

Smart Decisions in Tough Times: Keeping the Focus on Students



innovation
effective teachers
excellent schools
high expectations
reliable data systems



7th Annual
North Carolina Legislators Retreat

JANUARY 11-12, 2010

Carolina Hotel • Pinehurst, North Carolina



JAMES B HUNT, JR INSTITUTE
for EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP *and* POLICY

Working at the intersection of policy and politics



Created by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors in 2001, the James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy works with leaders to secure America's future through quality education. Working at the intersection of policy and politics, the Hunt Institute connects leaders with the best strategies for developing and implementing policies and programs to improve public education.

To that end, the Institute convenes governors, policymakers, legislators, and business and civic leaders across the nation to provide them with the best information to make informed policy decisions. An affiliated center of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit entity that does not lobby for, or take positions on, state and federal legislation.



Welcome to the 7th Annual North Carolina Legislators Retreat

The significant economic crisis and growing unemployment numbers present a true challenge for our state. Although substantial budget cuts have been made across the board, there is one group of citizens that must remain our top priority – our children. This year's retreat, **Smart Decisions in Tough Times: Keeping the Focus on Students**, will allow you to think creatively about how to strengthen education for all of North Carolina's students.

The \$4.35 billion *Race to the Top* program, part of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*, provides an important opportunity to bring new funding into our state to support and expand innovative practices. *Race to the Top* prioritizes four critical areas that are essential for all students to succeed: effective teachers and principals, excellent schools, high-quality standards and assessments, and data systems that provide accurate and useful information to drive student achievement. We need to implement strategic programs in each of these areas if all of our students are going to be successful.

As with previous retreats, we have brought together leading experts and researchers to share their knowledge and discuss the key supports students need to succeed. In addition, you will have the opportunity to speak with North Carolina education leaders about the state's application for *Race to the Top* and our shared vision for improving education in North Carolina.

This is a time of transition in our state and across the country, and we need to consider how to spend our money carefully and deliberately. We encourage you to use the information shared at this retreat to think about new approaches to ensuring that all students get the education they need and deserve. Thank you again for your commitment to education in North Carolina and your attendance at this retreat.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. B. Hunt".

James B. Hunt, Jr.
Co-Chair, North Carolina Legislators Retreat
Governor of North Carolina
(1977-1985, 1993-2001)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James E. Holshouser, Jr.".

James E. Holshouser, Jr.
Co-Chair, North Carolina Legislators Retreat
Governor of North Carolina
(1973-1977)

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2010
8:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

AGENDA

8:00 – 10:00 AM	Registration	<i>Conference Center Foyer</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Welcome James B. Hunt, Jr. Co-Chair, North Carolina Legislators Retreat Chair, Hunt Institute Foundation Board Governor of North Carolina (1977-1985; 1993-2001) James E. Holshouser, Jr. Co-Chair, North Carolina Legislators Retreat Member, Hunt Institute Foundation Board Governor of North Carolina (1973-1977) Dr. Judith A. Rizzo Executive Director and CEO James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
10:30 – 11:45	Session I <i>Race to the Top: An Opportunity for Innovation</i> Introduction James E. Holshouser, Jr. Speaker Scott Palmer , Managing Partner EducationCounsel LLC	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
11:45 – 1:00 PM	Lunch Introduction James B. Hunt, Jr. Speaker The Honorable Beverly Perdue Governor, State of North Carolina	<i>Callaway</i>
1:00 – 1:15	Break	

AGENDA

1:15 – 2:45	Session II <i>High Expectations for Every Student: The Importance of Common Standards and Assessments</i> Moderator Dr. Judith A. Rizzo Resource Experts David Coleman , Founder and CEO Student Achievement Partners Dr. David Spence , President Southern Regional Education Board Dr. June Atkinson , State Superintendent North Carolina Department of Public Instruction	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
2:45 – 3:00	Break	
3:00 – 4:30	Session III <i>Informed Decision Making: Data Systems that Support Student Achievement</i> Moderator Sandy Kress , Partner Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP Resource Experts Lieutenant Governor Barbara O'Brien State of Colorado Baron Rodriguez , Director of State Data Systems Data Quality Campaign Mike Edwards , President and CEO Knoxville Chamber of Commerce	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
4:30 – 5:30	Break	
5:30 – 6:00	Shuttle to Donald Ross Grill	<i>Hotel Lobby</i>
5:30 – 6:30	Reception	<i>Donald Ross Grill</i>
6:30 – 8:30	Dinner and Discussion James E. Holshouser, Jr. James B. Hunt, Jr.	<i>Donald Ross Grill</i>
8:30 – 9:00	Shuttle to Hotel	

