

ELA 2026 Annual Conference

Find Your Session

October 22–24, 2026 | Embassy Suites by Hilton Raleigh-Durham Research Triangle, Cary, NC

Schedule as of September 1, 2026 (minor changes possible before the conference...Check ela2026.sched.com for the most up-to-date schedule of presentations and events)

Tip: use your PDF viewer's Find/Search (Ctrl+F on Windows, Cmd+F on Mac) to jump straight to your name.

Questions about your session, or need to request a change? Contact us at annualconference@educationlaw.org and include your session's ID number (shown next to each listing below) so we can locate it quickly.

Thursday

October 22

Concurrent Session 1 — 9:45 AM–10:45 AM

Bellamy

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **AI Governance in School Districts: Legal and Policy Considerations for Leadership**
Melissa Torrence
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35163

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Navigating Pendency: Challenges, Misconceptions, and Unresolved Issues**
Blakely Simoneau
30-MINUTE ID ELA017

Biltmore

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Public and Private in Public Schools: Religion, Speech, and the Courts' Changing Conceptions of Education**
Alexios Rosario-Moore, Jonghoon Park
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 33152

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **From Separation to Neutrality to Privilege: Considering the Ripple Effects of the Supreme Court's Re-interpretations of the Religion Clauses**
Jonathon E. Sawyer
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35124

Cameron

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Contested Campuses: Student Activism, Free Speech, and Institutional Policy in Higher Education**
Stephen Santa-Ramirez
30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 32113

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Advancing Research Methods in Education Law through Holistic Analysis: An Application to Young Students' First Amendment Rights**
Christopher D. Thomas
30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 34650

Cape Hatteras (Coaching)

9:45 AM–10:45 AM **Going out on the Job Market in Higher Ed**
Elisabeth Krimbill, Klint Alexander, Molly Goldwasser, Martha M. McCarthy
COACHING SESSION ID ELA008

Chimney Rock (GS/HT)

9:45 AM–10:45 AM **Shared Governance Panel**
F. King Alexander, Kevin P. Brady, Neal Hutchens, Melissa M. Carleton
HOT-TOPIC ID ELA001

Hope

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Dismantling the U.S. Department of Education: Law, Federalism, and the Future of Federal Education Policy**
Regina Umpstead Pratel, Mitchel R. Mandel, Trista Duncan
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34113

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **School Climate Under Scrutiny: Legal Lessons Learned and Policy Solutions**
Aleks O. Rushing, Mackenzie Conway, Amanda Clapp, John Thomsen
30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 32006

Mendenhall

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Retrenchment, Segregation, and Public Education: A Five-Year Analysis of State Exclusionary School Discipline Legislation**
Thalia González
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34726

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Service Calls and Police Presence in K-12 Schools**
Terry Allen, PhD, JD
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34774

Reynolds (HT)

9:45 AM–10:45 AM **Contents May Shift During Flight: Restructuring the U.S. Department of Education**
Jill Siegelbaum, Josie Eskow Skinner, Emily Merolli
HOT-TOPIC K-12 HIGHER ED ID 35061

Smith

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **When Burnout Becomes Liability: Rethinking Educator Well-Being Through Law, Policy, and Leadership Systems**
Dr. Renee Sunday, M.D.
30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 33320

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Public Schools, Private Faith, and the Constitution: The Charter School Dilemma in the St. Isidore Case**

Brett Geier

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32088

Concurrent Session 2 — 1:30 PM–2:30 PM

Bellamy

1:30 PM–2 PM **Legalizing Education**

JD Hsin

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35185

2 PM–2:30 PM **Transgender Block and Tackle: A Proposal in Response to West Virginia v. B.P.J. to Abandon Athletics' Sex Based Organizing Principles in Compulsory Public Schools**

Jeffrey A. Dodge

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 30563

Biltmore

1:30 PM–2 PM **Beyond Compliance: How K-12 and Higher Education Practitioners Navigate Equity, Finance, and School Safety Law**

Jordan Widelock, Amy Holcombe, Tara Shollenberger, Dustin Johnson

30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 33024

2 PM–2:30 PM **Impact of the Department of Education's Reduction-In-Force, Interagency Agreements, and Rapidly Changing Laws and Policies on the Federal Student Aid Community**

