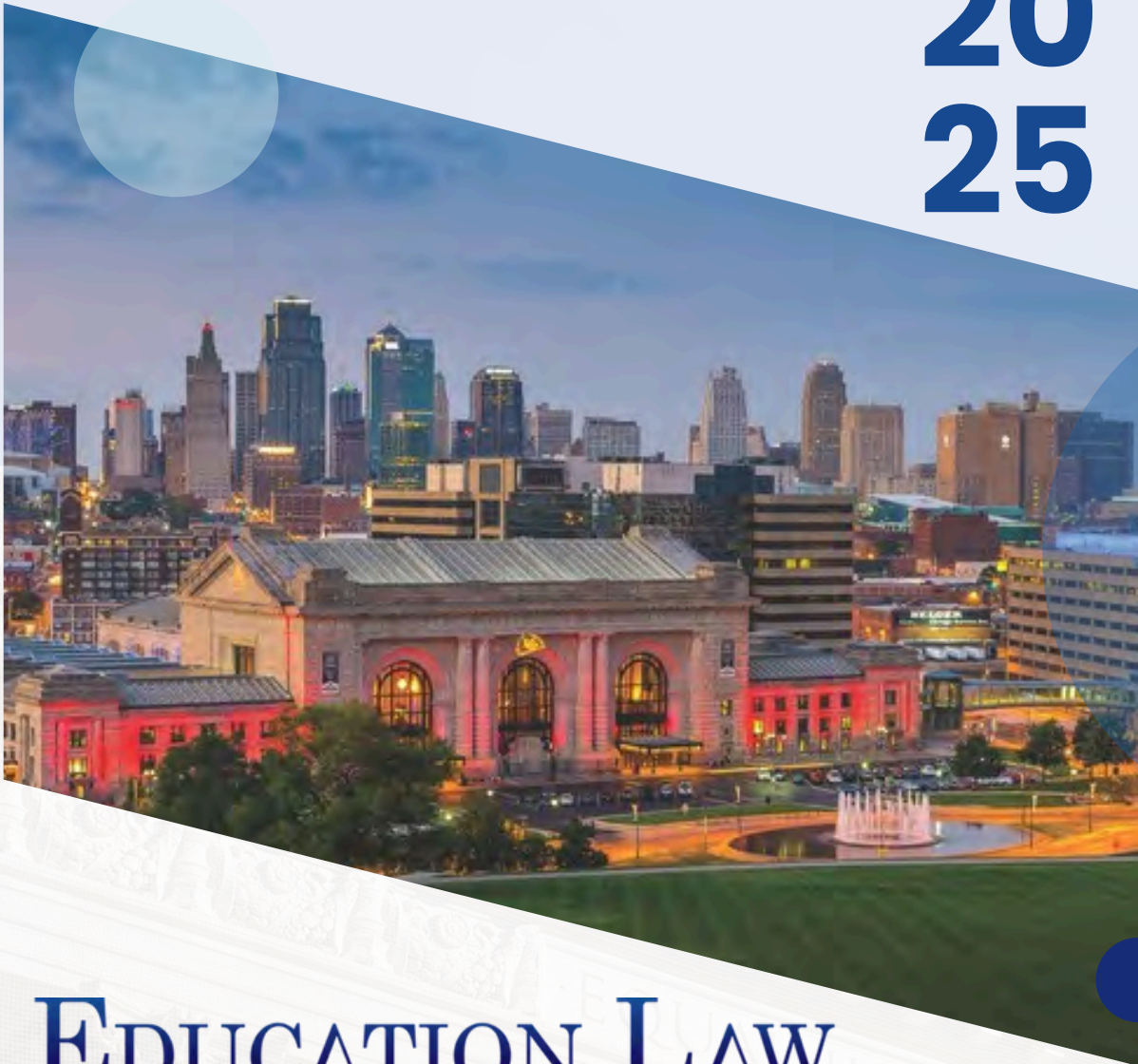


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EDUCATION LAW

ASSOCIATION

**Annual
Conference**

Kansas City

Marriott Country Club Plaza | Kansas City, Missouri. | November 5-8, 2025

Education Law Association

Welcome

Dear ELA Conference Attendees,

I would like to personally welcome you to the 71st Annual Conference of the Education Law Association! Whether you're a longtime member or a first-time attendee, we are delighted to have you here with us at the Marriott Country Club Plaza in Kansas City. Over the next several days, you will have the opportunity to meet and interact with some of the leading experts and professionals in the field of educational law.

