

2026 Southern Regional Education Board

Legislative Advisory Council Meeting

Policy Changes for Results

Hyatt Centric Midtown Atlanta | September 25-27, 2026

Get actionable information on the topics that will be on your legislative agendas in 2027, learn from your fellow state legislators, and come away with real strategies for tackling education issues in your state.

Friday, September 25	
2 p.m. <i>Meet in hotel lobby no later than 2 p.m.</i>	Optional — Georgia Tech Advanced Manufacturing Pilot Facility Tour AMPF is a state-of-the-art, AI-driven, reconfigurable manufacturing lab designed for research, industry collaboration, and workforce training.
6 p.m. <i>Vedado Room (lower level)</i>	Opening Reception and Dinner

Saturday, September 26	
7:30 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 2</i>	Breakfast
8:30 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Welcome and Introductions
8:50 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	AI: Force Multiplier Across K-12 and Postsecondary Artificial Intelligence is changing how students learn and how they're prepared for what comes next. This session looks at how states, districts, and postsecondary institutions are creating conditions for effective and innovative AI-enabled teaching and learning. <i>Valerie Greenhill</i> , President, SREB <i>Bree Dusseault</i> , Center on Reinventing Public Education
10:00 a.m.	Break

10:15 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Enrollment Changes: The Impact on Education Funding Most states have seen declines in K-12 and postsecondary student enrollments alongside larger shifts in demographics and population. We will consider the implications of these shifts and how states are navigating a changed environment. <i>Dr. Benjamin Scafidi</i>, Director, Education Economics Center, Kennesaw State University <i>Dr. Dan Sims</i>, Superintendent, Bibb County Public Schools
11:30 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Education Finance State Table Time Tables can discuss district consolidation, postsecondary funding, formula weights, performance funding, or other topics.
12 p.m. <i>Blooming Hill 2</i>	Lunch
1 p.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Putting the Pieces Together for Student Success Following a presentation on the importance of providing students with access to rigorous and relevant career pathways and credentials that lead to employment and support state and local economies, legislators will discuss how state policymakers can help create the conditions for high-quality career pathways and credentials of value. <i>Dale Winkler</i>, Senior Vice President, SREB <i>Representative James Tipton</i>, Kentucky <i>Representative Terri Collins</i>, Alabama
2:30 p.m.	Afternoon Break
2:45 p.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Policy Snacks Fast-moving, rotating discussions on early learning and child care; chronic absenteeism; graduation/postsecondary readiness requirements
4:00 p.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Reflections on Day 1 and Pivoting to the Future <i>Valerie Greenhill</i>, SREB
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn
ENJOY MIDTOWN ATLANTA! DINNER ON YOUR OWN	

Sunday, September 27

7:30 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 2</i>	Breakfast
8:30 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Reimagining the Future of SREB's Legislative Advisory Council Join SREB President Valerie Greenhill and your fellow Council members in generating innovative ideas on how the Council should evolve, discussing how it can be more useful to members, how they can have a stronger voice in SREB's work, and where the Council should focus its attention in the years ahead.
9:15 a.m.	Morning Break: hotel checkout
9:30 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	Strategic Staffing: A Flexible Blueprint for Improving the Education Profession At the SREB annual meeting, staff and speakers previewed the power of supporting educators and elevating the profession through comprehensive, innovative school staffing redesign models. This session explores how traditional staffing models affect teacher retention and recruitment, and how flexible strategic staffing models can work in different school contexts. What are the state policies that can be adjusted to enable strategic staffing customizations across districts? <i>Megan Boren, SREB</i> <i>Bryan Hassell, Co-President, Public Impact</i>
10:45 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 1</i>	State Issues Roundtable
11:30 a.m. <i>Blooming Hill 2</i>	Adjourn/Lunch Available