CCSSO welcomes the opportunity to work with business partners that help the Council fulfill its mission, which is to ensure that all students participating in our public education system -- regardless of background -- graduate prepared for college, careers, and life. Prospective and current business partners are subject to eligibility criteria to ensure that partner organizations are aligned in their commitment to student achievement, value the trusted environment CCSSO fosters through its activities, and respect that the primary function of the state education agency at all times is to serve the best interests of its students, schools and public. CCSSO strives to create a collegial, collaborative community through its events and programs allowing our members and partners to network with peers, share expertise and best practices, and have honest dialogue on key educational policy issues. To ensure that all member and partner interactions are structured to protect the integrity of the Council and its members, support the CCSSO’s priorities, and ultimately strengthen the capacity of state education agencies, partner organizations must refrain from engaging in solicitous, development, or lobbying activities at CCSSO events.

Level 1 Partners

**AIR**

Established in 1946, with headquarters in Washington, D.C., the American Institutes for Research (AIR) is a nonpartisan not-for-profit organization that conducts behavioral and social science research and delivers technical assistance both domestically and internationally in the areas of health, education and workforce productivity. Well-known for its groundbreaking work in student testing and performance assessment, AIR is a global leader in P-20 education research, evaluation, technical assistance, and policy. For more information, visit http://www.air.org.

At nonprofit ETS our mission is to advance quality and equity in education for all people worldwide. We help teachers teach, students learn, and parents measure the educational progress of their children. We do this by

- Listening to educators, parents, and critics
- Learning what students and their institutions need
- Leading in the development of new and innovative products and services

ETS customizes solutions to meet the need for teacher professional development products and services, classroom and end-of-course assessments, and research-based teaching and learning tools. Founded in 1947, ETS today develops, administers and scores more than 24 million tests annually in more than 180 countries, at over 9,000 locations worldwide.

**McGraw-Hill Education**

McGraw-Hill Education, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, is a leading global provider of instructional content, assessments, and teaching and learning solutions to help meet the needs and challenges of today’s students, educators, and professionals. Our technical innovations are changing the way people learn — and continue to learn — with e-books, online learning platforms and programs, and customized course and professional development websites. McGraw-Hill’s products reach beyond the classroom to prepare students for success in a rapidly changing global environment and a lifetime of learning.
MGT was established in 1974 by a group of former public sector employees to provide management consulting services to assist state and local governments clients operate more efficiently, effectively, and with more accountability to the communities they serve. For over 42 years, MGT has provided high quality management consulting services to government agencies nationwide and is dedicated to empowering the work of the public professional in order to advance the lives of the citizens they serve.

MGT offers an impartial perspective of the outcomes and findings. As an independent entity, our only vested interest is that of the clients; therefore, we will apply our extensive experience to generating objective independent solutions to assist our client needs.

MGT understands lasting and meaningful changes require innovative and intrepid thinking, and we do not shy away from questioning everything from organizational structures and work process to the very statutes and ordinances that create and guide the work of an agency or institution. MGT is committed to offering powerful recommendations that achieve real results and is ever mindful of the practical and political realities an organization may face.

NWEA® is a research-based, not-for-profit organization that supports students and educators worldwide by creating assessment solutions that precisely measure growth and proficiency—and provide insights to help tailor instruction. For 40 years, NWEA has developed Pre-K–12 assessments and professional learning offerings to help advance all students along their optimal learning paths. Our tools are trusted by educators in 140 countries and more than half the schools in the US.

Pearson is the world’s leading learning company, but we define our success not by our size but by the outcomes we help make possible. We serve states, districts, schools and colleges as they implement policies and practices to:

- Raise student achievement and prepare every student for college and careers
- Create world-class experiences that make learning more personalized, connected and accessible for all students
- Find more affordable ways to bring effective innovations in teaching and learning to scale

At Pearson, our sole mission is to help people make progress in their lives through learning.