I would like to offer a special thank you to this year's conference committee co-chairs, Jamie Kudrats, Steven Himes, and Pamela Callahan for their leadership in developing a comprehensive and quality conference program. They worked diligently with their entire committee for over a year to prepare for you an amazing conference experience! As you review the conference program, you will see an exciting lineup of expert speakers, panel discussions, and research presentations. In addition to the formal program of expert speakers and presentations, we have organized a number of informal networking opportunities for attendees, including "Cookies with Rookies," several happy hours, and our much acclaimed dine-around dinners. At this year's conference, we are also welcoming our second cohort of ELA Early Career Fellows. The Fellows are early-career scholars in educational law and policy in the pre-tenure stage of their careers or students in the late-stage of their graduate programs who may seek positions in academia. This program, created by ELA member, Raquel Muñiz, helps to identify the next generation of educational law scholars.

Overall, this year's conference presents numerous opportunities for attendees to engage and learn more about recent developments and trends in education law. Over the next few days, it is my sincere hope that this conference will foster enriching dialogues, illuminate new perspectives, develop and renew professional contacts and friendships, as well as strengthen your commitment to the many issues impacting educational law.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for your participation at this year's conference.

Warm regards,

Lis Krimbill

President, Education Law Association

Conference Sponsors

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
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CATO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



Lis Krimbill

champion



Maureen Fox

The Education Law Association is also supported through our institutional host

**Florida Gulf Coast
University**



Schedule At-A-Glance




Password:
ELA2025

A printable schedule with room locations is on the last page of this program

Wednesday, November 5 | Deep-Dives and Focus Groups

- 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM
- 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM





Deep Dives: Title IX and Teaching Ed Law
Cookies with Rookies
Board Meeting
Welcome Reception 
NOT Your Typical Ed Law Update:
Test Your Ed Law Knowledge!



Thursday, November 6

- 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
- 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM
- 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM
- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

- 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM
- 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM
- 2:45 PM – 3:45 PM
- 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- 6:30 PM
- 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM

Breakfast
Welcome Meeting
Concurrent Sessions 1
Keynote Address: Dr. Jennifer Collier,
Kansas City Public Schools Superintendent
Lunch
Concurrent Sessions 2
Concurrent Sessions 3
Supreme Court Update w/ Mark Walsh
Happy Hour 
Dine-Arounds
ELA After Hours @ Blanc Champagne Bar 



Friday, November 7

- 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
- 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM
- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
- 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM
- 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
- 2:15 PM – 3:15 PM
- 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM
- 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- 7:30 PM
- 9:00 PM

Breakfast
Concurrent Sessions 4
Concurrent Sessions 5
Role-Alike Lunch
Business Meeting & Awards
Concurrent Sessions 6
Supreme Court Panel
Happy Hour @ Husch Blackwell
Dine-Arounds
ELA After Hours @ Hotel Lobby 



Saturday, November 8


- 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM
- 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
- 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM
- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- 12:00 PM – 12:20 PM

Breakfast
Roundtables
Concurrent Sessions 7
Concurrent Sessions 8
Closing Remarks and Passing of the Gavel

Wednesday November 5

- 12:00 PM **Conference Registration Desk Opens**
Main Street Grill Foyer - 2nd floor
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM **Deep Dives**
Title IX: Roanoke
Teaching Ed Law: Seville
Early Career Fellows: Union Hill
- 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM **Cookies with Rookies**  *For new members and first time attendees*
Plaza Terrace
- 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM **Dinner on Your Own**
Board Meeting: Westport
- 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **Welcome Reception**
Plaza Terrace  **Cash Bar**
- 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM  **Your Typical Ed Law Update: Test Your Ed Law Knowledge**
Grand Ballroom  **Cash Bar**
Join **Jamie Kudlats, Lis Krimbill, Christine Kiracofe, and Tiffany Puckett** for our 2nd annual fun and lively conference kick-off event. This time, we'll have a few laughs turning the interesting world of school law into a gameshow! Grab a drink, get your buzzers ready, and come to the Grand Ballroom to help us kick-off ELA 2025!