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12
9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

A G E N D A

6:30 – 8:45 AM	Buffet Breakfast	<i>Carolina Dining Room</i>
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome and Introductions	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
9:15 – 10:45	Session IV <i>A Great Teacher for Every Student: Improving Teacher and Principal Effectiveness</i> Moderator James B. Hunt, Jr. Resource Experts Jon Schnur , CEO and Co-Founder New Leaders for New Schools Karla Oakley , Vice President of Teacher Quality Innovations The New Teacher Project Dr. Bill McDiarmid , Dean and Alumni Distinguished Professor of Education University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Education	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
10:45 – 11:00	Break	
11:00 – 12:30 PM	Session V <i>An Excellent School for Every Student: Turning Around Low-Performing Schools</i> Moderator Dr. Gerry House , President and CEO Institute for Student Achievement Resource Experts William Guenther , President and Founder Mass Insight Education and Research Institute Dr. William Harrison , Chairman North Carolina State Board of Education	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
12:30 – 12:45	Closing Remarks James B. Hunt, Jr.	<i>Ross/Tufts/Olmstead</i>
12:45 – 2:00	Lunch	<i>Callaway</i>

CO - CHAIRS



JAMES E. HOLSHOUSER, JR.

Member, Hunt Institute Foundation Board
Governor, North Carolina (1973-1977)

James E. Holshouser, Jr. served four terms in the North Carolina House of Representatives where he was Vice-Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and House Rules Committee. He also served on the Study Commission on Reorganization of State Government and the Legislative Study Commission on Student Financial Aid.

During his term as governor, Holshouser was elected to the Executive Committee of the National Governors Conference, chairman of the Southern Regional Education Board, co-chairman of the Coastal Plains Regional Commission, and chairman of the Southern Growth Policies Board.

Holshouser has served on the Board of Trustees of Davidson College and the Board of Advisors for Lees McRae College. He was chairman of the successful \$50 million capital fundraising campaign for Davidson College and of the Board of Trustees of St. Andrews Presbyterian College. Holshouser served two eight-year terms on the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and continues to serve as a member emeritus. He is a native of Watauga County and a graduate of Davidson College.



JAMES B. HUNT, JR.

Chairman, Hunt Institute Foundation Board
Governor, North Carolina (1977-1985; 1992-2001)

Former Governor Jim Hunt is a nationally recognized leader in education and led his state through 20 years of dramatic economic change. Serving a historic four terms as governor, Hunt has been at the forefront of education reform in his state and in the nation. The Rand Corporation reports that North Carolina public schools improved test scores more than any other state in the 1990s. Governor Hunt called for them to be “first in America” by 2010 in his book, *First In America: An Education Governor Challenges North Carolina*. To further this mission, he chairs the board of the James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy. Established in 2001, the purpose

of the Hunt Institute is to work with leaders to secure America’s future through quality education – based on sound research.

As governor, Hunt focused on early childhood development and improving the quality of teaching in America. His *Smart Start* program is a nonprofit, public-private partnership rooted in each of the state’s 100 counties, providing quality child care, health care, and family support for each child who needs it. It is funded primarily by the state but is also supported heavily by private corporations and individuals. *Smart Start* has been visited and studied by early childhood leaders from all 50 states and many foreign countries. It received the prestigious *Innovations in American Government Award* from the Ford Foundation and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Hunt has devoted much of the last 15 years of his life to excellence in teaching in the United States. He has co-chaired the “Committee of 50,” which led to the Carnegie Forum on Education and the Economy and eventually, to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. He has also provided education leadership as the chairman of the National Commission on Teaching and America’s Future, chairman of the National Education Goals Panel, vice chairman of the board of Achieve, Inc., chairman of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, and a member of the Secretary’s Commission on the Future of Higher Education. In 2006, Hunt was named one of the most influential people in American education in a study released by the Editorial Projects in Education Research Center – publisher of *Education Week*, *Teacher Magazine*, and *edweek.org*.

HUNT INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP



JUDITH A. RIZZO, Ed.D.

