



**SCHOOLS
THAT CAN**

2010 FORUM • NEWARK

AGENDA

The STC 2010 Newark Forum is a unique gathering of STC member, associate, and guest schools, and invited guests. It is one of the few opportunities to bring together high-performing urban schools with leading education thought-leaders for the purpose of exploring state-of-the-art and new trends and opportunities in urban education. In the process, all the dynamics of STC are on full display: networking, synergy, collaboration, role modeling, and awareness. The objective is real take-home value for all participants.

STC schools enjoy proven track records of high-performance and outcomes while serving low-income communities. They also share the common characteristics of can-do driven leadership and the unusual ability to deliver quality education at a reasonable cost. These are some of the commonalities that proudly bring together such a diverse group of independent, charter, district and faith-based schools. This unique network of “schools that can” seeks ways to take advantage of such rich diversity to help each other and contribute to transforming urban education.

THURSDAY, MAY 20th

3:00 PM	STC Board Meeting (Board Members Only)
4:00 PM to 5:30 PM	Registration at Hilton Hotel, Newark (see hotel pack for more details)
6:00 PM to 8:00PM	Reception and Meet & Greet (site to be announced) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shuttle service to and from the Hilton Hotel • Wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres • Introduction of Forum Co-chairs, Honorary Chair and New Schools

FRIDAY, MAY 21ST

7:00 AM	<p align="center">BREAKFAST</p> <p align="center">Short student performance to greet participants as they enter the room</p>		
7:50 AM	<p align="center">PLENARY SESSION: Welcome by Michael Druckman, Maria Paradiso and Fr. Edwin Leahy</p>		
	<p>TRACK 1 – BUILDING CAPACITY TO ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN OUTCOMES</p>		<p>TRACK 2 – WHAT DIFFERENTIATES A GOOD SCHOOL? HOW DO WE SUPPORT INFORMED SCHOOL CHOICE?</p>
	<p><i>Track Focus: Explore the techniques and how to's for achieving outstanding outcomes and sustaining them. Such questions to consider include: Can driving to outcomes become part of a school's culture? What characteristics differentiate schools that achieve and sustain outcomes year after year? What is the secret to developing and sustaining highly effective faculty?</i></p>		<p><i>Track Focus: Explore characteristics that define a good school and the ability to communicate these differences in helping parents make informed school choice. Questions to consider include: How to we educate parents on our differences? Is it our job to help parents make informed choice?</i></p>
8:00 AM	<p>Topic: THE FUTURE OF URBAN EDUCATION – A CONVERSATION BETWEEN NORMAN ATKINS AND DAVID STEINER.</p> <p><i>Introduction: Donna Tuths</i></p> <p>A unique opportunity to hear from two of the most respected and profound education thought leaders who started Teacher U. together. Mr. Atkins is the founder of Uncommon Schools and Dr. Steiner is the New York State Education Commissioner. Both will offer insights on this compelling topic at a time when so much change is taking place. This is a real treat!</p>		
9:00 AM	<p>Topic: CURRENT TRENDS IN URBAN EDUCATION – A PRESENTATION FROM WHITNEY TILSON</p> <p><i>Introduction: Guy Metcalfe</i></p> <p>Mr. Tilson is a founding Board member of Teach For America, and a Board member of KIPP. He is managing partner of T2Partner, a prolific financial author, the producer of a very popular education blog, a founder of DFER and the Value Investing Congress. He</p>		