Other Important Information

 **Attendees cover their own costs at hotel receptions and Dine-Arounds Breakfast (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) and Lunch (Thursday, Friday) provided by ELA**

Friday's reception will be held at the offices of Husch Blackwell, with complementary drinks and light appetizers provided. Directions at the Registration Table.

Visit the registration desk with questions

All presentation rooms on Floor 2, except for Plaza Terrace and Westport (on Floor 3 Main ballroom and breakout rooms will have projectors/screens, Roundtables will not.

ELA

Keynote Address

Thursday
Grand Ballroom
11:00 AM



Dr. Jennifer Collier **Superintendent**

Kansas City Public Schools

Dr. Jennifer Collier is the Superintendent of Kansas City Public Schools, who recently led the successful campaign for a \$474 million school bond, the first since 1967. The campaign, which passed with 85% of the vote, will repair aging school infrastructure, some of which was built during the historic Missouri v. Jenkins desegregation case during the 1990s. The bond will also be used to re-open some district schools, now that KCPS has growing enrollment, fifteen years after KCPS underwent a “right-sizing” that resulting in the largest one-year school closure in United States history.

Dr. Collier’s leadership has helped guide KCPS through all this transformation, serving the district as a Teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, Director of Human Resources, Chief Human Resources Officer, Chief of Staff, and now as Superintendent of Schools. Her doctorate in Education Leadership is from the University of Missouri–Kansas City, and she trained at the Harvard University School Turnaround Leaders Institute.

Dr. Collier will step us through some of the history of KCPS, which has been at the leading edge of education law and policy during her tenure. She will give us her personal experience in leading one of the most successful urban district turnaround efforts in the country, including some of the innovative features of the successful bond campaign—and rallying the community to support their public schools.

Thursday

November 6

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

Concurrent Sessions 1

Grand Ballroom	Examining School Discipline: Legal Updates and Equity Issues in PreK-12 Schools <i>Tiffany Puckett</i> <i>Miranda Johnson</i> <i>Christopher Graves</i> Panel	
Rockhill	Accommodation or Avoidance: How Teacher-Educators Can Navigate 1st Amendment Issues <i>Rhett Hutchins</i> <i>Elizabeth Jones</i>	School Liability for Off-Campus Bullying in the Age of Social Media and Artificial Intelligence <i>Hannah Gahimer</i>
Roanoke	Regulation Vs Reality: Policy and Practice in Special Education Across Four Countries <i>Sarah Hurwitz</i>	The Impact of the 2017 Cambodian National Proclamation on Special Education <i>Julie Sears</i>
Union Hill	Double Segregation and the Limits of Legal Remedies: Stakeholder Perspectives on the Education Debt in New York City Schools <i>Shantel Palacio</i>	Educational Segregation 2.0: Building the Case for a New Brown <i>Jeffrey Dodge</i>
Grand Ballroom F	Criminalizing Youth: Student Codes of Conduct and State Criminal Codes <i>Steven Nelson</i> <i>Wei-Ling Sun</i> <i>Rhodesia McMillian</i>	Title IX in Focus: Advanced Insights on Informal Resolution & Pregnant and Parenting Students <i>Aleks Rushing</i> <i>Mackenzie Conway</i> <i>Claudia Lyerly</i>
Seville I	“Build it and they still won’t come” – Lessons Learned from Kansas City’s Missouri v. Jenkins School Desegregation Case <i>Gina Chirichigno</i> <i>Esha Bolar</i> Panel	
Seville II	Unraveling Student Growth and Teacher Evaluation Reforms in Illinois <i>David Conrad</i>	Labor Law Under the Trump Administration - What to Expect <i>Jon Anderson</i>

