and Jinseok Shin

<p><b>Go Public! Voucher and Charter Taxpayer Transparency Project</b></p>	<p>Wisconsin's Accountability in Action campaign is a strategic plan for holding ourselves, our systems, and our decision makers accountable for making sure every student in every public school has what they need to thrive. In this session, we'll unpack how local communities are leading initiatives to get voucher &amp; charter costs on their tax bills, hold lawmakers accountable through FUND WISCONSIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS litigation, and coordinate statewide to demand and deliver a better budget.</p>	<p>Camden Hargrove, Sandy Whisler, Heather DuBois Bourenane, and Denise Gaumer Hutchison</p>
<p><b>They Want to Get Rid of You Because You're Good: Don't Let Them!</b></p>	<p>This panel equips educators with strategies for navigating grievances and termination hearings amid public school takeovers. Panelists include attorney Giana Ortiz; Shemiya Taylor, who won a grievance against HISD over teacher planning violations; Michelle Williams, a teacher and union leader twice terminated by HISD who won two Chapter 21 appeals; and Dr. Jessica Berry, a former HISD principal terminated after declining to resign on medical leave, who pursued legal action. Topics include the grievance process, legal protections, hearing preparation, and building a strong case — grounded in panelists' real, successful experiences.</p>	<p>Giana Ortiz, Jamal Robinson, Michelle Williams, Shemiya Taylor, and Dr. Jessica Berry</p>
<p><b>The Joy of Resistance</b></p>	<p>To equip participants with sustainable, joyful strategies for defending public education that prevent burnout and build unbreakable community bonds by identifying why participants love their public school and then developing communications that base advocacy not on anger but on what we are for.</p>	<p>Addison K. Witt, Karen Svoboda, Charles Prince, and Marley Brailey</p>
<p><b>Final Keynote: 1:20 pm-2:20 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Leslie Fenwick, Dean Emerita of the Howard University School of Education</b></p>	