Executive Director and CEO

In 2002, Dr. Judith A. Rizzo became the first Executive Director of the James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy. Prior to joining the Institute, she served as the Deputy Chancellor for Instruction at the New York City Board of Education. One of Dr. Rizzo's primary innovations as the chief educational officer for the nation's largest school system was the Chancellor's District, created to provide direct oversight of the city's lowest-performing elementary and middle schools and remove them from control of community school districts. She created the Extended Time School (ETS) model for those schools. Additionally, Dr. Rizzo

led the efforts to introduce high academic standards for all grade levels, and designed and implemented new assessment tools to align with those standards. She helped design and implement the Early Childhood Language Assessment System (ECLAS), the first comprehensive early childhood standards system in New York State.

Dr. Rizzo has been on the front lines of public education reform efforts in cities across the country. Prior to joining the New York City Board of Education in 1995, Dr. Rizzo served as Deputy Superintendent for the Tacoma, WA public school system where she championed school-based management and oversaw curriculum and instruction, management of federal funds, and the implementation of school accountability protocols. She also served as the Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and the Bilingual Coordinator for Boston Public Schools. Prior to her work in administration, Dr. Rizzo was a public school principal and middle school teacher in Massachusetts.



LYNDA K. McCULLOCH

Associate Director and Chief of Staff

An education professional with 35 years of Pre-K-12 and university service at the state, regional, and national level, McCulloch served as Senior Education Advisor to Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. During her tenure, as Senior Education Advisor – a cabinet level position in the Hunt Administration – she served as chair of the North Carolina Education Research Council and on the executive committees of the Public School Forum of North Carolina Board, the North Carolina School Improvement Panel, and the Southeastern Vision for Education (SERVE). McCulloch is a founding member and current secretary of Governor Hunt's North Carolina First

in America Foundation.

Prior to joining the Governor's Office in 1993, McCulloch completed her 20th year at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction as a K-12 director of curriculum. After her service in the Governor's Office, she was the North Carolina President for Voyager Learning, Inc. and senior advisor to the Hunt Institute. In addition to her education career, she has worked as a private consultant with private and not-for-profit businesses on creating and managing high-performing organizations. In 2005, McCulloch joined the Hunt Institute as Associate Director and Chief of Staff.

GEOFF COLTRANE

Director of Program and Policy



For more than three years, Coltrane managed research efforts on school performance while serving as the research and communications director at the *North Carolina New Schools Project*, which focuses on the redesign of high schools in the state. In this position, he also maintained updates and gathered details for the North Carolina General Assembly and North Carolina State Board of Education regarding the progress of the *Learn and Earn* Early College High School Initiative. After five years as an elementary teacher in Durham, Coltrane completed a master's degree in public policy at Duke University. A *North Carolina Teaching Fellow*, Coltrane was reared in Trinity and earned his undergraduate degrees in education and history from the

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

HUNT INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP



STEPHANIE DEAN

Director of Research and Evaluation

Dean worked on the Success By 6[®] early childhood initiative in Portland, Oregon and was later a grants manager of education programs for United Way California Capital Region in Sacramento. As a Teach For America corps member, she taught fourth grade in Mississippi and served as the director of special projects for Eastern North Carolina. Originally from California, this Phi Beta Kappa graduate received her bachelor's degree from the University of Oregon Clark Honors College in Eugene. She earned her master's degree from the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University.



MICHAEL GILLIGAN

Finance and Development Director

Gilligan manages finances and raises funds, drawing on a 17-year history of building educational organizations. Previously he served as executive director of Teach For America in Louisiana, program manager of the School Management Program at UCLA, senior development officer at Columbia University, executive director of Sylvan Learning System's Los Angeles contract, director of the Anne and Kirk Douglas Foundation, and consultant at The Broad Foundation. Gilligan was also the acting director of development for the New York City Department of Education where he created the World Trade Center School Relief Fund. He is a graduate of Columbia University.



APRIL WHITE

Director of Communications

With more than 13 years of experience in communications and leadership in agency and government organizations, White is responsible for elevating the national profile of the Hunt Institute.

Previously, she served as an account director at Capstrat, a strategic communications firm in Raleigh. Here, White led the effort to pass self-financing bonds (Amendment One) on North Carolina's 2004 statewide ballot – an initiative that failed tremendously twice before. The Amendment One campaign won a national Gold SABRE Award as the best ballot initiative campaign in the country – one of the PR industry's highest honors. It was also recognized by PR Week as one of the top campaigns of the year. She also worked directly with the University of North Carolina and North Carolina Community College System to coordinate messaging and grassroots efforts for the 2000 North Carolina Higher Education Bond Referendum, which won an overwhelming 73 percent support.

