



You are invited to the
**College Awareness Month Policy Forum:
State-Level Strategies for Supporting a College-Going Culture**

Tuesday, September 23, 2008, 5:30-7:30 PM

Bell Multicultural Senior High School, Auditorium
3101 16th Street, NW
Metro: Columbia Heights Metro Station (Green and Yellow Lines)

The 2006 Double the Numbers report – a research effort supported by the DC College Access Network, the DC State Education Office, DCPS and the DC Education Compact - painted a stark picture: 43 percent of District of Columbia public school students who started ninth grade in 2001 graduated from high school, and only nine percent are estimated to complete college in five years. Those rates are far below the national average and unreasonable in a society where an estimated two-thirds of new jobs will require some education after high school.

Increasing college awareness – and subsequently college-going and college success rates – is among the major priorities of the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE).

Please join the OSSE and special guests as we discuss the policies and strategies that states across the country are implementing to increase college awareness, college going and college success among their students. The Policy Forum will focus on:

- What students need to know to be “college ready” and how states are aligning high school standards to college expectations
- State-funded financial aid programs that help make college affordable and accessible to all students
- State-wide college awareness campaigns that help every student know that they are college material

Speakers include:

- **Laura Slover**, Vice President of Content and Policy Research at Achieve
- **Michelle A. Cooper**, President of the Institute for Higher Education Policy
- **Melanie Corrigan**, Director of National Initiatives at the American Council on Education, and Project Director of KnowHow2Go

This Policy Forum is one of a series of events brought to you by the College Awareness Month Coalition. For a list of members visit www.doublethenumbersdc.org.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP no later than Friday, September 19, 2008 to Monica L. Freeman at MonicaL.Freeman@dc.gov. For more information call 202-724-2069.