

# 2023 Meeting of the Southern Regional Education Board and

## 72nd Annual Legislative Work Conference

June 10-12, 2023 • Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta • Atlanta, Georgia

*Yesterday's Dream, Today's Reality, Tomorrow's Vision*

**SREB** | Southern Regional  
Education Board

*75<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary*

# Agenda

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## Saturday, June 10

1 p.m. **Registration** (Grand Ballroom Pre-Function Area)

### GENERAL SESSION

*All general sessions are in the Grand Ballroom on the lower level.*

Presiding: Felicia Cumings Smith, President and CEO, National Center for Families Learning, Kentucky, and SREB Vice Chair  
Terri Collins, State Representative, Alabama, and Chair, SREB Legislative Advisory Council

3-3:15 p.m. **Welcome**  
Stephen Pruitt, President, SREB

3:15-4:30 p.m. **Where We've Been: SREB Reflects**  
Mark Musick, former President, SREB

4:30-5:30 p.m. **State of the States**  
Stephen Pruitt, President, SREB

6 p.m. **Reception** (Plaza Ballroom)

6:30 p.m. **Dinner** (Grand Ballroom)

## Sunday, June 11

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast Buffet** (Plaza Ballroom)

7:30 a.m. **Executive Committee Breakfast Meeting** (Georgian Room)

9-10 a.m. **Business Meeting of the Southern Regional Education Board** (Grand Ballroom)  
*All meeting participants are encouraged to attend.*

The business meeting will include the report of the Executive Committee, the report of the Nominating Committee and election of officers.

### GENERAL SESSIONS

Presiding: Felicia Cumings Smith, President and CEO, National Center for Families Learning, Kentucky

10-11:15 a.m. **Literacy Across the Spectrum**  
States have focused on improving reading in early grades and supporting students struggling with reading proficiency. Research shows that the learning components of reading instruction must be aligned to build literacy from grade to grade and focused on the cognitive science of reading instruction. Early literacy is just the beginning, as students progress from reading simple texts to complex manuals, textbooks and works of literature in college and beyond.

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Stephen Pruitt, President, SREB  
Felicia Cumings Smith, President and CEO, National Center  
for Families Learning, Kentucky  
Heather Corbett, Director of Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education,  
Dougherty County School System, Georgia  
Casey Taylor, Policy Director for Early Literacy, ExcelinEd, Tennessee

11:15 a.m. -  
12:30 p.m.

### **Accelerated Pathways Create Smooth Transitions**

The bridge from high school to postsecondary attainment and career opportunities is not structurally sound. We will share promising practices as we focus on transforming education through rigorous, relevant career pathways that align secondary, postsecondary and workplace learning, leading to postsecondary credentials that help secure high-wage, in-demand jobs. By the end of this session, guests will be able to identify the five elements of effective career pathways and explain the purpose of a career pathway review.

Dale Winkler, Vice President, School Improvement, SREB  
Dennis George, Associate Dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences,  
Western Kentucky University  
Courtney Sharkey, Director, CTE and PTECH, Richardson Independent School District,  
Texas

12:30 p.m.

**Lunch** (Grand Ballroom)

Lunch will include awards presentations and a short 75th Anniversary video.

## **GENERAL SESSIONS**

2-4 p.m.

### **Understanding the Workforce of the Future**

States that successfully align their education and workforce systems build a common understanding of the future needs of business and industry. We will focus on critical actions to communicate workforce labor market forecasting, including in-demand occupations and training options to advance careers and high-value credentials. We will also look at national and state workforce labor market data. After this session attendees will be able to validate provided workforce projections for their state, expand those projections to include future economic development projects and identify ways to strengthen alignment between their state's education and workforce systems.

Ivy Coburn, Division Director, Education and Workforce, SREB  
Adam Briggs, Business and Workforce Strategies Senior Director,  
CareerSource Florida  
Chris Chmura, CEO and Chief Economist, Chmura Economics & Analytics, Virginia  
Aaron Thompson, President, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education

6 p.m.

**Reception** (Plaza Ballroom)

6:30 p.m.

**Dinner** (Southern Exchange)

*200 Peachtree Street NW, across from the front hotel entrance*

# Agenda

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## Monday, June 12

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast Buffet** (Plaza Ballroom)

7:30 a.m. **Legislative Advisory Council Breakfast Meeting** (Georgian Room)

### GENERAL SESSIONS

Presiding: Representative Terri Collins, Alabama

8:45-9:45 a.m. **Supporting Student Success: Student Perspectives from Across the South**  
Focusing on postsecondary student success has tremendous benefits for students as well as for institutions of higher learning, states and their economies. Speakers will shed light on the work of SREB's Student Success Advisory Council and promising practices for improving student success outcomes in postsecondary education. The session will provide perspectives from students at varying stages of their postsecondary educational pursuits as they share how intentional frameworks designed to support students led to their postsecondary success. Attendees will have opportunities to assess current student success frameworks and consider new avenues to support students at the campus, state and regional levels.

Stevie Lawrence, Vice President, Postsecondary Education, SREB

10-11:15 a.m. **Facing Forward: An SREB Governor Reflects on 2023 and Beyond**  
Governor Brian Kemp (GA) will share his thoughts on education successes in his state and his vision of how education systems can improve the lives of Georgians while boosting the strength of the workforce.

The Honorable Brian Kemp, Governor, Georgia  
Stephen Pruitt, President, SREB

11:15-11:30 a.m. **Closing Remarks**

11:30 a.m. **Meeting Adjournment**

*Lunch available in the Grand Ballroom Pre-Function Area*

# SREB

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**SREB.org**