The goals of the virtual meeting are to:

- Strengthen partnerships across states in addressing issues faced by state specialists in the on-going pandemic environment.
- Increase awareness of best practices and successful strategies during the on-going pandemic, including with the influx of new federal funding.
- Explore topics useful to state leaders in ensuring equity for all children birth to through grade three, particularly during the time of a pandemic.
- Identify organizational needs and resources to support state leadership efforts during the on-going pandemic.

**Monday, October 25:**

1:00 - 2:00  Plenary  **NAECS-SDE Organizational Updates and Opening Plenary**

*Speaker:*

- **Katie Hamm,** Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development, Office of Early Childhood Development, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

2:00 - 3:00  Plenary  **Supporting Educator and Child Well-being through Mental Health Supports and Trauma-Informed Practices**

*Moderator: Lise Fox,* Principal Investigator, The National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations

*Speakers:*

- **Dr. Kate Gallagher,** Director of Research and Evaluation, The Buffet Early Childhood Institute at the University of Nebraska
- **Dr. Kaitlin Mulcahy,** Associate Director, Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health, Montclair State University

3:15 - 4:00  Breakouts  **Facilitated Breakout Sessions**

4:00 – 4:30  Breakouts  **Networking Happy Hour**
Tuesday, October 26:

1:00 - 2:00  Plenary  
**Addressing Barriers and Promoting Opportunities for the Early Care and Education Workforce**

*Moderator:*
- Albert Wat, Senior Policy Director, Alliance for Early Success

*Speakers:*
- Dr. Caitlin McLean, Director of Multi-State and International Programs, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment
- Dr. Kimberly Krzanowski, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning, Delaware Department of Education
- Taylor Dunn, Director, Watershed Advisors

2:15 - 3:00  Breakouts  
**Facilitated Breakout Sessions**

3:00 - 4:00  Plenary  
**State of Preschool Yearbook Session**

*Speakers:*
- Dr. Steve Barnett, Senior Co-Director, NIEER
- GG Weisenfeld, Assistant Research Professor, NIEER

4:00 – 4:30  Breakouts  
**Networking Happy Hour**
Wednesday, October 27:

1:00 - 2:00  Plenary  Making Strategic Decisions to Advance Equity in Early Care and Education

Moderator:
- Jeffrey Capizzano, President, The Policy Equity Group

Speakers:
- Dr. Shantel Meek, Founding Director, Children’s Equity Project, Arizona State University
- Dr. Nicola Edge, Associate Director, Research and Evaluation Division, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- Dr. Nicol Russel, Vice President of Implementation Research, Teaching Strategies
- Meghan McCormick, Senior Associate, Family Well-Being and Children’s Development, MDRC

2:15 - 3:00  Breakouts  Facilitated Breakout Session

3:00 - 4:00  Plenary  Closing Plenary: A Call to Action with Miriam Calderon

Speakers:
- Miriam Calderon, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Early Learning, U.S. Department of Education

4:00 – 4:30  Breakouts  Networking Happy Hour