Denise Morelli, Emily Merolli

30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35145

Cameron

1:30 PM–2 PM **Updates on Name, Image, and Likeness in Higher Education**

Omar Easy, Suzanne Eckes, Jackie Stefkovich

30-MINUTE ID ELA015

2 PM–2:30 PM **Federalizing the Campus Police**

Vanessa Miller

30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 34591

Cape Hatteras (Coaching)

1:30 PM–2:30 PM **AI in Education: Navigating Legal Risks, Policy Gaps, and Ethical Dilemmas**

Aleks O. Rushing, Mackenzie Conway, Amanda Clapp, John Thomsen

COACHING SESSION K-12 HIGHER ED ID 32005

Chimney Rock (GS/HT)

1:30 PM–2:30 PM **Significant Education Law Developments in State Legislatures**
Mark Paige, Jon Anderson, Tom Hutton, Lynn Rossi-Scott
HOT-TOPIC K-12 HIGHER ED ID 30640

Hope

1:30 PM–2 PM **School Names and Constitutional Questions**
Hannah B. Gahimer
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32717

2 PM–2:30 PM **On Flags, Gags, and Gathering: Advocating for Youth First Amendment Rights In K12 Schools**
Christopher Mathis, Edward D. Scott
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35303

Mendenhall

1:30 PM–2 PM **Tuition Contracts, COVID, and Bankruptcy Cases in Higher Education**
KB Melear
30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35156

2 PM–2:30 PM **A Call for Action: Federal Policies on Higher Education Accountability in the Near-Universal Access Era**
Haixia Zhao, Crystal K Santillanes
30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 32949

Reynolds (HT)

1:30 PM–2:30 PM **Adequacy Litigation Revisited: Lessons from Kentucky, New Mexico, and the National Landscape**
Regina Umpstead Pratel, Justin Bathon, Harry Feder, Scott Bauries
HOT-TOPIC K-12 ID 35070

Smith

1:30 PM–2 PM **Forever Free: Will Science of Reading Legislation Finally Establish Basic Literacy as a Civil Right?**
David Doty
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32957

2 PM–2:30 PM **Silence as Hostility: Reframing Anti-CRT Statutes through the Lens of the Hostile Environment**
Shauna L. Evans
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 31160

Concurrent Session 3 — 2:45 PM–3:45 PM**Bellamy**

2:45 PM–3:15 PM **Beyond Borders: Legal and Compliance Issues in Study Abroad Programs**
Megan Barnes
30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35314

3:15 PM–3:45 PM	The Procedural Integrity Framework: Aligning Compliance, Investigations, and Institutional Trust Patrick Noonan 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 31496
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Biltmore

2:45 PM–3:15 PM	Educational Retaliation Daiquiri Steele 30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 35012
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3:15 PM–3:45 PM	Students for Fair Admission v. Harvard: How the Supreme Court’s Framework for Evaluating Applications Has Affected College Admissions Stephen Himes 30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 34053
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Cameron

2:45 PM–3:15 PM	Legal Issues Affecting Graduate and Professional Students and Mental Health Macey Lynd Edmondson 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 34328
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3:15 PM–3:45 PM	Navigating the Stop Campus Hazing Act: What’s Working and What Isn’t. James Gregory Archibald 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 34489
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Cape Hatteras (Coaching)

2:45 PM–3:45 PM	International Research: Finding Partners and Changing the World Julie Sears, David Alexander, Shenette Alexander, Jennifer Sughrue COACHING SESSION ID ELA012
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Chimney Rock (GS/HT)

2:45 PM–3:45 PM	2nd Annual David Schimmel Panel on Legal Literacy Kevin P. Brady, Janet Decker, Rhett Hutchins, Christopher D. Thomas, Jamie Kudlats, Martha M. McCarthy HOT-TOPIC ID ELA002
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Hope

2:45 PM–3:15 PM	SOCIAL CONTROL AND INCLUSIVE FREEDOM: AN EMBEDDED SINGLE CASE STUDY OF CAMPUS EXPRESSION AT A SOUTHERN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY Christopher Ciarcia 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 33117
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3:15 PM–3:45 PM	From Suspicion to Strategy: AI, Academic Integrity, and Academic Discipline Jeffrey C. Sun, Jacob Gross 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 33476
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Mendenhall