Thursday

November 6

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions 2

Grand Ballroom	Significant Education Law Developments in State Legislatures <i>Mark Paige</i> <i>Tom Hutton</i> <i>Lynn Rossi Scott</i> <i>Jon Anderson</i> Panel	
Rockhill	Navigating Deliberate Indifference in a Digital Age <i>Craig Feiser</i> <i>Karen Chastain</i>	Toward a More Thorough Appraisal of Justice John Marshall Harlan’s Colorblind Constitutionalism. <i>Jamel Donnor</i>
Roanoke	Examining the Legal Literacy of School Board Members Regarding the First Amendment Rights of Public School Students <i>Pamela Callahan</i>	THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT AND HIGHER EDUCATION: 2025 UPDATE <i>Kerry Melear</i>
Union Hill	Immigration Enforcement in Schools - The New Landscape <i>Brian Boggs</i>	Mahanoy to Kennedy: An Examination of the Influence of Supreme Court Decisions on School District Policy <i>Spencer Weiler</i> <i>Jada Brown</i> <i>Sophie Bartlett</i> <i>Eliza Blake</i>
Grand Ballroom F	Higher Education Legislation FY25: Bills, Bust, and the Boards <i>Jeffrey Sun</i> <i>Heather Turner</i> <i>Mitchel Mandel</i>	Capitals, College Campuses, and Courts: Exclusionary Policies Under the Myth of Meritocracy <i>Jeffrey Sun</i> <i>Philip Daniel</i>
Seville I	Sync or Swim? Navigating the Waters of Online Modality <i>David Conrad</i>	Considering the Effect of Brown Through New Eyes <i>Mark Gooden</i>
Seville II	Bridging Law and Practice: Utilizing ELA’s Newest Publications to Enhance Legal Literacy in Education <i>Regina Umpstead Pratel</i> <i>Kevin Brady</i> <i>Christopher Thomas</i> <i>Melissa Carleton</i> <i>Christine Otto</i> Panel	

Thursday

November 6

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM

Concurrent Sessions 3

Grand Ballroom	Title IX Due Process in Action: A Panel Discussion <i>Melissa Carleton</i> <i>Rebecca Veidlinger</i> <i>Celeste Bradley</i> Panel	
Rockhill	The Fall of the Wall: The Religious Clauses Revovolution <i>Charles Russo</i> <i>Brian Boggs</i>	How Teacher Preparation Programs Can Better Prepare Future Teachers for Encountering Religious Discussion in Schools <i>Rhett Hutchins</i> <i>Elizabeth Jones</i>
Roanoke	Artificial Intelligence in Education: Navigating Policies, Training, and Curriculum Development <i>Aleks Rushing</i> <i>Mackenzie Conway</i> <i>Amanda Clapp</i> <i>Scott Brown</i>	Recent Legislative Trends in PK-12 Grading Policies <i>Janet Decker</i> <i>Leo Cavinder</i>
Union Hill	Why Are Student Test Scores Declining Across America? <i>James Munnelly</i> <i>Sarah Dragotta</i>	Brooks v. Moberly, MO, integrating the Black teacher workforce post-Brown, and the failure of civil rights jurisprudence <i>Joseph Nichols</i>
Grand Ballroom F	School Psychologist Perceptions of Factors Influencing Acceptance of Referrals to Determine Eligibility for Special Education Services <i>Wesley Sims</i>	Who is Funding IDEA?: An Analysis of Legal and Practical Factors Impacting a Free Appropriate Public Education <i>Cynthia Dieterich</i> <i>Nicole Snyder</i>
Seville I	Title VI: Centering Equal Educational Opportunity for All Students <i>Kimberly Robinson</i> <i>Bridget Joyce</i> Panel	
Seville II	Hiring Attorneys in the Current Sociopolitical Climate: What are School Districts Looking for? <i>Maria Lewis</i> <i>Saira Qureshi</i> <i>Gabriella Achampong</i>	Courts as a Battleground: How Dominant Social Groups Use Rights Tactics in the Culture War against Trans Youth in K-12 Public Schools <i>Maggie Paino</i>

