The Future of School Choice:
Helping Students Succeed
September 28–29, 2017

J. F. Kennedy School of Government ~ Harvard University
Sponsored by: Program on Education Policy and Governance, Taubman Center for State and Local Government

Thursday, September 28

Conference Pavilion, Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge, MA

1:30 PM Registration – Foyer, Conference Pavilion

2:00 PM Welcome and Opening Remarks – Longfellow Room
Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University
Paul DiPerna, EdChoice

2:15 PM Panel I: Tax Credits, Education Savings Accounts, and Portability, and the Fiscal Impacts of School Choice
Chair: Paul DiPerna, EdChoice
Presenters: Matthew Ladner, Charles Koch Institute; Benjamin Scafidi, Kennesaw State University and Martin Lueken, EdChoice
Discussants: Jason Riley, Wall Street Journal
Betheny Gross, Center on Reinventing Public Education
Michael Podgursky, University of Missouri

3:45 PM Networking Break

4:00 PM Panel II: The New Role of Government
Chair: Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University
Presenter: Robert Enlow, EdChoice
Benjamin Scafidi, Kennesaw State University
Discussant: Robert Pondiscio, Thomas B. Fordham Institute
John F. Kennedy, Jr. Forum – Harvard IOP, Littauer – 79 JFK Street, Cambridge, MA

6:00 PM A Conversation on Empowering Parents with Betsy DeVos, United States Secretary of Education

Conference Pavilion, Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge, MA

7:15 PM Participant Reception and Dinner (by invitation only) – Longfellow Room

Friday, September 29

Taubman Building, Harvard Kennedy School, 15 Eliot Street, Cambridge, MA

8:00 AM Breakfast - Alison Dining Room, 5th floor (elevator access only)

8:30 AM Panel III: School Choice and Non-Cognitive Outcomes
Chair: Joshua Goodman, Harvard Kennedy School
Presenter: Martin R. West, Harvard Graduate School of Education
Discussants: Gema Zamarro, University of Arkansas
Stig Leschly, Match Education

10:00 AM Break

10:15 AM Panel IV: How Technology Can Create More Choice
Chair: Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University
Presenter: Michael Horn, Christensen Institute
Discussants: Diane Tavenner, Summit Public Schools
Steven Klinsky, Modern States Education Alliance
Susan Patrick, iNACOL

11:45 AM Lunch

12:00 PM Choice and Progress: The Newark Story
Keynote Address: Superintendent Chris Cerf, New Jersey Dept. of Education

1:00 PM Panel V: Charter School Impacts on Student Learning
Chair: Secretary James Peyser, Massachusetts Executive Office of Education
Presenter: Macke Raymond, The Center for Research on Education Outcomes
Discussants: Brian Gill, Mathematica Policy Research
Chris Cerf, New Jersey Department of Education
Nina Rees, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

2:30 PM Panel VI: Empirical Research on School Vouchers
Chair: Betsy Wiley, Institute for Quality Education
Presenter: Dennis Epple, Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University
Discussants: Patrick Wolf, University of Arkansas
Doug Tuthill, Step Up For Students

4:00 PM Closing Remarks and Adjourn

We are grateful for the generous support of edCHOICE