

The Consortium of State School Boards Associations Weekly Education Report

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<u>COSSBA Advocacy Survey</u> Please complete the latest COSSBA Advocacy Survey to help make us more effective advocates for you with Washington policymakers. Your answers will help us better tell the story of your districts. It can be completed here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M6H9KDW

And don't forget to <u>register</u> for our Webinar on the Congressional Budget Reconciliation Process and the potential impact on K-12 schools Wednesday, April 30. *The COSSBA Education Report*, a weekly publication, provides an executive summary of public policy issues affecting American K-12 education and employment. Please use the bookmarks below to navigate to your area of interest.

- 1. <u>News, Publications, & Updates on COSSBA Policy Priorities</u>
 - Funding
 - Senate Democrats Demand Release of Head Start Funds: On Thursday, a group of 42 Senate Democrats, including Senators Patty Murray (D-WA), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), are <u>urging</u> the Trump administration to release already-appropriated funding for Head Start, the federally funded early childhood education program.

2. <u>Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up</u>

• Impact on State School Board Associations

3. <u>In Brief – Last Week in Washington</u>

ED, DOJ Initiate Title IX Enforcement Against Maine: On April 11, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) **referred** its Title IX investigation of the Maine Department of Education (MDOE) to the Department of Justice (DOJ) and initiated proceedings to terminate Maine's federal K-12 education funding.

- <u>Education Department Announces More Trump-Vance Appointees</u>: On April 15, the Department of Education (ED) <u>announced</u> new senior appointees who will support the Administration's education policy priorities, including a focus on state authority and higher education reform.
- <u>NAEP Assessments Cut Following Budget and Staffing Reductions</u>: The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), widely known as the "nation's report card," will be significantly reduced over the next eight years following budget and staffing cuts at the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).
- NCEE Hosts Conversation on Transforming School Time in Grades 1-9: On Tuesday, the National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) hosted a virtual conversation titled "Thinking Differently: Transforming Time in Grades 1–9."
- <u>SCOTUS Hears Challenge to LGBTQ-Inclusive Storybook Mandate</u>: On Tuesday, the U.S. Supreme Court heard <u>a case</u> challenging Montgomery County (MD) Public Schools' decision to require elementary students to read LGBTQinclusive storybooks without offering parental opt-out provisions.
- <u>President Trump Signs Executive Orders Targeting Education Reforms:</u> On Wednesday, President Trump signed <u>a series of executive actions</u> affecting both higher education and K-12 schools.
- <u>Federal Court Blocks ED's Enforcement of Anti-DEI Guidance:</u> On Thursday, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction blocking the U.S. Department of Education (ED) from enforcing new restrictions targeting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in schools.

4. <u>New Publications</u>

Calculus or Statistics: Does it Matter?

Thomas B. Fordham Institute (April 2025)

The study underscores the importance of offering multiple advanced math options, suggests that there isn't a one-size-fits-all approach for college-bound students, and reaffirms the need to address longstanding disparities in advanced course-taking.

5. <u>In the News</u>

- Exclusive: NSF Director To Resign Amid Grant Terminations, Job Cuts, And Controversy Science (Amil 24, 2025)
 - *Science (April 24, 2025)*
- <u>Trump Orders Revamp of School Discipline Policies, College Accreditation</u> <u>and Funding</u>
- *Politico (April 23, 2025)*
- <u>Supreme Court weighs who should decide public school curriculum: Judges</u> or school boards?
- NPR (April 22, 2025)

6. <u>Weekly Calendar - What's coming up this week?</u>

 Trump's AI in Education Executive Order: Bellwether Education will hold a webinar on "Advancing AI Education – Navigating Trump's Executive Order." Monday at 1pm ET

- <u>Building Education Movements</u>: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) will hold a virtual discussion on "School Rethink 2.0: Building Education Movement." *Monday at 4pm ET*
- <u>Federal and other Financial Risks for K12 in the Months Ahead</u>: The Edunomics Lab at Georgetown University will host a 30-minute webinar on "Federal and other financial risks for K12 in the months ahead." *Tuesday at 12pm ET*
- Youth Apprenticeship Showcase: Three Intermediaries Connecting Students to In-Demand Careers: New America will hold an event, "Youth Apprenticeship Showcase: Three Intermediaries Connecting Students to In-Demand Careers." Wednesday at 12pm ET
- <u>**Trump's First 100 Days and Education</u></u>: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) will hold a virtual discussion on " Grading Trump's First 100 Days on Education."** *Wednesday at 3pm ET***</u>**
- <u>Should the Federal Government Shape School Curriculum?</u> The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies will hold a webinar on "A Conversation on the Right: Should the Federal Government Shape School Curriculum?" *Thursday at 3:30pm ET*

7. <u>Future Hearings & Events</u>

- **Trump's Head Start Budget Proposal**: The Center for American Progress will hold a virtual discussion on "Stealing From Our Children: Trump's Dismantling of Head Start Harms Children and Families." *May 5 at 1pm ET*
- <u>Advancing Youth Mental Health</u>: The Bipartisan Policy Center will hold a forum on "Advocating Youth Mental Health: Perspectives from Youth and Families."