2:45 PM–3:15 PM**Confidentiality and Civil Rights**

Melissa M. Carleton, Tricia Buchholz, Kathleen Sellers

30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 34642

3:15 PM–3:45 PM**The Legal and Human Case for Supporting Pregnant & Parenting Students: Compliance, Care, and Progression.**

Claudia Lyerly, Aleks O. Rushing, MacKenzie Conway

30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35091

Reynolds (HT)**2:45 PM–3:45 PM****Charters at a Crossroads**

Stephanie Klupinski, Tom Hutton, Veronica Brooks-Uy, Ashley Logue

HOT-TOPIC K-12 ID 35148

Smith**2:45 PM–3:15 PM****Recent Developments in School District-Teachers Union Collective Bargaining and Labor Relations Law**

John Rumel

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34879

3:15 PM–3:45 PM**Educator Safety & Legal Implications of Student-Caused Injuries in Schools**

Hannah B. Gahimer

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34136

Friday

October 23

Concurrent Session 4 — 9:15 AM–10:15 AM**Bellamy****9:15 AM–9:45 AM****The legal concept of “age appropriateness” against the background of anti-CRT legislation: A doctrinal analysis**

Bruce Maxwell

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 30365

9:45 AM–10:15 AM**From Dockets to Doorways: Plaintiff Narratives and the Constitutional Right to Education in Mississippi**

Rhodesia McMillian, Ph. D.

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32667

Biltmore**9:15 AM–9:45 AM****Keep the Pulpit out of the Playbook: When Public Institution Coaches Discuss Faith Publicly**

Joy Blanchard

30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 32999

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Resolving Student Disputes Beyond the Hearing Room: Alternative Dispute Resolution in Higher Education**

Aleks O. Rushing, Mackenzie Conway, Claudia Lyerly

30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 34923

Cameron**9:15 AM–9:45 AM** **Waivers, Amendments, and Innovation, OH MY! The evolving landscape of state proposals for innovation under federal law.**

Chris DonFrancesco, Harry Feder

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34987

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Making Public Education More Exclusionary Harms White Children, Too**

Nicole Tuchinda

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35089

Cape Hatteras (Coaching)**9:15 AM–10:15 AM** **How to get more involved in ELA****AM**

Jeffrey C. Sun, David Conrad, Macey Lynd Edmondson, Sarah S. Flournoy, J.D., Ed.D.

COACHING SESSION ID ELA009

Chimney Rock (GS/HT)**9:15 AM–10:15 AM** **Preparing to be an Expert Witness: Sharing Your Experience and Expertise in Court****AM**

Catherine Robert, David Bloomfield, John Borkowski

COACHING SESSION ID ELA016

Hope**9:15 AM–9:45 AM** **Lessons Learned from the (name of state) (voucher law)****AM**

Christy L. Smith, Ed.D.

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35162

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **"State Updates on Voucher Rulings: Fighting Back for Public Education"****AM**

Klint Alexander, F. King Alexander

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34265

Mendenhall**9:15 AM–9:45 AM** **Wallowing in the Ethical Mire: Exploring the Interplay Between Ethics, Law, and Schools****AM**

Amy Dagley, Spencer Weiler, Christine Kiracofe

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34852

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **You Are What You Eat (Lead): Using Personalized Educational Leadership Theory to Prepare Aspiring Principals for Fourteenth Amendment Decision-Making****AM**

Thomas Harvey, Katy Corcoran, Stewart Mayers

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32700

Reynolds (HT)

9:15 AM–10:15 AM **Countering the Narrative on “Illegal” DEI**
 Michael Pillera
 HOT-TOPIC K-12 HIGHER ED ID 33020

Smith

9:15 AM–9:45 AM **Controlling the Narrative: Enforcing White Nationhood Through Legal Mechanisms that Restrict Knowledge Production in K-12 Schools**
 Aidan Tomlinson
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35014

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Divisive Student Speech: Recent Cases Applying Tinker**
 Craig D. Feiser
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32024

