

CIVIL DISCOURSE LAB: ADMINISTRATOR TRACK

JULY 8-10, 2026



WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

- 12:00 **Registration & Lunch***
- 1:00 **Opening Session***: Why deliberation and civil discourse? Learn about Close Up's approach to building skills for deliberative democracy.
- 2:30 **Break**
- 2:45 **Establishing Norms for Discourse**: Review a series of helpful classroom and schoolwide norms for civil discourse and discuss and collaborate on how these norms could be incorporated in your school's approach.
- 4:00 **Break**
- 4:15 **Foundational Values for Connections Across Difference**: Explore Close Up's Political Values Framework and reflect on your school's core values and how they can support thoughtful, respectful engagement across differing perspectives.
- 5:30 **Break**
- 6:00 **Dinner & Welcome Remarks with Students Participating in NextGen Roundtable: Decision 2026***
- 7:30 **End of Day**

THURSDAY, JULY 9

- 8:00 **Breakfast**
- 9:00 **Pathways for Discourse & Model Deliberation**: Consider three pathways to productive civil discourse—discussion, debate, and deliberation—and take part in a model deliberation.
- 11:00 **Planning & Implementation**: Consider and plan how the foundational work and deliberative model for civil discourse could be effectively implemented across multiple departments in your school.
- 12:00 **Lunch**
- 1:30 **Deliberation Prep**: Prepare for the student deliberation and expert panel, gaining firsthand exposure to what civil discourse looks like in practice.
- 2:30 **Break**
- 3:00 **Student Program Observation***: Observe students participating in Decision 2026 during a deliberation and expert panel.
- 7:00 **Evening Monuments Tour***: See D.C.'s famous monuments at night.

FRIDAY, JULY 10

- 8:00 **Breakfast**
- 9:00 **Addressing Challenges & What to Do When Discourse Breaks Down**: Analyze a series of real-world breakdowns in school communication and gain practical strategies to resolve challenges, strengthen relationships, and refine your approach with actionable insights.
- 11:00 **Break**
- 11:15 **Closing Remarks***: Alice Siu, Associate Director of the Deliberative Democracy Lab at Stanford University
- 12:15 **Boxed Lunches & Depart for Home**

Sample schedule subject to change.

**Combined with participants on the teacher track.*