White also served as deputy press secretary for Governor Jim Hunt and in the public affairs division of the NC Department of Commerce. She is a graduate of Hampton University and a Class XII graduate of Leadership North Carolina.

SPECIAL GUEST



THE HONORABLE BEVERLY PERDUE

Governor of North Carolina

In January 2009, Bev Perdue was inaugurated as the 73rd governor of North Carolina and our state's first woman governor. On Governor Perdue's first day in office, she signed a series of executive orders designed to make government more efficient, more accessible, and more accountable to the people.

Before entering public service, Perdue worked as a public school teacher, as director of geriatric services at a community hospital in her hometown of New Bern, and earned a Ph.D. in education administration. Governor Perdue has also served in the State House, State Senate, and as Lieutenant Governor for eight years.

As a state legislator, Governor Perdue was part of several landmark initiatives, including raising teacher salaries from 43rd to 21st in the nation, starting the Children's Health Insurance Program, and creating the Clean Water Management Trust Fund.

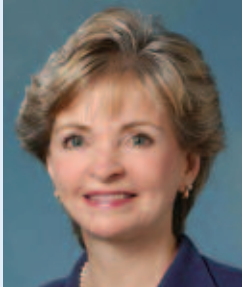
As lieutenant governor, Perdue led our state's efforts during the US Defense Department's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process, successfully protecting North Carolina's military bases – worth \$18 billion and 350,000 jobs to our economy. Building on that success, Perdue launched the NC Military Foundation to attract 21st century defense, aerospace, and homeland security jobs to North Carolina.

She also created the Green Business Fund to make environmental innovation investments in alternative fuels, green construction, and other clean energy technologies – positioning North Carolina to become a national leader in environmental technology and in high-wage green collar jobs.

As chair of the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission, Perdue helped create Senior Care, a prescription drug program for low-income seniors called the best in the nation by NC AARP. And under Perdue's leadership, the state targeted teen tobacco use for the first time – an effort that resulted in all 115 school systems becoming 100 percent tobacco free.

Drawing on her experience as a former teacher, Bev Perdue is working to transform North Carolina classrooms into 21st century learning centers through increased technology in the classroom and a statewide online school initiative – steps critical to preparing students to enter the global workforce. She understands clearly that the success of our education system will define our economic future as a state, and that's why she is committed to attracting and retaining the best teachers in America.

RESOURCE EXPERTS



JUNE ATKINSON, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of North Carolina

June St. Clair Atkinson has served as the North Carolina State Superintendent of Public Instruction since August 2005 and was re-elected in 2008. Dr. Atkinson is the first woman elected to the post of State Superintendent. In this role, she oversees more than 1.4 million students in over 2,300 public schools.

As State Superintendent, Dr. Atkinson heads the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, an agency which she served for nearly 30 years as a chief consultant and director in the areas of business education, career and technical education, and instructional services. A former business education teacher, Dr. Atkinson has been involved in instruction and curriculum development throughout her career. Improving instructional quality and student learning, creating environments that enable teachers' and students' success, and ensuring that education is modern and relevant are key priorities for Dr. Atkinson.

She has received numerous awards and held many professional offices. Her most recent honors are the Women of Achievement Award from the General Federation of Women's Club, the Distinguished Alumna Award from the North Carolina State University College of Education, the Inclusive Leadership Award from the North Carolina Association of Educators, the Friends of Education Award from the North Carolina Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, and the Education Educator Hall of Fame Award from East Carolina University.

She is the past president of the National Business Education Association, the Southern Regional Education Board's High Schools that Work, and the National Association of State Directors of Career and Technical Education. In addition to her many honors, she has been published in numerous magazines and professional yearbooks, has authored two books related to technology, and has made presentations to business and other educational groups in 43 states and throughout North Carolina.

Dr. Atkinson received a B.S. in Business Education from Radford University in 1969, an M.S. in Vocational and Technical Education from Virginia Tech in 1974, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy from North Carolina State University in 1996.



DAVID COLEMAN

Founder and CEO
Student Achievement Partners

David Coleman has a long record of innovation and leadership in the field of education. His most recent initiative is Student Achievement Partners, LLC, an organization which assembles leading thinkers and researchers to design actions to substantially improve student achievement. In this process, rigorous policy analysis, research, and design are integrated to focus on the most significant outcomes for students.

Student Achievement Partners serves foundations and school districts. Previously, Mr. Coleman founded the Grow Network – acquired by McGraw-Hill in 2005 – which has become the nation's leader in assessment reporting and customized instructional materials.

