



**ASCD & Center for Inspired Teaching**

**Student Voice Summit**

Washington, DC

June 21-23, 2019

***Calling all high school students and educators!***

Since 2014, [Teach to Lead](#) has been supporting teachers as valued experts in instruction and students' needs and in doing so, has had direct involvement with more than 7,500 educators, gained the support of over 170 supporting organizations, and built a social media following of over 21,000.

The [ASCD & Center for Inspired Teaching Student Voice Summit](#), Powered by Teach to Lead, will be the first student leadership focused summit, taking the model that has proven to positively impact teacher leadership and applying it to student-led ideas. The Student Voice Summit will support student leaders across the country to work with teams as they advance groundbreaking, student-led ideas that create solutions for challenges that they identify. Student leaders will leave the Summit empowered and energized to make a real change in their schools, communities and the world.

**Why Student Voice?**

- **Youth Leadership:** Youth are at the forefront of the national dialogue in a major way, pushing for change. We must identify opportunities to be allies and address any barriers to them effectively lifting their voices.
- **Equity at the Forefront:** Many youth face recurring discrimination, violence, and trauma in their daily lives - both in schools and communities. Young people deserve to have the space to openly address these experiences and propose solutions to persistent inequities that adversely impact their lives. A commitment to student voice is a commitment to standing with our youth as they confront and dismantle these inequities.
- **Shared Opportunity:** Something is different this time. The energy of today is a cultural shift toward focusing on supports and services to keep all youth healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. Their continued momentum is dependent on our collective efforts to support them.

**What is the Student Voice Summit?**

The Student Voice Summit aims to elevate student voice in leading multi-stakeholder teams to develop action plans together that solve for the most pressing problems facing their schools, districts, and communities. Students (aged 14-18) submit an idea to attend as part of a team of 2-5 members. The team must include at least one student and one faculty sponsor (e.g., practicing classroom teacher, guidance counselor, principal). Other key stakeholders (e.g., parents, other school staff, community members, and local school and government officials) are also encouraged.

Over the course of this two day learning event, each student-led team will devise a solution to a challenge that they have identified. Student teams will walk away with comprehensive action plans that clearly define commitments and next steps for implementation.

Each idea will reflect a need that addresses students' health, safety, engagement in the learning process, support from adults in and out of school, and access to educational opportunities that challenge them and expand their horizons. Examples of project idea topics might include:

- *Healthy: homelessness/hunger, student well being, mental health*
- *Safe: school safety, bullying and harassment, discipline inequities*



- *Engaged: cultural diversity, student identity*
- *Supported: adult-student relationships, community partnerships, language services and supports*
- *Challenged: access to challenging coursework, high expectations, access to extracurricular opportunities*

#### **How do I attend?**

Students must [submit an application](#) to attend the summit by April 8, 2019. Applicants must clearly define the challenge that they are experiencing and why they believe it is occurring. Applicants must also attend on a team and identify team members with whom they would like to bring and engage with during the summit.

#### **Who can submit an idea?**

- **Students (aged 14-18) may submit an idea to attend.**
- **Summit participants must:**
  - Have an actionable student leadership idea.
  - Attend as part of a team of 2-5 members. The team must include at least one student and one faculty sponsor (e.g., practicing classroom teacher, guidance counselor, principal). Other key stakeholders (e.g., parents, other school staff, community members, and local school and government officials) are also encouraged.
  - Secure travel to and from the summit (or secure sponsorship).
  - Commit to attend the entire summit.
  - Commit to taking steps following summit participation to implement action plan.

#### **How do participants benefit from the Summit?**

- Receive the time, space, and tools to collaborate and develop ideas in order to put them into action
- Obtain the support and expertise of a dedicated “critical friend” from a supporting organization to help advance proposed work
- Build relationships with fellow student advocates and national organizations that will support and mentor student teams during and after the Summit
- Receive free registration and meals during the Summit.

**Submit your idea by April 8th**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/studentvoiceTTL>

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