Concurrent Session 5 — 10:30 AM–11:30 AM**Bellamy**

10:30 AM–11 AM **Old Wine in New Skins: Investigating Disparate Impact and Race Now in U.S. K–12 Schools Via OCR Complaints**
 Wei-Ling Sun, Mark Anthony Gooden
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35184

11 AM–11:30 AM **From Legal Frameworks to Lived Realities: Bridging the Gap Between Human Rights Law and Educational Practice in K-12 Schools**
 Dr. Shelly Khushal
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34586

Biltmore

10:30 AM–11 AM **Title IX Litigation Update**
 Melissa M. Carleton, Brikitta Hairston, M.Sc.
 30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 33752

11 AM–11:30 AM **Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Students: Title IX Protections and Institutional Best Practices**
 Mary Rohmiller, Alice Yao
 30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 31973

Cameron

10:30 AM–11 AM **Is NIL Fair**
 Tan Boston
 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35017

11 AM–11:30 AM **Top 10 Legal Mistakes Principals Often Make**
 Chris W. McCarty
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32736

Cape Hatteras (Coaching)

10:30 AM–11:30 AM **Going out on the Job Market for Lawyers and Law Students**
 Sarah S. Flournoy, J.D., Ed.D., Wayne Haglund, Tiffany Puckett, J.D., Ph.D.
 COACHING SESSION ID ELA007

Chimney Rock (GS/HT)

10:30 AM–11:30 AM **Fourth Amendment**
 Jennifer Sughrue, Kevin P. Brady, David Alexander, Tracey Ballard
 HOT-TOPIC ID ELA013

Hope

10:30 AM–11 AM **AI Governance, Capacity, and Legal Risk in Illinois Schools**
 Lenford C. Sutton
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 28311

11 AM–11:30 AM **When Law Produces Compliance but not Guidance: Tennessee’s School District AI Policy Mandate**
 Mitchel R. Mandel
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35106

Mendenhall

10:30 AM–11 AM **Legislating Educational Reform: The Legal and Constitutional Foundations of Charter Schools in Michigan**
 Brian Boggs
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 28380

11 AM–11:30 AM **Charter School Round Up: Current Issues Facing Charter Schools and School Choice**
 Scarlett Steuart, Maggie Chappuies, Stephanie Klupinski
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34971

Reynolds (HT)

10:30 AM–11:30 AM **Emerging Issues in Education: Legal Trends and Policy Solutions for a Changing Landscape**
 Aleks O. Rushing, John Borkowski, Amanda Clapp, John Thomsen
 HOT-TOPIC K-12 HIGHER ED ID 32004

Smith

10:30 AM–11 AM **Poisoned Chalice: How the New School Choice Movement Is Undermining the Autonomy of Private Schools**
 Jenny Cheng
 30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35069

11 AM–11:30 AM **Preparing Leaders Across the K–20 Continuum: A Model for Advocacy and Action**
 Jonathan O’Brien, Erin Biolchino, J.D., Ed.D.
 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 30552

Concurrent Session 6 — 2:15 PM–3:15 PM

Bellamy

2:15 PM–2:45 PM	Institutional Responses to Immigration Enforcement: An Examination of University Resources for International Students Marynes Castillo Espinoza, Nana-Anna Abaka-Cann, Maria M. Lewis 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 33405
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2:45 PM–3:15 PM	“We Don’t Know What Tomorrow Brings”: Experiences of International Graduate Students of Color During Immigration Policy Shifts Julie Sears 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 32397
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Biltmore

2:15 PM–2:45 PM	Higher Education Autonomy and Federal Authority Neal Hutchens 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 31982
2:45 PM–3:15 PM	Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA): Why it Matters to Educational Organizations and Higher Education as Employers of Military Personnel and Veterans Brendan Wilson, Ph.D., J.D., Kay Arnold Wilson Ed.D., J.D. 30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 31351

Cameron

2:15 PM–2:45 PM	The Rest of the Story: An Archival Reassessment of Hosty v. Carter David Conrad 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 32743
2:45 PM–3:15 PM	Free Speech and Immigration Law on Campus: An Update of Litigation Luke M. Cornelius 30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35118

Cape Hatteras (Coaching)

