Transforming Urban Public Education: Exploring the Potential of City-Based Strategies

Thursday, May 12, 2011

International Ballroom
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel New Orleans
300 Canal St., New Orleans, LA

Agenda

8:15–9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00–9:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- Scott Pearson, U.S. Department of Education
- Kelly Sparks, National Charter School Resource Center
- Sarah Newell Usdin, New Schools for New Orleans

9:15–9:45 a.m. Independent Voices in Support of Quality: The Mission of City-Based Charter Support Organizations
- Keynote presenter: Phoebe Boyer, Tiger and Robertson Foundations

9:45–10:15 a.m. Reviewing the Current Landscape and Potential of City-Based Strategies
- Presenters:
  - Eric Paisner, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools
  - John Kania, FSG

10:15–10:30 a.m. Break

10:30–11:30 a.m. New York City Education Reform: The History, Challenges and Promise of Crossing the Charter/District Divide
- Moderator: Scott Pearson, U.S. Department of Education
- Panelists:
  - Phoebe Boyer, Tiger and Robertson Foundations
  - Robert Hughes, New Visions for Public Schools
  - James Merriman, New York City Charter School Center
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.  
**Lunch Keynote Address: District-Charter Collaboration: Reflections on Next Steps for Urban School Reform**
- *Keynote presenters:*
  - Robin Lake, Center on Reinventing Public Education
  - Caroline Roemer Shirley, Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools

12:45–12:55 p.m.  
**Break**

12:55–2:10 p.m.  
**Building a Pipeline of High-Quality Charter Schools**
- *Moderator:* Robin Lake, Center on Reinventing Public Education
- *Panelists:*
  - Maggie Runyan-Shefa, New Schools for New Orleans
  - Greg Thompson, Tennessee Charter School Incubator

2:10–2:20 p.m.  
**Break**

2:20–3:35 p.m.  
**State Charter Support Organizations Advocating for Urban School Reform**
- *Moderator:* Eric Paisner, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools
- *Panelists:*
  - Jim Griffin, Colorado League of Charter Schools
  - Jed Wallace, California Charter Schools Association

3:35–3:45 p.m.  
**Break**

3:45–4:45 p.m.  
**Investing in City-Based Strategies: Opportunities, Challenges, and Potential Impact**
- *Moderator:* Phoebe Boyer, Tiger and Robertson Foundations
- *Panelists:*
  - Ethan Gray, The Mind Trust
  - Jim Peyser, NewSchools Venture Fund

4:45–5:00 p.m.  
**Concluding Remarks**
- Scott Pearson, U.S. Department of Education

5:00 p.m.  
**Adjourn**