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the nation’s leading provider of K-12 science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs. PLTW’s world-class, activity-, project-, and problem-based curriculum and high-quality teacher professional development model, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate partners, help students develop the skills needed to succeed in our global economy. More than 8,000 elementary, middle, and high schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia currently offer PLTW courses to their students. For more information, visit www.pltw.org.
Some educators see data as facts and figures. But it’s more than that. It’s the lifeblood of your schools. It contains history. And it can tell you something about the future. SAS helps you make sense of the data. As the leader in education analytics software and services, SAS transforms your data into insights that give you a fresh perspective on your students, programs and schools. You can identify what’s working. Fix what isn’t. And discover new opportunities. Please visit sas.com/k12.

Scholastic is the most trusted name in learning with a brand that is synonymous with quality. Scholastic Education provides technology solutions and supplemental programs that support student achievement in PreK-12. Grounded in scientific research, Scholastic Education develops technology programs and services that include intervention, instruction, universal screening, assessment, data management and professional development. Scholastic Achievement Partners—the professional services arm of Scholastic Education—brings together the International Center for Leadership in Education, Math Solutions, and Scholastic’s Implementation Services team to offer a full range of professional services in human capital development across content areas, comprehensive school improvement, and program implementation.

ACT is an independent, nonprofit organization that provides assessment, research, information, and program management services in the broad areas of education and workforce development. Each year, we serve millions of people in high schools, colleges, professional associations, businesses, and government agencies, nationally and internationally. Though designed to meet a wide array of needs, all ACT programs and services have one guiding purpose – helping people achieve education and workplace success.

The world’s leader in accreditation and school improvement, AdvancED believes that students must be prepared to succeed in a constantly-evolving and diverse world and that educational institutions have a deep responsibility to deliver quality education to students from all walks of life.

We have been experts in accreditation and school improvement since 1895, and bring this 100+ years of experience and expertise through three US-based accreditation agencies - the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC), and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI).

The AdvancED Accreditation Process, a protocol embraced around the world, is a clear and comprehensive program of evaluation and external review, supported by research-based standards, and dedicated to helping schools, school systems, and education providers continuously improve.

AdvancED is committed to sharing the knowledge and practice generated by schools throughout its global network to inform and influence practice on issues related to education quality.

Visit www.advanc-ed.org to learn more about AdvancED.
Amplify is dedicated to reimagining K-12 education by creating digital products and services that empower students, teachers and parents with new curricular experiences, instructional tools, and extended learning opportunities. We are focused on transforming teaching and learning by creating and scaling digital innovations in three areas: insight, learning, and access.

Apple ignited the personal computer revolution in the 1970s with the Apple II and reinvented the personal computer in the 1980s with the Macintosh. Today, Apple continues to lead the industry in innovation with its award-winning desktop and notebook computers, OS X operating system, and iLife and professional applications. Apple is also spearheading the digital music revolution with its iPod portable music players and iTunes online music store.

Battelle for Kids is a national, not-for-profit organization that provides counsel and solutions to advance the development of human capital systems, the use of strategic measures, practices for improving educator effectiveness, and communication with all stakeholders.

We believe that focusing on the right people, practices, measures, and messages is the key to educational excellence.

The College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of more than 5,900 of the world’s leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, the College Board helps more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success - including the SAT® and the Advanced Placement Program®. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators and schools.