Coleman was a lecturer at the University of London before going to work in the pro bono education area of McKinsey & Company. He is a Rhodes Scholar and a graduate of Yale University, Oxford University, and Cambridge University.

RESOURCE EXPERTS



MIKE EDWARDS

President and CEO
Knoxville Chamber of Commerce

Mike Edwards is the President and CEO of the Knoxville Chamber and the Development Corporation of Knox County. He has been with the Chamber since April 2002 and assumed the role of President and CEO in September 2002. He serves on the Education Committee of the US Chamber of Commerce, the Tennessee Business Roundtable Board of Directors and Executive Committee, the Board of Directors of the Public School Forum of East Tennessee, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Development Corporation Board, the University of Tennessee Cherokee Farms Technology Park Advisory Board, and the Board of Trustees for the Great Schools Partnership. He is currently in a Ford Foundation Fellowship with the American Chamber of Commerce Executives focusing on regional sustainability. Edwards is also a regular speaker to state and national business organizations about the importance of improving education for our continued economic well-being. Under his leadership, the Chamber and other regional partners have developed a comprehensive economic development initiative. Known as Innovation Valley Inc, this investor-directed program is designed to recruit, retain, and expand business growth in the region with a focus on technology-led economic development and creating the knowledge and skilled workforce necessary for this growth.

Edwards was a retail developer immediately prior to coming to the Chamber, and he served for 17 years as CEO of the Public Building Authority of Knox County and the City of Knoxville.



WILLIAM H. GUENTHER

President and Founder
Mass Insight Education and Research Institute

Bill Guenther is President and Founder of Mass Insight Education & Research Institute, an independent not-for-profit organization focused on improving student achievement in Massachusetts' and the nation's public schools.

Guenther founded Mass Insight Education & Research Institute (MERI) in 1997. MERI's national work focuses on two high-impact goals: using Advanced Placement® as a lever to attain excellence in math and science achievement and to transform school culture, and the successful turnaround of consistently under-performing public schools. He has led MERI's work in three fields: (1) Research—he served as co-author of *The Turnaround Challenge* (2007) which received national attention and is credited with shaping state and district strategies on turnaround of our most chronically underperforming schools; (2) Standards-based services to schools – Guenther and Mass Insight have provided a range of practical, research-based technical services, staff and leadership development programs, and consulting services to schools and school districts; and (3) Policy facilitation – Guenther and Mass Insight have served as a leading statewide convener and catalyst for thoughtful, informed state education policymaking. Mass Insight's Great Schools Campaign and its predecessor, the Campaign for Higher Standards, have played a highly visible role in shaping the priorities of Massachusetts' second decade of school reform.

Guenther is also president and founder (1989) of Mass Insight Corporation (MIC), a Boston-based public policy research and consulting firm. MIC seeks to keep Massachusetts and its businesses and institutions globally competitive. Through client and leadership networks, the firm shapes public-private dialogues and delivers policy results on issues where state actions and investments affect profitability and growth. MIC's corporate clients and sponsors include universities, financial institutions, IT, communications, health care, utilities, professional services, trade organizations, and state agencies.

Guenther is a graduate of Harvard College and the New York University Law School.

RESOURCE EXPERTS



WILLIAM HARRISON, Ed.D.

Chairman
North Carolina State Board of Education

Dr. Harrison was appointed to the State Board of Education by Governor Beverly Perdue in March 2009. A native of Pennsylvania, Dr. Harrison has served North Carolina public schools throughout his career. In addition to more than 11 years as Superintendent in Cumberland County, he also has served as Superintendent in Orange County and in Hoke County, an assistant superintendent in Brunswick County Schools, and a principal and teacher. Dr. Harrison is an adjunct assistant professor at North Carolina State University. His experience includes serving on numerous state commissions, most recently as Co-Chair of the Education Lottery Oversight Committee and as Vice-Chair of the Military Child Education Coalition. Dr. Harrison holds a bachelor's degree in Intermediate Education from Methodist College – Fayetteville, a master's degree in Educational Administration, an Education Specialist degree in Education Administration from East Carolina University, and an Educational doctorate in Education Administration from Vanderbilt University.



GERRY HOUSE, Ed.D.