2:15 PM–3:15 PM	How to Publish with ELA Regina Umpstead Pratel, Christopher D. Thomas, Jennifer Sughrue, Jamie Kudlats, Jeffrey C. Sun COACHING SESSION ID ELA006
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Chimney Rock (GS/HT)

2:15 PM–3:15 PM	The Hidden Cost of Choice: School Choice, Special Education, and College Access May Be Incompatible Barbara Qualls, Wayne Haglund, Rebeca Cooper, Dedrah Ginn HOT-TOPIC K-12 HIGHER ED ID 35019
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Hope

2:15 PM–2:45 PM **Accreditation at a Crossroads: Changing Federal Authority, State Intervention, and the Future of Institutional Oversight**
Emily Merolli
30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 32828

2:45 PM–3:15 PM **Reading the Signals: What 2025 Education Legislation Reveals for Practice and Policy**
Heather A. Turner, Ph.D., Kendall Fujioka, J.D., M.S.W., Mitchel R. Mandel
30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 34920

Mendenhall

2:15 PM–2:45 PM **Navigating Nevada’s Centralized LEA Model for in Due Process Proceedings**
Samantha King Powell, Esq., Samantha Edwards, Esq.
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 33260

2:45 PM–3:15 PM **The Gap Between State Laws/Policies and Evidence-Based Practices Involving the Restraint and Seclusion of Students with Disabilities**
Kevin P. Brady
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35015

Reynolds (HT)

2:15 PM–3:15 PM **The First Amendment Religion Clauses: Continuing the Conversation**
Charles J. Russo, Martha M. McCarthy, Edwin Darden, Richard B. Katskee
HOT-TOPIC K-12 HIGHER ED ID 31338

Smith

2:15 PM–2:45 PM **The History and Impact of the Emergence of a (Nearly) All Charter Public School System**
Jennifer Babin Bourgeois, Claudine Davis, Hazel Woods
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 33290

2:45 PM–3:15 PM **Monday Morning Quarterback: Assessing the Legal Implications of an Executive Order to "Save College Sports"**
Mark Paige, Madeleine Paige
30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35113

Saturday

October 24

Concurrent Session 7 — 9:45 AM–10:45 AM

Bellamy

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **Post-Perez v. Sturgis Public Schools: An Update and Implications for Practice**
Cynthia A. Dieterich, Nicole D. Snyder
30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32636

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Beyond the IDEA: What Case Law Tells us about Transition Planning**

Jennifer Mizell Marks, Krista Bixler

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32783

Biltmore

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **AI in the Absence of Governance: Superintendent Decision-Making and Legal Ambiguity in K-12 Education**

Steven M. Carlo, Heather L. Daniel

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35083

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Meeting the needs of students with disabilities in school crisis plans**

Christine L. Montesi, Susan C. Bon

30-MINUTE ID ELA014

Cameron

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **New State Legislation to Support Student Mental Health through Professional Training for Educators and School Leaders**

Elisabeth Krimbill, Maureen Fox

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34534

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Are the legal ramifications of META the first step to confronting cyberbullying?**

Dr. Grace Adams-Square

30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 33166

Cape Hatteras (Coaching)

9:45 AM–10:45 AM **The Dissertation JOURNEY: How to prevent burnout?**

Stephen Himes, Jeanne Surface, Maria M. Lewis, Spencer Weiler

COACHING SESSION ID ELA010

Chimney Rock (GS/HT)

9:45 AM–10:45 AM **Connecting the Courtroom to the Classroom: A Live Recording and Conversation with Chalk & Gavel**

Christopher D. Thomas, Jamie Kudlats

HOT-TOPIC K-12 ID 26023

Hope

9:45 AM–10:15 AM **From Reaction to Prevention: Addressing Gaps in Federal Behavioral Support Mandates**

Summer Hulett Krebbs, MEd, BCBA, LBA

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34857

10:15 AM–10:45 AM **Navigating the Legal Shift: A 2026 Analysis of School Discipline and Equity**

Christopher Graves, Tiffany Puckett, J.D., Ph.D., Miranda Johnson

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35001

Mendenhall

9:45 AM–10:15 AM When ICE is Knocking at the Schoolhouse Gate - Update

Brian Boggs

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 28376

10:15 AM–10:45 AM Artificial Intelligence, Academic Misconduct, and Institutional Liability: The Emerging Legal Landscape in Higher Education

Christian Moriarty, J.D.

