# Follow the Money: Mapping Private Profiteers from Texas of the Federal Voucher Program

## Maggie Stern

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, OUR SCHOOLS OUR DEMOCRACY**

## Mike DeGuire

**VICE-CHAIR, ADVOCATES FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION POLICY**

## Maurice Cunningham

**CO-FOUNDER AND CONTRIBUTOR, MASSPOLITICSPROFS**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| September 27 | 12:05 pm | Regency Ballroom A | Hyatt Regency Conroe, TX |

# Texas Charter Growth and Special Education: Insights from Major Cities and Large CMOs

**Dave DeMatthews**

PROFESSOR, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

**Pedro Reyes**

ASBELL SMITH PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION LEADERSHIP & POLICY

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| September 27 | 12:05 am | Birch | Hyatt Regency Conroe, TX |

SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2026, HOUSTON, TEXAS

2026 NPE/NPE ACTION CONFERENCE

# Go Public! Voucher and Charter Taxpayer Transparency Project

## Heather DuBois Bourenane

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK

## Sandy Whisler

PRESIDENT, WISCONSIN ALLIANCE FOR EXCELLENT SCHOOLS

## Denise Gaumer Hutchison

NW REGIONAL ORGANIZER, WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK

## Camden Hargrove

ORGANIZING AND ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR, WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK

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|---|---|---|---|
| September 27 | 12:05 pm | Regency Ballroom D | Hyatt Regency Conroe, TX |

# It Can Happen Here: How Grassroots Organizing Is Writing (and Winning) a New School Board Playbook in Texas

**Felicity Pereyra**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER, HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Maria Benzon**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER, HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Nicole Hill**

DIGITAL STRATEGIST, ONLINE TO OFFLINE STRATEGY GROUP

**Lesley Guilmart**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CYPRESS FAIRBANKS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Nikki Cowart**

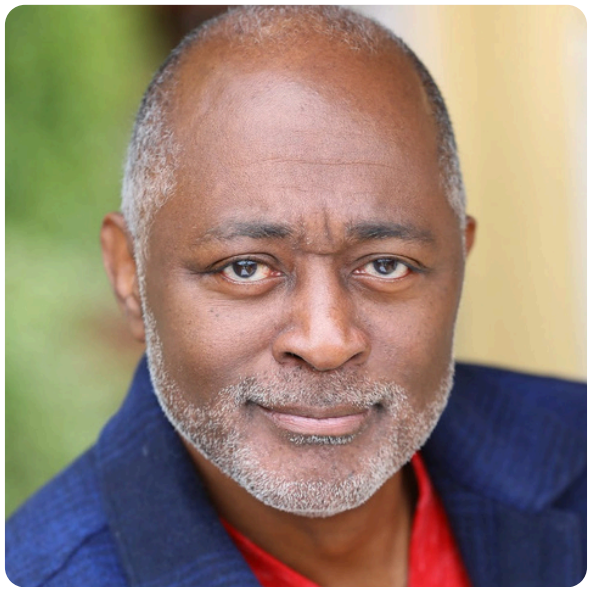
LOCAL PRESIDENT, CY-FAIR AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| September 27 | 12:05 pm | Hickory A | Hyatt Regency Conroe, TX |

SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2026, HOUSTON, TEXAS

## 2026 NPE/NPE ACTION CONFERENCE

# The Joy of Resistance



### Addison K. Witt

**POET LAUREATE, DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY**

### Karen Svoboda

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY**

### Marley Brailey

**COMMUNITY LIAISON, TEXAS, DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| September 27 | 12:05 pm | Mesquite B | Hyatt Regency Conroe, TX |

# They Want to Get Rid of You Because You're Good: Don't Let Them!

**Giana Ortiz**
ATTORNEY, THE ORTIZ LAW FIRM

**Jamal Robinson**
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TEXAS EDUCATION POLICY INSTITUTE

**Michelle Williams**
EDUCATOR, FORMER HOUSTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

**Shemiya Taylor**
FORMER HOUSTON ISD TEACHER

**Dr. Jessica Berry**
FOUNDER & EDUCATION CONSULTANT, BERRY EMPOWERED LLC

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| September 27 | 12:05 pm | Walnut | Hyatt Regency Conroe, TX |