President and CEO
Institute for Student Achievement

Dr. Gerry House is president and chief executive officer of the Institute for Student Achievement (ISA) in New York, a non-profit organization that partners with public school districts to transform underperforming high schools into academically rigorous schools that graduate students prepared for success in college. Prior to joining ISA, Dr. House spent 15 years as school superintendent in Memphis, Tennessee and in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

While superintendent in Memphis, Dr. House led the district through a comprehensive change process, engaging all 160 schools in whole school reform, with a focus on standards and accountability, teaching and learning, school organization, resource allocation, student support, and leadership development. The whole school reform change process resulted in higher student achievement outcomes and stronger community support for excellent and equitable schools.

Dr. House was superintendent of the Chapel Hill, N.C. school system for seven years, where she also served as a teacher, junior and senior high guidance counselor, principal, and assistant superintendent.

Dr. House graduated from North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro with a degree in English Education and holds a master's degree in Counseling from Southern Illinois University. She earned her doctorate in Education Administration at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and is the recipient of Honorary Doctor of Humanities degrees from Rhodes College and Lemoyne-Owen College, both in Memphis, Tennessee.

RESOURCE EXPERTS



SANDY KRESS

Attorney
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Sandy Kress' practice focuses on public law and policy at the state and national levels, with a strong focus on education matters, including policies, reform, and accountability. Kress served as senior advisor to President George W. Bush on education with respect to the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, and he previously served as president of the board of trustees of the Dallas Public Schools. In 2009, he was named a senior fellow of the James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Fellow and Director of Policy Development and Outreach for the George W. Bush Institute. Kress also chairs the George W. Bush Institute's Education Policy Council – a group of academics and practitioners who will advise on fruitful directions for education research.

Kress formerly served on the Education Commission of the States, and he currently serves as counsel to the Governor's Business Council. He is also a life member of the board of directors of the Texas Business & Education Coalition.

In 1991, Kress was appointed by Texas Lieutenant Governor Bob Bullock to the Educational Economic Policy Center. He was later asked to chair the Center's Accountability Committee. This committee produced the public school accountability system that was later adopted into Texas state law and recognized as one of the most advanced accountability systems in the nation. Lieutenant Governor Bullock also appointed Kress to serve in 1994 on the interim committee to study the Texas Education Agency. In 2007, Kress was appointed by Texas Governor Rick Perry to serve on the Select Committee on Public School Accountability and as chair of the the Commission for a College Ready Texas.

Prior to joining Akin Gump, Kress was a partner in a Dallas law firm. He also served as deputy assistant secretary for legislative affairs at the U.S. Treasury Department from 1977 to 1980.

Kress received his A.B. in 1971 from the University of California at Berkeley and received his J.D. with honors in 1975 from the University of Texas School of Law.



BILL McDIARMID, Ed.D.

Dean and Alumni Distinguished Professor of Education
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Education

A North Carolina native and UNC-Chapel Hill alumnus, Dr. Bill McDiarmid previously served as the Boeing Professor of Teacher Education at the University of Washington, Seattle (UW). At UW, he was co-director of the Washington Center for Teaching and Learning and a senior fellow with Teachers for a New Era, a national initiative to use evidence, such as performance assessments of preservice teachers, to improve teacher education. He also helped create the Teaching/Learning Partnership to prepare mid-career changers to teach mathematics and science in Seattle's high-need middle schools.

Earlier in his career, Dr. McDiarmid served on the faculties of the University of Alaska-Anchorage, the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, and Michigan State University, taught high school history in Athens, Greece, and was a Title I teacher in a remote Alaska Native village. At Michigan State, he served as co-director of the National Center for Research on Teacher Learning. In Anchorage, he directed the Institute for Social and Economic Research. He was also a visiting professor at Hebei Normal University in Shijiazhuang, China, in 2007.

His research has focused on teacher learning – particularly the preparation of teachers to work with diverse learners – and teacher education programs. He has received an Outstanding Research Award from the American Educational Research Association.

Dr. McDiarmid graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1969 with an A.B. degree in American Studies. He earned his Ed.D. in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education in 1984.

RESOURCE EXPERTS



KARLA OAKLEY

Vice President of Teacher Quality Innovations
The New Teacher Project

As Vice President for The New Teacher Project's (TNTP) Quality Innovations line, Karla Oakley oversees the generation and execution of innovative pilot projects that further the organization's commitment to sourcing, training, certifying, and retaining highly effective teachers. Oakley's tenure with TNTP began in June 2000 when she was hired as New York State Partner and charged with launching the NYC Teaching Fellows program, a contract with the New York City Department of Education that recruited and placed more than 1,500 teachers in hard-to-staff schools in its first two years. From 2003-2008, Oakley served as TNTP's Vice President of Training and Certification, overseeing the development and expansion of the Practitioner Teacher Program and all of TNTP's instructional curriculum development.