friday

November 7

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Concurrent Sessions 4

Grand Ballroom	Podcasts and Pedagogy: A Live Recording with Chalk & Gavel, Answering Listeners' Questions! <i>Christopher Thomas</i> <i>Jamie Kudrats</i> <i>Janet Decker</i> Panel	
Rockhill	Imperfect Procedures and the Constitutional Due Process Rights of K-12 Students <i>Melissa Carleton</i> <i>Kalani Linnell Asroff</i>	Sex, Lies, and Videotape: AI Is Here To Stay <i>Stephen Seedorf</i> <i>Bradford Every</i>
Roanoke	What Guidance Do We Have? Review of State Bullying Laws in the US <i>Shannon Locke</i>	Challenging Within and Between District Inequity in Educational Opportunity <i>Daniel Losen</i>
Union Hill	Balancing Safety and Civil Liberties: The Urgent Need to Reform School Search Practices <i>Joel Leader</i>	Expanding Religious Education to Charter Schools: The Legal Implications of the Oklahoma Catholic Charter School Case and the Triumph of Religious Freedom over the Establishment Clause in American Public Education <i>Klint Alexander</i> <i>King Alexander</i>
Grand Ballroom F	Factors Influencing Teacher Attrition in Suburban School District <i>Krista Bixler</i> <i>Nicola Khalaf</i>	Title IX Goes to High School: Lessons Learned from the College Experience <i>Kristi Patrickus</i>
Seville I	From Classrooms to Cellblocks: How Trump's Immigration Policies Expand the School-to-Prison Pipeline <i>David Hoa Nguyen</i> <i>Chandra Dyson</i>	Between Borders: Legal and Educational Impacts of ICE Policies on Immigrant Children in Public Schools <i>Jennifer Sughrue</i> <i>Sarah Flournoy</i>
Seville II	The of Law of DE&I: Building Educational Environments to Promote Belonging in Challenging Times <i>Mackenzie Conway</i> <i>Claire Young</i> <i>Amanda Clapp</i> <i>Scott Brown</i>	Know Your Rights: How Legal Advocacy Groups Provide and Empower LGBTQ+ youth with Legal Literacy Tools <i>Ben Lebovitz</i> <i>Maggie Paino</i>

friday

November 7

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Concurrent Sessions 5

Grand Ballroom	Fourth Amendment and School Policing Update 2025 <i>Jennifer Sughrue</i> <i>Kevin Brady</i> <i>Traci Ballard</i> Panel	
Rockhill	Evaluating Risks and Defenses in Sexual Misconduct Claims <i>Chad Blomberg</i>	Double Status of Graduate Assistantships: Navigating the Legal Landscape of Title IX, Title VII & Bostock <i>Macey Edmondson</i>
Roanoke	Well, That Was Unexpected: Loper Bright and the Trump Administration’s Higher Education Policy <i>Melissa Carleton</i>	Understanding the contemporary characteristics of active federal school desegregation cases <i>Genevieve Siegel-Hawley</i> <i>Chinh Le</i>
Union Hill	The Path to Licensure: A 50-state Analysis of Coursework Requirements for Teacher and Principal Candidates in Public and Private Institutions of Higher Education <i>Spencer Weiler</i> <i>Heidi Erickson</i> <i>Sophie Bartlett</i> <i>Jada Brown</i>	Florida State Standards Alignment with Identified College and Career Readiness Characteristics <i>Jennifer Mizell Marks</i> <i>Krista Bixler</i>
Seville I	The Expanding Definition of “Minister” for Purposes of the Ministerial Exception <i>Hannah Gahimer</i>	Getting Our Money’s Worth: The Economics of Compulsory Education <i>Sarah Flournoy</i>
Seville II	Charting Fiscal Accountability: An Analysis of State Guidelines for Charter School Fiscal Management <i>Samantha King Powell</i> <i>Megan Rauch Griffard</i>	Local Laws, Local Model: Building a Closed-Circuit AI Assistant for School Law in NJ <i>Steven Carlo</i>

