

# NATIONAL NETWORK OF CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

## Agenda March 23, 2006

### Meeting Purpose and Outcomes:

- To identify opportunities for NNCOs to support the Gates and NGA Honor States' investments and the American Diploma Project
- To review the NNCO project status and goals
- To identify opportunities for NNCO collaboration in supporting the NGA/Achieve Action Agenda
- To identify next steps and actions for NNCOs

9:00 – 9:10 Welcome and Introductions

9:10 – 10:45 Setting the Stage

Review of NNCO Project Goals and “Non-Negotiables”  
Sandra Licon, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation  
Torrey Shaw, National Governors Association

Overview of the American Diploma Project (ADP) Priorities  
Matt Gandal, Achieve

Implications for NNCO Activities and Opportunities for Leverage  
(Discussion)

*During this discussion, attendees will have the opportunity to reflect on how their proposed scopes of work will support the ADP and NGA policy agenda and state goals, and begin to identify specific strategies to increase alignment and accelerate adoption of those goals.*

### Key Questions

- How can NNCO's – individually and collectively – strengthen the NGA/Achieve Action Agenda and goals?
- Where do NNCO's – individually and collectively -- see the greatest opportunities for impact?
- What are the challenges NNCO's face with members and stakeholders in aligning to support the NGA/Achieve Action Agenda?

10:45 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 12:00 The Need for Increased Rigor – Raising Graduation Requirements

*This discussion focuses on one of the high priority policy goals of the NGA/Achieve Action Agenda, with an eye to identifying how NNCO's can leverage their organizations, in Washington and in the field, to support reform.*

Key Questions:

- How can each NNCO further the policy goal of increasing graduation requirements?
- What are opportunities for working with each organizations' members as states focus on this goal?
- What obstacles exist at the state level, and how can NNCO's help mitigate them?

12:00 – 12:45 Lunch and Informal Networking

12:45 – 1:45 Adoption of a Longitudinal, Four-Year Cohort High School Graduation Measure

*This discussion focuses on one of the Honor States Grant Program's "non-negotiables" with an eye to identifying how NNCO's can leverage their organizations, in Washington and in the field, to support the states in achieving this policy goal .*

Key Questions:

- How can each NNCO further this policy goal?
- What are opportunities for working with each organizations' members as states focus on this goal?
- What obstacles exist at the state level, and how can NNCO's help mitigate them?

1:45 – 2:30 NNCO Current Activities Discussion

*NNCO's will have the opportunity to share highlights of their work plans, other aspects of their work tied to NGA project goals, and identify opportunities for collaboration.*

How does your organization's current work support the NGA/Achieve Action Agenda? Given today's conversation, what strategies or activities do you plan to pursue to support the NGA/Achieve Action Agenda? Where do you see areas for collaboration/information sharing with the other NNCO's?

2:30 – 2:45 Next Steps

*The purpose here is to capture specific next steps identified during the day – both for each NNCO individually and as a group.*

2:45 Adjourn