Prior to TNTP, Oakley spent two years with Andersen Consulting in their Human Performance practice, working primarily in the financial services industry. Her career in education started with Teach For America, first as a corps member in the Mississippi Delta, then on the national staff with roles in new teacher support and portfolio assessment. Oakley holds a B.S. in psychology from Duke University.



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BARBARA O'BRIEN

State of Colorado

Barbara O'Brien is a long-time advocate for young children and teens and has a history of innovative policy initiatives. Prior to becoming Lieutenant Governor, O'Brien spent 16 years as president of the Colorado Children's Campaign, a statewide public policy and advocacy nonprofit organization. Her leadership has produced major statewide policy initiatives that increased funding for schools, created charter schools, expanded early childhood education, increased access to health care for uninsured children, reduced teen smoking, and expanded after-school programs.

As lieutenant governor, O'Brien has an ambitious agenda for education. Colorado has one of the most educated populations in the nation but faces some education challenges. Governor Bill Ritter appointed her to serve as the co-chair of the P-20 Education Council, which oversees education reform and innovation from preschool to post-secondary education. In its first year, the P-20 Council successfully advocated for expansion of full-day kindergarten and pre-school statewide.

RESOURCE EXPERTS



SCOTT PALMER

Managing Partner, EducationCounsel LLC

Scott R. Palmer is a partner and co-founder of EducationCounsel LLC, an affiliate of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. He provides legal, policy, strategic planning, and advocacy services to education leaders across the country. Palmer's focus is on policy change and preventive law – helping states, school districts, higher education institutions, private education providers, and education associations understand how to structure their policies in ways that best serve their educational goals and meet federal and state legal requirements, thereby improving education while reducing the risk of litigation or enforcement.

He also focuses on federal advocacy before the United States Department of Education and Congress on key education issues. Palmer works on issues such as the *No Child Left Behind Act*, accountability, standards and assessment, services for English language learners, services for students with disabilities, and diversity programs. Palmer served until January 2001 in the Clinton Administration as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR). In that capacity, Palmer was responsible for the development of civil rights legal policy in education, including the promulgation of regulations and policy guidance on issues such as high-stakes testing, resource equity/adequacy, and affirmative action. Palmer previously served as a legal and policy advisor with the President's Initiative on Race in the White House, where he was responsible for education and civil rights issues.

He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of California Berkeley Boalt Hall School Of Law. He earned a Master of Arts in Public Policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and a Bachelor of Arts, with honors, from the University of Maryland.



BARON RODRIGUEZ

Director of State Data Systems
Data Quality Campaign

Baron Rodriguez is the newest member of the Data Quality Campaign (DQC), hired in July as the Director of State Data Systems. Prior to working for the DQC, Rodriguez worked for more than six years at the Oregon Department of Education, most recently as the Chief Information Officer. His former employment includes project director for the integration of public safety data systems in Oregon, project director for Oregon's first all open source legislative bill tracking system, business analyst for the Oregon Secretary of State's Audit Division, and as a data center

supervisor in the U.S. Military. Rodriguez has served as the technology advisory member for Quality Counts for 2008 and 2009 and has been on the Education Information Advisory Consortium's (EIMAC) Longitudinal Data Systems task force from 2007-2009.

In April, Rodriguez received the 2009 Northwest Public Sector Information Technology Executive of the Year. Rodriguez holds a MBA from George Fox University in Portland, Oregon and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project Management Institute.

RESOURCE EXPERTS



JON SCHNUR

CEO and Co-Founder
New Leaders for New Schools

Jon Schnur is Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of New Leaders for New Schools, a national non-profit organization with one mission: ensuring high academic achievement for every student by attracting and preparing outstanding leaders and supporting the performance of the urban public schools they lead at scale. Since co-founding New Leaders, he has led the development of the organization's strategy, management team and board, core values, performance metrics, partnerships, and fundraising. Schnur returned this summer from a nine-month leave of absence where he served as co-chair of the Obama presidential campaign's education policy committee, a member of President-elect Obama's presidential transition team, and then senior advisor to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

Before founding New Leaders for New Schools, Schnur served as Special Assistant to Secretary of Education Richard Riley, President Bill Clinton's White House Associate Director for Educational Policy, and Senior Advisor on Education to Vice President Al Gore. He has developed national education policies from preschool to higher education – with special focus on teacher and educator quality, reforming urban school systems, charter schools, after-school programs, and early learning and preschools. He graduated from Princeton University with honors, took graduate coursework at Harvard's Business School, Graduate School of Education, and Kennedy School, and graduated from a Wisconsin public high school.



