



Former Second Lady Jill Biden to Speak at Reagan Institute Summit on Education

Biden will offer remarks prior to summit's closing panel with former secretaries of education

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute today announced that former Second Lady Jill Biden will be participating in the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE) in Washington, D.C., on April 12, 2018.

"We're grateful to have Dr. Biden joining us at RISE to share her perspective on our nation's education system," said Melissa Giller, chief marketing officer for the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute. "Her years of experience as an educator and a national leader on this issue will offer valuable insights to the discussion."

Biden will present brief remarks before RISE's final panel session, which will feature a conversation between former Secretaries of Education John B. King, Jr., Arne Duncan, Margaret Spellings and Rod Paige. The discussion will draw on the secretaries' multi-faceted experiences across the changing education landscape to explore America's purpose for public and higher education from the perspective of the Department of Education.

Biden joins other leaders in education, policy, business and technology participating in RISE 2018, including LitWorld founder Pam Allyn, University of California President Janet Napolitano, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Purdue University President Mitch Daniels, Rep. Virginia Foxx, former Secretaries of Education John B. King, Jr., Arne Duncan and Sen. Lamar Alexander, and many others. Throughout the conference, bipartisan panels and plenaries will foster conversation on a wide range of education policy issues. These issues include lessons learned from the 1983 report on education "A Nation at Risk," the future of higher education, the role of states in pursuing educational excellence, innovation in the classroom and approaches to constructing bipartisan legislation.

Biden served as second lady of the United States from 2009 to 2017, and during her time in the White House she focused on promoting the work of community colleges. She worked with President Barack Obama to host the first White House Summit on Community Colleges, and she featured community college and business partnerships across the country through the Community College to Career Tour.

She has more than thirty years of teaching experience at the high school and college level, and currently serves as a professor at a Northern Virginia community college, a teaching position she held during her time as second lady. She is also the honorary chair of the

College Promise National Advisory Board, which works toward free community college education for hard-working students. Biden holds two master's degrees and earned her doctorate in education in 2007, studying community college student retention. Biden also helps lead the Biden Foundation, which she and husband former Vice President Joe Biden launched after leaving the White House.

RISE 2018 is open to registered media. For more information, visit www.reaganfoundation.org/reagan-institute or follow RISE on Twitter @ReaganEdSummit. Join the conversation with #RISE2018.

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About the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, California, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C.

Ronald Reagan said, "**Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.** We didn't pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free." The RISE Summit builds on the success of the non-partisan Reagan National Defense Forum (RNDF), which, for the past five years, has brought together luminaries from across the political spectrum to examine the state of National Defense. With RISE, we plan to leverage our role as a convener to explore the future of American education.

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