30-MINUTE ID ELA018

Smith**9:45 AM–10:15 AM Senior Assistant General Counsel**

Marylin C. Batista, B.C.S.

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 28643

10:15 AM–10:45 AM Countering Efforts to Undermine Multilingual English Learners' Civil Rights

Bridget Joyce, Michael Pillera

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32592

Concurrent Session 8 — 11:00 AM–12:00 PM**Bellamy****11 AM–11:30 AM Equity Without Courts: Governing Choice-Based Finance**

Lenford C. Sutton

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 28264

11:30 AM–12 PM Movement Lawyering to Advance Community Coalitions

Beatriz Diaz-Pollack, Alisa Diehl, Shray Shetty

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35150

Biltmore**11 AM–11:30 AM What to Teach Undergraduate Pre-Service Educators for Basic Legal Literacy**

Rhett Hutchins

30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 32929

11:30 AM–12 PM Section 504's Expanding Role in Schools

Bella Bennett, Janet Decker, Kayla Bridgham

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32267

Cameron**11 AM–11:30 AM Federal Funding Conditions and Executive Power: Legal Limits on the U.S. Department of Education**

Josie Eskow Skinner, Emily Merolli

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32597

11:30 AM–12 PM Deepfake Investigations and the Prisoner's Dilemma

Stephen Seedorf, James Bradford Every, Spencer Weiler

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 32361

Cape Hatteras (Coaching)**11 AM–12 PM Reimagining Complaints Processes in K–12 Education: Transparency, Trauma-Informed Practice, and Legal Accountability**

Dr. Shelly Khushal

COACHING SESSION K-12 ID 34588

Hope**11 AM–11:30 AM From Litigation to Implementation: Lessons from Cruz-Guzman and the Legal Design of Integrated School Systems**

Kimberly Lane

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 34877

11:30 AM–12 PM How Have Legal Challenges to Elementary & Secondary School Diversity Policies Evolved Over Time?

Gina Chirichigno, Blakely Hardin, Janel George

30-MINUTE K-12 ID 35175

Mendenhall**11 AM–11:30 AM Beyond Food Allergies: Legal and Institutional Responsibilities for Dietary Accessibility in Higher Education**

Destiny Garn, Patrick Pauken

30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 33304

11:30 AM–12 PM Deference Without Consistency: Prior Accommodations in Education and Licensing Systems

Shakira D. Pleasant

30-MINUTE HIGHER ED ID 35365

Smith**11 AM–11:30 AM Don't Say That: Litigation Implications of Public Statements**

Sarah S. Flournoy, J.D., Ed.D.

30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 35085

11:30 AM–12 PM Navigating OCR Investigations and Funding Risks

Mary Rohmiller, Alice Yao

30-MINUTE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 31971

Roundtables — 8:30 AM–9:30 AM*Room: Chimney Rock (GS/HT) ****ROUNDTABLE PRESENTERS SHOULD PLAN FOR 30 MINUTES MAX******8:30 AM–9:30 AM Academic Freedom of Speech in the Digital Age: The Murder of Charlie Kirk**