			has been traveling the country giving an amazing presentation on education reform, and we are fortunate to hear a portion of that presentation in this session.
10:00 PM	<p>STC WISH LIST: STANDARD PROGRESS TESTS AND THE NECESSITY OF TRACKING ALUMNI Panel: All Schools Administer Progress Assessments <i>Participants: Robert Rauh, Eylastine Reberts</i> <i>Moderator: Phil Perkins</i> Note: STC seeks that every member school administer cost effective academic progress tests that measure growth. Here two school leaders describe their experiences with NWEA tests which perhaps could become the standard.</p> <p>Panel: Tracking Alumni As A Measure of Outcomes <i>Participants: Henry Tyson, Lars Beck, Pamela Duffy</i> <i>Moderator: Perry White</i> Note: How important is it to track alumni as a measure of outcomes? How do schools manage to do it effectively and efficiently?</p>		
11:00 AM	<p>PANEL:THE FUTURE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS AS SUCCESSFUL MODELS <i>Participants: Seth Andrew, Vince Dotoli, Hans Hageman, Santiago Navarro, Jonathan Williams</i> <i>Moderator: Harvey Newman</i> Note: In only a matter of months there has been a sea change in state attitudes about charter schools. Hear some really knowledgeable STC charter school leaders from different parts of the country weigh in on what is happening in their regions. Topics will include trends, political direction of the Obama administration, impact on states, ability to sustain the charter school movement with high quality, and the challenge of growing a CMO. The moderator is one of the most informed educators around concerning charter schools.</p>		<p>PANEL: INFORMED SCHOOL CHOICE BASED ON PARENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF GOOD SCHOOLS <i>Participants: Brian Driscoll, Mike Piscal, Kate Scott, Richard Wertheimer, Carolyn Wilder</i> <i>Moderator: Leslie Hiner, Friedman Foundation</i> Note: Not enough parents are aware of how to select a high quality school for their child. This panel explores how to educate parents to make informed school choice a reality.</p>

12:00 PM	LUNCH	
12:00 PM	KEYNOTE: HONORABLE CORY A. BOOKER , MAYOR, CITY OF NEWARK: <i>Closing the Achievement Gap and the Future of Urban Education: A City Perspective</i> Mayor Booker will be introduced by Fr. Edwin Leahy.	
1:00 PM	SCHOOL VISITS	
	Two buses will be used, and each group will visit two schools: 1) Discovery Charter School and St. Benedict's Prep School 2) Link Community School and Robert Treat Academy Charter School	
4:00 PM	CONVERSATION: TWO WISE MEN SPEAK OUT <i>Joel Klein and Sy Fliegel</i> <i>Introduction by Nancy Pelz Paget, Aspen Institute</i>	
	Note: Here is a rare opportunity to hear two great leaders and friends talk about lessons learned from the past and visions for the future. Such provocative questions to be explored will be "where do you see urban district reform going and what role can schools of choice play?" This is a one time only treat you will not want to miss.	
5:00 PM	PANEL: AMAZING OUTCOMES- HOW DO THEY DO IT? <i>Participants: Patrick Taharally, Ralph Bland, Sue Thompson, Jurate Krokys, Catherine Whitehouse</i> <i>Moderator: Jay Gottlieb</i> Note: We will hear from STC schools that have achieved outcomes far above the norm.	PANEL: THE CHALLENGE OF BEING AN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TODAY <i>Participants: Christine Beck, Michael Dougherty, Janie Whitney, Susan Work, Kathy Egmont</i> <i>Moderator: Vince Matthews</i> Note: Independent schools have felt threatened and vulnerable in the weak economy of 2009. The need for their remaining vibrant is undeniable. We hear from prominent STC leaders about this issue.
6:00 PM	DINNER	
	Location: Hilton Hotel Note: Student performance greets guests as they enter dining room.	
6:45 PM	EVENING KEYNOTE: CONGRESSMAN DONALD M. PAYNE <i>Closing the Achievement Gap and the Future of Urban Education: A National Perspective</i> <i>Congressman Payne will be introduced by either Fr. Edwin Leahy or Shavar D. Jeffries, Esq.</i>	
	Note: Congressman Payne is one of the most respected legislators in Congress. He headed the Black Caucus and sits on the subcommittee of the House Committee of Education and Labor that has jurisdiction over reauthorization of No Child Left Behind. He is in his eleventh term representing the 10 th district of Newark. There will be a two-way Q & A session which will include the unique opportunity for Congressman Payne to ask questions of our diverse assembly of some of the best school leaders in the country.	