DAVID SPENCE, Ph.D.

President
Southern Regional Education Board

Dr. David Spence became president of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) in August 2005. Prior to coming to SREB, he served as executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer of the California State University (CSU) system. While at CSU, he helped California public schools and the CSU system develop courses for high school seniors and a college-readiness assessment. Dr. Spence's career has also included positions as executive director of the Florida Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, executive vice chancellor for the University System of Georgia, and executive vice chancellor and vice chancellor for academic programs at the State University System of Florida. In the mid-1980s, he served as vice president for educational policies at SREB, working directly with the SREB Commission for Educational Quality to develop the South's first formal goals for improving education; the goals were a model for President George H. W. Bush and the nation's governors when they established national education goals in 1989.

CONTACT INFORMATION

RESOURCE EXPERTS

June Atkinson, Ed.D.

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
6301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-6301
919.807.3432
jatkinson@dpi.state.nc.us

David Coleman

Student Achievement Partners
1 Union Square South, #22E
New York, NY 10003
212.204.9861
dcoleman@studentsachieve.net

Mike Edwards

Knoxville Chamber
17 Market Square, Suite 201
Knoxville, TN 37902
865.246.2648
medwards@knoxvillechamber.com

William Guenther

Mass Insight Corporation
18 Tremont Street, Suite 930
Boston, MA 02108
617.778.1500
wguenther@massinsight.com

Bill Harrison, Ed.D.

North Carolina State Board of Education
6302 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-6302
919.807.3441
wharrison@dpi.state.nc.us

Gerry House, Ed.D.

Institute for Student Achievement
1 Hollow Lane, Suite 100
Lake Success, NY 11042
516.812.6700
ghouse@isa-ed.org

Sandy Kress

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
300 West 6th Street, Suite 2100
Austin, TX 78701
512.505.5336
skress@akingump.com

Bill McDiarmid, Ed.D.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
CB 3500
Peabody Hall
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3500
919.966.1356
bmcd@unc.edu

Karla Oakley

The New Teacher Project
186 Joralemon Street, Suite 300
Brooklyn, NY 11201
917.613.6668
koakley@tntp.org

Lieutenant Governor Barbara O'Brien

State of Colorado
130 State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203
303.866.2087
ltgovernor.obrien@state.co.us

Scott Palmer

EducationCounsel LLC
101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20001
202.545.2916
scott.palmer@educationcounsel.com

Baron Rodriguez

Data Quality Campaign
1 Dupont Circle, Suite 340
Washington, DC 20036
202.295.7868
baron@dataqualitycampaign.org

Jon Schnur

New Leaders for New Schools
30 West 26th Street, Second Floor
New York, NY 10010
646.792.1070
jschnur@nlins.org

David Spence, Ph.D.

Southern Regional Education Board
592 10th Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30318-5776
404.875.9211
dave.spence@sreb.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

HUNT INSTITUTE STAFF

The James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy

1000 Park Forty Plaza
Suite 280

Durham, NC 27713

919.425.4160 (phone)

919.425.4175 (fax)

Judith A. Rizzo, Ed.D.

Executive Director and CEO

919.425.4180

jrizzo@hunt-institute.org

Lynda K. McCulloch

Associate Director and Chief of Staff

919.425.4171

lkkmc@hunt-institute.org

Geoff Coltrane

Director of Program and Policy

919.425.4162

gcoltrane@hunt-institute.org

Stephanie Dean

Director of Research and Evaluation

919.425.4181

sdean@hunt-institute.org

Michael Gilligan

Finance and Development Director

919.425.4172

mjgillig@hunt-institute.org

April White

Director of Communications

919.425.4167

awhite@hunt-institute.org

Kevin Clark

Communications Associate

919.425.4170

clarkke@hunt-institute.org

Emily Loney

Program Coordinator

919.425.4165

eloney@hunt-institute.org

Casey Wyant Remer

Program Coordinator

919.425.4164

cremer@hunt-institute.org

Michele Jordan

Events Coordinator

919.425.4168

mjordan@hunt-institute.org

Ashley Perry

Research Coordinator

919.425.4177

aperry@hunt-institute.org

DaVon Clack

Accountant

919.425.4161

dclack@hunt-institute.org

Telè Lewis

Executive Assistant

919.425.4173

telewis@hunt-institute.org