Samantha Morden, Melanie Wallace, Luke M. Cornelius

ROUNDTABLE HIGHER ED ID 35132

8:30 AM–9:30 AM Charter Schools After Federal Tax Scholarships

Lenford C. Sutton

ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 28265

8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Employee Success in Higher Education Employment Litigation: An Empirical Analysis of Institutional and Legal Predictors Carcyle D. Rochester-Barrett ROUNDTABLE HIGHER ED ID 34505
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Expanding Freedom of Religion at the Expense of our LGBTQ+ Youth: An Analysis of Mahmoud v. Taylor and its Potential Negative Impacts on LGBTQ+ Students Allie Howard ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 32669
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Exploratory Case Study of Teacher Experiences Working with Students with Autism During Catastrophic Events Raymond Wilson ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 32995
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	For Trans* and Gender Creative Youth of Color, the Mo'olelo of Indigenous Policies and Practices In Hawaiian-Focused Charter Schools that Support Native Language, Gender Identity and Racial Equity françoise Bell ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 32279
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	From Attendance to Opportunity: Structural Inequities, Policy Choices, and Postsecondary Outcomes in Urban School Districts Gabriel T. Smallwood Jr., Serena Mitchell, Logan Caudill ROUNDTABLE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 35123
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	From Courts to Coaches: Legal Literacy in K-12 Athletics Chris McCrackin ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35094
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	From Logic Models to Legal Arguments: Using Program Evaluation Evidence in Education Law and Policy Decisions Delia Allen ROUNDTABLE K-12 HIGHER ED ID 34965
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	From Paddling to Precedent: A Decade-Later Legal and Demographic Reassessment of Corporal Punishment in Mississippi Public Schools Twyla A. Williams ROUNDTABLE ID ELA019
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Guidance for Understanding and Addressing the Detreimental Impacts of Undergraduate Student Use of Artificial Intelligence LLMs for Legal Research and Writing Assignments Azriel Michael Reyes ROUNDTABLE HIGHER ED ID 33669
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Harmonizing Title IX, Parental Rights, and Support for LGBTQ Youth in Today's Schools Mary Rohmiller, Alice Yao ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 31955

8:30 AM–9:30 AM	History in the Making: Ohio Constitutional Limitations on Property Taxation Scott Sweetland ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35149
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Innovating Inclusion: A School District's STEM Strategy in a Shifting Legal Area Michelle Burris LaVere, Halley Potter, Kimberly Lane ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35143
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Is ChatGPT the next Oregon Trail? Beth Godett ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 31818
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Legal Accessibility vs. “Right Fit”: How Access to Counsel Shapes Superintendent Hiring Decisions Melissa Torrence ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35160
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Lessons in Conflict: Gender Identity Politics in Education and the Fracturing of Parent-Child Relationships Heather Trick ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35114
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Measuring Legal Literacy Pamela Callahan ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 33284
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Navigating Title IX in K–12: Clarifying Misinterpretation, Overreporting, and Compliance Tameiko Allen Grant, JD PHD ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 33245
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Post-SFFA Admissions: Legal Challenges to Facially Neutral Percentage Policies Regina Chambers ROUNDTABLE HIGHER ED ID 33472
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Public Schooling Together and the Constitution of the Republic James S. Liebman, Bennett Lunn ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 34695
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Reimagining Educational Leadership: Leadership as a Lever for Human Rights in Ontario’s Public Education System Dr. Shelly Khushal ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 34592
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	School Participation in Child Suicide Death Reviews: Legal Considerations and Systemic Barriers Melissa Perkins, John R. Blosnich ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35321

8:30 AM–9:30 AM	The Federal Occupation of Education Janel George ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 34997
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	The Space Between: Understanding the Impact of Mahmoud v. Taylor on Civics Education Erin A. Bronstein, Donald R. McClure ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 32684
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Understanding OCD in Schools: Legal Obligations and Practical Supports Under Section 504 and IDEA Skye Brueck Aitken ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35343
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Uniforme Completo: Puerto Rican Student Social Media Activism and the Constitution That Protects the Cry but Not the Child Armen Álvarez, Ph.D., MDY ROUNDTABLE ID ELA020
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Unless our children learn together: Student perspectives on empathy and inclusion from a diverse American high school Peter Piazza ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35111
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Using Law to Support Co-Teaching Practices in the Classroom Dana Guinn ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 33516
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	When Care Meets Liability: Legal Frameworks for Student Mental Health Crises in U.S. Public Universities Jordan Widelock, Tara Shollenberger ROUNDTABLE HIGHER ED ID 32178
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	Who Sets the Rules for Grades? Examining the Legislative and Political Forces Shaping K–12 Grading Policies Leo W. Cavinder ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 34713
8:30 AM–9:30 AM	“Mahmoud v. Taylor and Parental Challenge and Control over Public School Curriculum” Patrick Pauken, Mounir Rafik ROUNDTABLE K-12 ID 35201

Presenting? Find your session above to confirm your day, time, and room. Registration for presenters closes September 7, 2026 — use the exact email address from your accepted proposal.

This document is a working reference built from the conference scheduling workbook. Once Sched reflects the full program, it becomes the definitive source for real-time updates, personal schedules, and session details.