Curriculum Associates is a rapidly growing education company committed to making classrooms better places for teachers and students. We believe that all children have the chance to succeed, and this drives the decisions we make every day. Our research-based, award-winning products, including cloud-based i-Ready®, provide teachers and administrators with flexible resources that deliver meaningful assessments and data-driven, differentiated instruction for children. We serve millions of students with i-Ready® (adaptive diagnostic, online instruction, and practice apps for math and reading); Ready® (standards-based instruction build from scratch for the Common Core); BRIGANCE® (assessment and instruction for special education, early childhood, and Head Start); and other programs because of our laser focus on educators’ needs over our own bottom line and a belief that thoughtful and continuous innovation leads to a positive impact on classrooms and measureable growth for students.
Corwin, a SAGE company, is a leading publisher of professional development books for PreK-12 educators and an innovative provider of workshops, seminars, and online training resources. We believe that every child deserves an excellent education and that we have a responsibility to contribute to that excellence by enhancing professional practice. We partner with authors, educators, and academics to bring the latest research and proven methods to schools through practical, hands-on materials. Established in 1990 as an independent company, Corwin continues to carry out our mission of Helping Educators Do Their Work Better in everything we do.

For more than 30 years, DRC has ensured that our clients’ strengths are front and center in the development and implementation of assessment programs. We are the industry leader in engaging stakeholders—like teachers in the test development process and parents in report design—to ensure that our clients not only exceed their stakeholders’ expectations but also demonstrate their leadership. For more information, visit HYPERLINK “http://www.datarecognitioncorp.com” www.datarecognitioncorp.com.

Google for Education is a solution built for learning and designed for the classroom that includes easy-to-manage affordable devices like Chromebooks, a “mission control” for class through Google Classroom, a powerful suite of productivity tools with G Suite for Education, and new ways to engage students like Google Expeditions. Together these tools help teachers save time, increase collaboration, and inspire curiosity while students discover and learn together on any device, from anywhere.

IBM Global Education collaborates with schools, districts and state departments of education to create innovative business and technology solutions to enable continuous improvement in education. We help to improve student success, teacher effectiveness and institutional performance through a depth of experience in consulting services, analytics, infrastructure and business partner offerings. IBM provides our education clients with deep business process and industry expertise, using innovation to identify, create and deliver value faster. We draw on the full breadth and depth of IBM capabilities to help you implement solutions designed to deliver sustainable improvement.

KnowledgeWorks is a social enterprise focused on ensuring that every student experiences meaningful personalized learning that allows him or her to thrive in college, career and civic life. By offering a portfolio of innovative education approaches and advancing aligned policies, KnowledgeWorks seeks to activate and develop the capacity of communities and educators to build and sustain vibrant learning ecosystems that allow each student to thrive. Our portfolio includes, EDWorks and StriveTogether. http://knowledgeworks.org
Measured Progress, a non-profit organization, is a pioneer in authentic, standards-based assessments. Since 1983, we have successfully partnered with more than 30 states and hundreds of districts across the nation to support their assessment programs. Today, we develop 21st century assessments for classrooms, districts, states, and collaboratives. We are proud to be the nation’s leading provider of alternate assessments for students with cognitive disabilities.

Measured Progress connects the K–12 educational community with innovative and flexible assessment solutions. Our goal is to provide meaningful information about student progress to improve teaching and learning. It’s all about student learning.

MetaMetrics® is focused on improving education for students of all ages. The organization develops scientific measures of academic achievement and complementary technologies that link assessment results with instruction. For more than thirty years, MetaMetrics’ work has been increasingly recognized worldwide for its distinct value in differentiating instruction and personalizing learning. Its products and services for reading, mathematics and writing provide valuable insights about academic ability and the potential for growth, enabling students to achieve their goals at every stage of development. For more information and to access free resources, visit www.MetaMetricsInc.com.

MetaMetrics, Inc., a privately held educational measurement company, develops scientifically based measures of student achievement that link assessment with instruction, foster better educational practices and improve learning by matching students with materials that meet and challenge their abilities. The company’s team of psychometricians developed the widely adopted Lexile Framework for Reading (www.Lexile.com); El Sistema Lexile para Leer, the Spanish-language version of the Lexile Framework; The Quantile Framework for Mathematics (www.Quantiles.com); and The Lexile Framework for Writing. In addition to licensing Lexile and Quantile measures to state departments of education, testing and instructional companies, and publishers, MetaMetrics delivers professional development, resource measurement and customized consulting services. For more information, visit www.MetaMetricsInc.com.

