



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
**CITY OF CHICAGO**

**RAHM EMANUEL**  
MAYOR

January 22, 2019

Dear Friends:

As Mayor, and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I am pleased and proud to welcome all those gathered for ASCD Empower19: The Conference for Every Educator.

Since its founding 75 years ago, ASCD has worked with district leaders, school principals, and teachers to ensure that each student is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. With more than 114,000 members consisting of superintendents, principals, teachers, and advocates from more than 127 countries ASCD helps educators provide a high-quality education focused on transformational leadership, global engagement, and understanding poverty and equity. ASCD not only focuses on the academic curriculum, but also helps educators focus on a broader social education by developing students moral and creative capabilities and an understanding of their diverse needs. Through informed programming, advocacy, and invaluable resources, ASCD gives educators the tools needed to support and educate students as a whole.

This year's conference will bring more than 8,000 teachers, principals, superintendents, and staff together to network, learn, and inspire. The conference features over 400 online sessions, keynote speakers, Concurrent Learning Sessions, student and practitioner panels, interactive workshops, learning labs and collaboration, and networking events. Through the programs offered during Empower19, educators will gain the tools and resources needed to advance student achievement helping to prepare them for successful careers and productive members of their communities. I commend ASCD for their continued commitment to helping educators provide quality education and working to ensure student success.

It is my hope that after learning about and discussing what's new and changing, you will take the time to explore and take advantage of everything Chicago has to offer. An exciting variety of restaurants, universities and world-class museums accented by our iconic skyline, incredible lakefront, and historic neighborhoods make Chicago one of the world's greatest cities.

I hope you have an informative and enjoyable conference and submit my best wishes for much continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rahm Emanuel".

Mayor