

## CoSN SENIOR LEVEL DELEGATION TO ONTARIO

The [Consortium for School Networking \(CoSN\)](#) is committed to a global dialogue focused on the strategic uses of technology for the improvement of teaching and learning in primary and secondary schools. CoSN holds a Global Symposium to explore global ICT issues relating to educational leadership during our Annual Conference. In addition, CoSN has convened senior U.S. policy delegations to visit: Finland & Norway (2018); New Zealand (2017); Ireland (2016); India (2015); Singapore (2015); Portugal (2013); Argentina & Uruguay (2011); Australia (2004) and others.

To continue our global exploration and dialogue, CoSN is planning a senior level delegation to Ontario, Canada December 2 – 6, 2019. The delegation will be an exciting professional advancement opportunity allowing the participants to discover, learn and experience the innovative ICT and education policies and practices that are occurring in the Ontario region and explore their applicability to U.S. education systems.

### FOCUS AND GOALS OF DELEGATION

The Canadian education system is ranked among the best in the world, with students coming in seventh overall in the most recent report from the Programme for International Student Assessment ([PISA](#)). Canada's education system consistently beats the competition in science, reading and on equity issues like gender balance.

The delegation will be focusing on the following questions during its visit:

- How are school systems in Ontario developing and implementing new policies, particularly around curriculum and ICT, to create high performing learning environments?
- What can U.S. education leaders learn from colleagues in Ontario and adapt to their school systems, particularly around use of technology for learning?
- How are they achieving a commitment to digital equity and equal access for all students, particularly those from immigrant populations?
- How are students being prepared for success as we enter the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution?

The delegation will explore the conditions for Canada's education success by visiting schools, learning about innovative policies and implementation approaches to ICT, and meeting with key policymakers and government officials in the Ontario Province.

### TENTATIVE AGENDA

We are in the process of developing the agenda but offer the following tentative outline for discussion and consideration.

December 2:	Flight to Toronto
December 3:	Meetings with policymakers and school visits in York Regional District School Board
December 4:	Meetings with policymakers and school visits in Toronto District School Board
December 5:	Canada/U.S. Education Technology Leadership Summit. The Summit will bring together the U.S. delegation and key Canadian superintendents and their education technology leaders/CIO/CTOs for an interactive dialogue to

share successes and failures around use of technology in K-12 and highlight best practices. Michael Fullan, Global Leadership Director, [New Pedagogies for Deep Learning](#) and a worldwide authority on educational reform, will provide the keynote speech.

December 6: Report preparation in the morning / return home in the afternoon

## **COSTS**

We are working with EF Tours, a company specializing in educational tours to secure the best possible pricing. It is anticipated that sponsors will provide a partial subsidy to technology leaders from school districts. It is also expected that there will be several dinners sponsored by companies or other groups for the delegation.

We will be finalizing the pricing for this delegation in the near future.

## **OUTCOMES OF THE DELEGATION**

We will broadly disseminate valuable information obtained during the visit to US education technology community via a delegation website, blogging, webinars and a report summarizing our findings and experiences. Our goal is to share the information collected and enable human and organizational linkages which are developed on the trip to be available to a wide audience in the U.S. In addition, we will work with the education media to promote the delegation findings. We know this trip will undoubtedly have great benefit for the members of the delegation but we want to provide value to educators and policymakers not on the trip.

To get an idea of past delegation outcomes look at our [blog](#) from New Zealand and our report, [Education Innovation Down Under and](#) the [blog](#) from our Norway and Finland delegation.

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