The National Institute for School Leadership (NISL) is the leading source for research-based and research-proven support for K-12 school leaders. Eight Chief State School Officers have selected NISL as a key strategy for raising student achievement within their states. NISL’s capacity-building train-the-trainer methodology allows states and districts to improve instructional leadership at scale and at low cost. States have leveraged NISL’s programs to develop novice leaders, create school turn-around artists, and impact instructional leadership statewide. Multiple third-party research studies have shown that NISL programs not only improve the effectiveness of school leaders, but also strengthen instruction and raise student achievement as measured on state tests.

We invite you to review the research studies and welcome the opportunity to introduce you to other Chief State School Officers to learn about their experience implementing our programs. To do so, and to learn how you can help raise student achievement by creating more effective school leaders, please visit NISL.org, call us at 913.909.1997 or email us at info@NISL.org.
Questar Assessment Inc. is a K–12 assessment solutions provider focused on building a bridge between learning and accountability. As a wholly-owned, independently-operated subsidiary of Educational Testing Service (ETS), we share a belief that better measurement solutions can make a positive impact on education. We take a fresh and innovative approach to design, delivery, scoring, analysis, and reporting. And we are reimagining how assessments can empower educators by giving them the insights they need to improve instructions and fully prepare students for college or career. Our high-quality, reliable assessment products and services are easily scaled and tailored to meet the specific needs of states and districts at an unprecedented value. Educators trust our high-performing teams and dependable technology to minimize risks and ensure success for states, districts, schools, teachers, and students.

Committed to our mission, Renaissance® is the leader in pre-K–12 learning analytics—enabling teachers, curriculum creators, and educators to drive phenomenal student growth. Renaissance’s solutions help educators analyze, customize, and plan personalized learning paths for students, allowing time for what matters—creating energizing learning experiences in the classroom.

Smarter Balanced is a public agency currently supported by 15 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Bureau of Indian Education. Through the work of thousands of educators, we created an online assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), as well as tools for educators to improve teaching and learning. Our work is guided by the belief that a high-quality assessment system can provide information and tools for teachers and schools to improve instruction and help students succeed — regardless of disability, language, or subgroup.

Teachers of Tomorrow is the largest teacher certification program in the country. Founded in 2005, we have recruited, trained, certified and supported over 42,000 teachers. We work with states to meet all state teaching standards so that we can begin helping them solve the critical teacher shortage. We are accepted in Texas, Florida and Nevada and have applications submitted in Arizona and Indiana and legislation for acceptance in North and South Carolina. There is no cost to the state or district – the candidate pays - and they only pay a small up-front fee. The bulk of tuition is only paid to us if they secure a teaching job. We firmly stand behind the quality of our work. Teaching shortages are getting worse – we are ready to help.

As a leader in developing graphing handhelds, Texas Instruments Educational and Productivity Solutions, a business of Texas Instruments, is an education technology leader. For nearly 20 years, we have worked closely with leading educators in the design of our educational technology, training programs and support materials that enrich the math and science classroom learning experience worldwide. Our mission—provide essential tools that help teachers create an engaging learning experience leading to higher student achievement in math and science. Our vision—all students inspired to achieve their potential and become the innovators of tomorrow.
Wilson Language Training is dedicated to providing educators with the resources they need to help their students become fluent, independent readers. Wilson is a provider of professional development and research-based reading and spelling curricula for all ages. Its multisensory, structured curricula—the Wilson Reading System®, Wilson Fundations®, Wilson Just Words®, and Wilson Fluency®—have proven highly effective. Wilson also brings to the task two decades of professional development courses and ongoing teacher support. Partnering with public and private schools, as well as clinics and adult education centers across the country, Wilson strives toward its ultimate goal: literacy for all.