friday

November 7

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

Concurrent Sessions 6

Grand Ballroom	The First Amendment Religion Clauses Conversation Continues <i>Charles Russo</i> <i>Edwin Darden</i> <i>Richard Katskee</i> Panel	
Rockhill	Riding the Legal Tides to Mitigate Risk to Schools <i>Aleks Rushing</i> <i>Claire Young</i> <i>Amanda Clapp</i> <i>Scott Brown</i>	"Through No Fault of Their Own:" Limitations on the Power of Deportation to Deprive K-12 Education <i>David Doty</i>
Roanoke	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: A Historical Perspective and Legal Interpretation <i>Grace Adams-Square</i>	School Consolidation and Racial Segregation: A Legal History of Missouri Senate Bill 307 (1948), School District Boundaries, and the Preservation of Segregation in Suburban St. Louis <i>Joseph Nichols</i>
Union Hill	The Use of Pell Grants for Higher Education in Prisons: The Illinois Reality <i>Crystal Santillanes</i> <i>Haixia Zhao</i>	The Levy Swap: How Washington's Property Tax Reforms Shift the Cost Burden for Public Education <i>David Knight</i>
Seville I	Universities and Palestine Protests: Reexamining First Amendment Student Rights <i>Melanie Wallace</i> <i>Samantha Morden</i>	The Intersection of Free Speech and Immigration Law on the College Campus <i>Luke Cornelius</i>
Seville II	Centaurs, Cyborgs, and Clones: Exploring the Potential of AI in Education Law <i>Christopher Thomas</i> <i>Steven Carlo</i>	Blurring the Lines: St. Isidore, Charters, and the Public/Private Tightrope <i>Traci Ballard</i> <i>Brad Clark</i>

Saturday

November 8

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

Concurrent Sessions 7

Grand Ballroom	Annual David Schimmel Discussion on the State of Legal Literacy in Education <i>Kevin Brady</i> <i>Janet Decker</i> <i>Christopher Thomas</i> <i>Jamie Kudlats</i> Panel	
Rockhill	Words Matter: How Constitutional Language Shapes Education Funding <i>Kendall Fujioka</i> <i>David Knight</i>	Returning Education to the States?: Navigating Through Federal Policy Shifts Reshaping K-12 Public Education <i>Regina Umpstead Patel</i> <i>Mitchel Mandel</i> <i>Trista Duncan</i>
Roanoke	From Fake Profiles to Deepfake Videos: A Legal and Ethical Discussion <i>Maureen Fox</i> <i>Elisabeth Krimbill</i>	Altered States: Navigating Substance Use Disorder in Schools <i>Christine Otto</i>
Union Hill	Revisiting Settled Precedent Concerning Religious Observance in K-12 Public Schools -- The Constitutionality of State (and Some Federal) Legislation Regarding Prayer, Bible Reading, the Display of the Ten Commandments and Chaplains in light of the Supreme Court's New History and Tradition Test <i>John Rumel</i>	Coercion and Culture Wars: An Objective Way to Navigate Politically Charged Issues in Public Education <i>Spencer Weiler</i>
Seville I	Un/Intended Consequences: How K-12 School Choice Influences Higher Education <i>Barbara Qualls</i> <i>Wayne Haglund</i> <i>Marigold Hudock</i> <i>Dedrah Ginn</i> Panel	
Seville II	Beyond Pico: Student Standing and the Constitutional Case Against Educational Censorship <i>Nicole Phillips</i>	Librarian Perspectives on Book Bans and Legislative Restrictions on School Libraries <i>Jennifer Werner</i>