8:00 PM	MOVIE SCREENING: THE PROVIDENCE EFFECT WITH PAUL ADAMS AND JEANETTE DIBELLA <i>Introduction: Mike Piscal and AB Whitfield</i>
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SATURDAY, MAY 22ND

7:00 AM	BREAKFAST	
7:00 AM	ADVISORY COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS ROUNDTABLE	PRESENTATION: CREATIVE PATHS TO FUNDING Presenter: Richard Murray, Murray & Company Note: Richard developed the innovative Cristo Rey model and has been a consultant to three STC member schools. Any school facing facility financing challenges should sit in on this session.
7:50 AM	INTRODUCTION OF THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES: Michael Druckman, Maria Paradiso and Fr. Edwin Leahy TRACK III: SHARING OUR BEST PRACTICES Focus: STC's most important asset is its member schools. Focus here is on member schools sharing their best practices and creating synergy to benefit each other.	
8:00 AM	PLENARY SESSION: SERVICE LEARNING AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP <i>Newark school leaders – each Newark school chooses a student leader to be introduced.</i> <i>Panel: Fr. Edwin Leahy, Joanne Lennon, Joseph Czaszynski (the Legend), John Zitzner, Seth Andrew</i> <i>Moderator: Kole Knueppel</i> Note: Service Learning opens up enormous potential for building responsible citizens. Here STC leaders with valuable mastery of service learning programs are joined by an expert from The Legend to share their insights.	
9:00 AM	PANEL: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION <i>Participants: Robert Flanigan and other ITT School Leaders and possible outside resources</i> <i>Moderator: Kathy Egmont</i> Note: This extraordinary group of experts will discuss latest trends and visions for the future.	PANEL: EXTENDED LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND RESULTS <i>Participants: Rev. John Finley, Marcus Robinson, Mary Ann Vogel, Justin Vernon</i> <i>Moderator: Glenn Haley</i> Note: Extended learning time is becoming an important indicator of positive outcomes. Hear STC leaders with vast experience in this share their insights and results.
10:00 AM	PLENARY SESSION: SCHOOL SUCCESSION IS CRITICAL FOR SUSTAINABILITY <i>Conversation: John King, founder of Uncommon Schools and Roxbury School and Dana Lehman, current head of school</i> <i>Introduction of Presenters: Spencer Blasdale, President, School Works, Boston</i>	

	Note: One of the most important and most difficult practices to realize is a succession plan. Roxbury Prep in Boston has gone seamlessly through three generations of leadership. How they did it is worth coming to the Forum to learn.			
10:45 AM	PLENARY SESSION: CURRENT STC COLLABORATIONS AND INITIATIVES			
	This is a work in progress session to feature current initiative opportunities including the possibilities of the following: <i>Teacher Best Practice Conference updates (Kole Knueppel, Elizabeth Trongone), Cleveland Advisory Council Report (Glenn Haley and Team Cleveland); Video Dissemination (Catherine Whitehouse), Betterlesson.org (Alex Grodd), Urban Education Exchange (Rachel Etienne).</i>			
11:30 AM	BREAKOUT SESSION I: BEST PRACTICE WRITE UPS/PRESENTATION			
	Note: This will be a repeat of the popular Chicago notebook of best practices that member schools have written up and the presentation of the top two “write ups.”			
12:15 PM	LUNCH, for those remaining at the Hilton Hotel			
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	CONTINUING THE DISCUSSION ON BUILDING CAPACITY FOR OUTCOMES Topic: DRIVING FOR RESULTS-THE BOARD-HEAD PARTNERSHIP <i>Participants: Wendy Lacey, Chair, Link Board; William H. Connolly Jr., Chair, St. Benedicts; Board Chair, Michael Stubbs, The Children’s Storefront; and other board chairs to be announced.</i> <i>Moderator: Bill Weed and Gary Beban</i> Note: Here is an opportunity to explore building capacity for outcomes from the perspective of Board leadership. Board Chairs from Newark STC schools joined by a NYC school share their thoughts on this important subject.		CONTINUING THE DISCUSSION ON GOOD SCHOOLS Topic: SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL CULTURE - HOW DO YOU CREATE/BUILD AND SUSTAIN <i>Participants: Bob Goger and Michael Bagley, Project U.S.E.; Maria Pilar Paradiso, Fr. Edwin Leahy, and other participants to be announced</i> <i>Moderator: Joe Wilkinson</i> Note: Project U.S.E. is a experiential education nonprofit working with urban youth for 40 years and partnered Link and St. Benedicts supporting positive school culture. Currently, they are working with two Newark public schools to change culture under a Dodge Foundation grant. We will use their experience as a case study for discussion.	ADMINISTRATOR BEST PRACTICE SESSION Simultaneously, a session will be run for administrator best practices (development directors, academic leaders, financial officers etc.). Here again each school will be asked to nominate one Master. For this session we have already identified two administrators outside of NYC/Newark to give value add presentations. Format will be a roundtable session with about 10-12 presenters. Time allotted will be determined by the number of Master presenters. This is a unique opportunity for administrators to share practices and learn from each other.
ADMINISTRATOR BEST PRACTICE SESSION 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM				

