

**EmpowerED: Elevating Voices, Enriching Education, Embracing Collaboration.  
The Adventure Starts Here**



Friends Meeting of Washington, DC  
2111 Decatur PI NW



Meeting Objectives:

1. Build a stronger network of SPDG projects
2. Projects learn new ways to:  
Incorporate all voices,  
Innovate to achieve their goals, and

Collaborate with groups and individuals to make the greatest impact.

**Pre-Meeting: October 14**

5:00 – 8:00 PM     **Informal Meet-up** .....McClellan’s Retreat 2031 Florida Ave NW

**Day One: October 15**

8:00 – 9:00 AM     **Registration**.....Lobby

8:00 – 9:00         **Get Acquainted with the Venue – Bingo Card** .....See Handout for Information

8:30 – 9:00         **New Participant Orientation** ..... Quaker House Living Room  
*Earl Focht, Ohio SPDG*

9:00 – 9:45         **OSEP’s Vision: Voice, Innovation & Collaboration to Change the Status Quo** ..... Meeting Room  
*Sunyoung Ahn, PhD, Office of Special Education Programs*  
*Christy Kavulic, PhD, Division Director of the Office of Research to Practice*

**Preparing for the Day**  
*John Lind, PhD, SIGnetwork*

10:00 – 10:30     **Speed Dating (aka Rapport Building)**..... Lower West Gardens  
One-on-one conversations focused on Voice:     See Handout for Information  
1) What is something that is working well for your project?  
2) What is a challenge for your project?  
3) What resource has helped you?  
4) What are you hoping to do related to voice in the coming year?

10:30 – 10:45     **Break + Networking** ..... On Your Own

10:45 – 11:45     **Problem of Practice, 15% Solutions Incorporating “New” Voices**..... See Handout for Information  
Discover and focus on what each person has the freedom and resources to do now. What challenges do you face incorporating certain voices?

11:45 – 12:15     **State Team Time**..... On Your Own

12:15 – 2:00 PM     **Lunch on your own** ..... See suggestions

2:00 – 2:15         Overview of the afternoon ..... Meeting Room

2:15 – 3:15         **Collaboration Breakouts: Generative Relationships** ..... See Handout for Information  
Reveal Relationship Patterns That Create Surprising Value

3:15 – 4:00         **Networking & Reflection Time**..... On Your Own

4:00 – 5:00         **Sharing Infographics & Impact Stories** ..... Lower West Gardens  
See Handout for Information

5:00 – 7:00         **SIGnetwork Social Hour** ..... The Generator  
1900 Connecticut Ave NW

**DAY TWO: OCTOBER 16**

8:00 – 8:50 AM **Communities of Practice & Working Groups**..... See Handout for Information

**Locations**

- Communications..... Meeting Room
- Early Childhood ..... Decatur Place Room
- Evaluators ..... Assembly Room
- Family Partners.....Parlor
- Including Children with the Most Significant Needs .....Library
- Native American Working Group ..... The Bridge
- Social-emotional Learning ..... Quaker House Living Room
- States with Small Populations ..... Terrace Room

9:00 – 10:15 **Innovations in Professional Development – AI** ..... Meeting Room  
*Kevin Johnstun, Office of Education Technology See Handout for Discussion Guidance*

10:15 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11:30 **Learn from an Evaluator**..... See Handout for Information  
Voice, Innovation, & Collaboration

11:30 – 12:00 PM **SIGnetwork Leadership Award and Closing**..... Meeting Room  
*John Lind, PhD, SIGnetwork*

12:00 – 12:45 **Optional Meetings with Project Officers** ..... On Your Own