Saturday

November 8

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Concurrent Sessions 8

Grand Ballroom	Navigating DOJ's New Approach to Civil Rights Enforcement in Higher Education <i>Whitney Pellegrino</i> <i>Veronica Percia</i> <i>Aria Vaughan</i> Panel	
Rockhill	Principal Candidates' Perceptions of Preparedness in Implementing the 14th Amendment: Aligning Policy, Practice, and Equal Protection <i>Thomas Harvey</i> <i>Stewart Mayers</i> <i>Katy Corcoran</i>	Dress Codes: Navigating the First Amendment, the Equal Protection Clause, and Title IX <i>John Janssen</i>
Roanoke	Legal Education and Support for Postsecondary Students with Disabilities <i>Julie Sears</i> <i>Maureen Fox</i>	"Representing Children's Learning Needs Fairly and Judiciously Calls for Mandatory Mediation in Special Education Disputes" <i>Kay Wilson</i> <i>Cody Canegan</i> <i>Tiffany Puckett</i>
Union Hill	A Wading Democracy: How Mississippi's Education Policy Violated Its Constitutional Promise of Equity <i>Rhodesia McMillian</i>	Indiana: Cell Phone Ban Policies <i>David Hoa Nguyen</i> <i>Chandra Dyson</i>
Grand Ballroom F	Legal Facets of Athletic Programs and Participation <i>Kalani Linnell Asroff</i> <i>Jane Williams</i> <i>Melissa Carleton</i> Panel	
Seville I	ELA Chapter Authors Panel	
Seville II	State Takeover of Public Schools and Districts as a Tool of Political Disempowerment <i>Steven Nelson</i>	From Data to Defense: Shaping Higher Education Funding Statutes in an Era of Fiscal Squeeze <i>Praveen Kumar Guraja</i>

Roundtable Presentations

Saturday 8:30–9:30
Main Ballroom

Tinkering Towards A Useable Student
Speech Frameworks for Principals

Pamela Callahan

--- Table 1 ---

Practical Realities of Title IX
Implementation in K-12 Schools

Kalani Linnell Asroff

The implications of proposed changes to
disability discrimination protections to the
civil rights of students with disabilities in K-
12 education.

Kendra Yoch

--- Table 2 ---

Law & Disorder: Special Education Unit –
School Psychologists Under Review

Paulette Pitt

The Hitchhiker's Guide to Changing
Accreditors

Timothy Letzring

Heidi Watt

--- Table 3 ---

Exploring Leadership Styles of Financial Aid
Directors: A Mixed Methods Analysis of Their
Role in Federal SAP Policy Implementation

Haixia Zhao

Local Accountability: A Shift in School
Accountability Law

Justin Bathon

--- Table 4 ---

Where Attendance and Discipline Policies
Collide: When We Suspend, How Can They
Attend?

Linda Mullen

When State Antidiscrimination Laws and
Free Exercise Rights Collide: An
Examination of Three Private Religious
Schools After Carson v. Makin
Suzanne Eckes

--- Table 5 ---

Artificial Intelligence: A Legislative,
Executive, and Judicial Update from the
Three Branches and Related Policy and
Practice Implications
Patrick Pauken
Mounir Rafik

NIL (Name / Image / Likeness) in Utah High
School Athletics
Martin Yablonovsky

--- Table 6 ---

Weight weight don't tell me: advocacy
coalitions and school finance reform post
Leandro
Eric Houck

A Novel Approach to Property Tax Relief:
Legal Contexts Associated with Taxpayer
Rebates Induced by Budgetary Carryover
Limitations
Scott Sweetland

--- Table 7 ---

Policy to Practice: Aligning Alternate
Achievement Standards for the 1% with
Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities
Dana Guinn

Early Childhood: Current funding and legal
requirements for Special Education

Elisabeth Krimbill
Bonnie Allen

--- Table 8 ---

Navigating Title IX During a Study Abroad
Megan Barnes

Educational Inequity by Design: Addressing the Insular
Cases through Teacher Training and Student Mobilization
in Puerto Rico's Colonial Education System for
Disenfranchised Citizens of the U.S. Constitution
Armen Álvarez

--- Table 9 ---

EXAMINING THE SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH PROCESS: A
SEQUENTIAL MIXED METHODS STUDY ON SUPERINTENDENT
CONSULTANT PERSPECTIVES
Melissa Torrence

Education Law Association

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at Charlotte



Jeanne Surface, Ed.D.
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University of Nebraska Omaha



Maureen Fox
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Adjunct Professor, University of
Bridgeport



Stephen Himes, J.D., Ed.D.
Co-Founder and Head of Advising
Storyboards College Admission
Portfolios LLC



Steven L. Nelson, J.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
University of Nevada – Las Vegas



Tiffany Puckett, J.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Northern Illinois University