<p>1:00 PM – 4:00 PM</p> <p>Note: 12:15 PM Shuttle departs for St. Benedict's Prep.</p>	<p>TEACHER BEST PRACTICE CONFERENCE AT ST. BENEDICT'S PREP SCHOOL A buffet lunch will be served prior to the conference. <i>Coordinated by NYC/Newark Advisory Council under the leadership of Co-Chairs Elizabeth Trongone, Katherine Katcher, and Chair of the Conference, Sarah Gaudis, TFA alumni.</i> Each NYC/Newark school leader will select ONE teacher who exemplifies their definition of "Master" and four other teachers to attend the conference. The Master teacher will prepare a presentation for 10 minutes followed by 5 minutes of Q and A from teachers in the audience. Their expertise will be selected based on subject or best practice. Hopefully there will be an opportunity to video the master presentations for STC internet dissemination.</p>	
<p>2:00 PM</p>	<p>PANEL: ASSESSMENTS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: MEASURING WHAT MATTERS <i>Participants: Leslie Hiner, Friedman Foundation (Indianapolis); Kenneth Merin, Hayden Foundation (New York); other TBA</i> Moderator: <i>Kenneth Gladish, President, Austin Community Foundation</i> Note: Hear prominent Foundation leaders share their perspective on assessing performance and outcomes and help schools understand what is important.</p>	<p>PANEL: STAYING SMALL OR GOING TO SCALE? <i>Participants: Lars Beck, Seth Cohen, Jeanette Dibella, Perry White, Irene Hall, Jody Moore, Janie Whitney, Seth Cohen</i> Moderator: <i>Marnie McKoy</i> Note: Some STC schools favor growth to serve more students. Others favor staying small and focusing on the quality of their school. This panel will present both perspectives in an attempt to help all schools think about: what is right for my organization?</p>
<p>3:00 PM</p>	<p>STC FEEDBACK SESSION AND FORUM EVALUATION Note: An opportunity for member schools to provide input and impact the direction of STC, its deliverables and ways to achieve its goals. All member schools are invited. Also, questionnaires for feedback on the Forum will be collected and comments invited. Finally, next year's Forum location and team will be officially announced. Request: Please prepare to discuss ways we can take advantage of STC's rich diversity to help each other.</p>	
<p>3:50 PM</p>	<p>FINAL COMMENTS – Fr. Edwin Leahy, Maria Paradiso, Michael Druckman</p>	
<p>4:00 PM</p>	<p>FORUM CONCLUDES</p>	
<p>4:00 PM</p>	<p>Reception at St. Benedict's Preparatory School for Peg Tyre Ms. Tyre is a prize-winning investigative reporter and writer, and author of nationally acclaimed book, <i>The Trouble With Boys: A Surprising Report Card On Our Sons, Their Problems at School and What Parents and Educators Must Do</i>, a <i>New York Times</i> best seller that won the prestigious Books for a Better Life award in 2009.</p>	