Regina Biggs, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
George Mason Univeristy

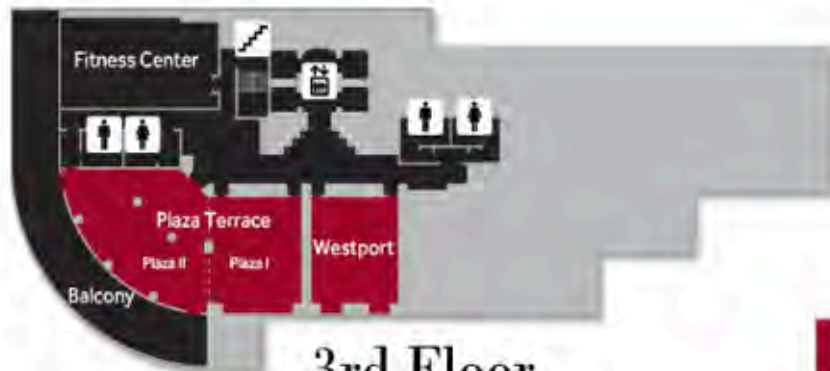


Christopher D. Thomas, J.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
University of Florida



Christine Otto
Supervisor, Instructional Services Dept.
Multnomah Education Service District

Hotel & Conference Information



3rd Floor



2nd Floor



1st Floor

Looking forward Raleigh-Durham 2026



Join us October 21-24, 2026

at the

Embassy Suites

Raleigh-Durham Research Triangle

Important Dates:

February 14: Proposal Submission Opens

April 1: Proposals Due

May 1: Acceptances Sent

Labor Day: Conference Registration Deadline



EDUCATION LAW ASSOCIATION

Kansas City | November 5-8, 2025

	EVENT	LOCATION	
Wednesday	12:00 PM	Registration Desk Opens	Main Street Grill Foyer
	1:00 PM to 3:30 PM	Title IX Deep Dive	Roanoke
	1:00 PM to 3:30 PM	Teaching Ed Law Deep Dive	Seville
	1:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Early Career Fellows	Union Hill
	4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Cookies with Rookies	Plaza Terrace (3rd Floor)
	5:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Westport (3rd Floor)
	7:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Welcome Reception	Plaza Terrace
	8:00 PM to 9:00 PM	Not Your Typical Ed Law Update	Grand Ballroom
Thursday	8:00 AM to 9:00 AM	Breakfast	Grand Ballroom
	9:00 AM to 9:30 AM	Welcome Meeting	Grand Ballroom
	9:45 AM to 10:45 AM	Concurrent Sessions 1	
	11:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Keynote Address	Grand Ballroom
	12:00 PM to 1:15 PM	Lunch	Grand Ballroom
	1:30 PM to 2:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions 2	
	2:45 PM to 3:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions 3	
	4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Supreme Court Update w/ Mark Walsh	Grand Ballroom
	5:00 PM to 6:00 PM	Happy Hour Reception	Plaza Terrace (3rd Floor)
6:30 PM	Dine-Arounds		
8:30 PM to 10:00 PM	ELA After Hours	Blanc Champagne Bar	
Friday	8:00 AM to 9:00 AM	Breakfast	Grand Ballroom
	9:15 AM to 10:15 AM	Concurrent Sessions 4	
	10:30 AM to 11:30 AM	Concurrent Sessions 5	
	11:45 AM to 12:45 PM	Lunch	Grand Ballroom
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	2:15 PM to 3:15 PM	Concurrent Sessions 6	
	3:30 PM to 4:30 PM	Supreme Court Panel	Grand Ballroom
	5:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Happy Hour	Husch Blackwell
	7:30 PM	Dine-Arounds	
9:00 PM	ELA After Hours	Hotel Lobby	
Saturday	7:30 AM to 8:30 AM	Breakfast	Grand Ballroom
	8:30 AM to 9:30 AM	Roundtables	Grand Ballroom
	9:45 AM to 10:45 AM	Concurrent Sessions 7	
	11:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions 8	
	12:00 PM to 12:20 PM	Closing Remarks	Grand Ballroom