May 6 at 10am ET

- <u>What's Next for Federal Education Policy</u>: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) will hold a virtual discussion on "What's Next for Federal Education Policy?" *May 7 at 5:30pm ET*
- Supporting and Expanding the K-12 STEM Teacher Pipeline: Brookings will hold a webinar on supporting and expanding the K-12 STEM teacher pipeline. *May 8 at 2pm ET*

8. <u>On The Floor of Congress This Week</u>

- <u>Senate floor</u>: Consideration of nominations
- House floor
 - H.J. Res. 87, which seeks to stop California's efforts to force truck manufacturers to sell zero-emission trucks.
 - <u>**H.J. Res. 88**</u>, which overturns the EPA's waiver that permits California to ban the sale of gas-powered cars by 2025.

- <u>**H.J. Res. 89**</u>, another resolution that targets California, this time going after the EPA's decision to allow the Golden State to tighten nitrogen oxide engine emission standards.
- <u>**H.J. Res 78**</u>, which repeals the endangered species listing for the longfin smelt.
- <u>**H.J. Res 60**</u>, which repeals a rule prohibiting the use of off-road vehicles and ATVs on 24 miles of park roads in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

9. Important U.S. House and Senate Links

10. <u>About BPAG</u>

1. COSSBA Policy Priorities

FUNDING

SENATE DEMOCRATS DEMAND RELEASE OF HEAD START FUNDS

On Thursday, a group of 42 Senate Democrats, including Senators Patty Murray (D-WA), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), are urging the Trump administration to release already-appropriated funding for Head Start, the federally funded early childhood education program. Their letter to Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. raises concerns about delayed payments, staffing reductions, and potential efforts to dismantle the program. The senators cite reports that some local Head Start grantees have yet to receive payments or grant renewals, even as current awards are set to expire at the end of the month. They emphasize that Congress appropriated \$12.3 billion for Head Start in fiscal year 2025 and argue that the administration has both a legal and moral responsibility to distribute those funds in full. The letter follows the release of a preliminary document related to the president's fiscal year 2026 budget proposal, which reportedly includes plans to eliminate Head Start entirely. The senators assert that actions by the administration-such as withholding funds, reducing staff, and scaling back services-amount to an intentional effort to undermine and phase out the 60-year-old program, which serves low-income children and families across the country. The lawmakers demand assurances that Head Start dollars will be disbursed without further delay and that the administration will uphold the program's mission. The request adds to growing tensions over early childhood education funding as budget planning for FY 2026 gets underway.

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2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-Up

Congress returns to Capitol Hill this week after a two-week recess, and House authorizing committees are expected to host markups of reconciliation legislation. Each Committee has been assigned a savings target in order to address other priorities, including border security, changes to energy policy, and extended tax cuts, and deficit reduction.

In addition, the House is expecting to debate a White House rescission package this week. President Donald Trump is expected to send a special message requesting to rescind \$9.3 billion of enacted funding. Most of that is expected to come from State Department and USAID programs, but the Corporation for Public Broadcasting may also be targeted for \$1 billion, among other requests. Congress will have 45 days to act on the request. It can approve all, some, or none of the requests. The Administration must release funding for recissions that are not approved by Congress after 45 days.

What else is happening this week? Well, federal agencies are required by provisions of the continuing resolution enacted in March to tell Appropriations Committees how they are going to spend funds for the remainder of FY 2025. The law requires each agency to give the Committees "a spending, expenditure, or operating plan for FY 2025" at the level of detail provided in a committee report within 45 days, which means by April 29.

President Trump is expected to release his "skinny" FY 2026 budget request in May, and it could be as soon as this week. It has been reported that non-defense funding could be cut by more than one third, with even deeper cuts for some agencies. A more detailed budget request will come some weeks later.

What about earmarks and programmatic requests? The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have posted deadlines and guidance for Members of Congress to submit requests for funding, report language, and earmarks for those bills that will have earmarks.

While Congress was in recess the last two weeks, it was hardly quiet in Washington, DC. Members will return this week and try to complete a lot of legislative work before the Memorial Day break.

How does this impact State School Board Associations?

On Reconciliation, the House Education and Workforce Committee's assignment totals \$330 billion and will come primarily from higher education programs but could include changes to the school meals program. The panel's **markup** is scheduled for tomorrow, and Speaker of the House Mike Johnson says he wants the reconciliation package to be done by the end of May. That timeline is aggressive. And ambitious. Senate leaders haven't announced their plans yet and could very well be waiting to see how House action proceeds.

On FY 2025 Continuing Resolution funding, education advocates are hoping to see program-level funding decisions for all programs, since the continuing resolution did not specify funding levels for a number of programs, including those that support educators.

On President Trump's FY 2026 budget request, Education stakeholders are bracing for a plan that proposes deep cuts to education spending and embraces the dismantling of the Education Department. As always, advocates will remind themselves and others that a White House budget request is just that and spending bills will have to go through the Senate, where Democratic support is needed for passage.

Finally, on earmarks, programmatic and language <u>requests for the House Labor, Health and</u> <u>Human Services and Education bill</u> are due May 23. Once again, the House will not accept earmark requests for this bill. For the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill, earmark requests are due May 16; programmatic requests are due May 23 (see guidance for Senate offices <u>here</u>).

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3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington ED. DOJ INITIATE TITLE IX ENFORCEMENT AGAINST MAINE

On April 11, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) <u>referred</u> its Title IX investigation of the Maine Department of Education (MDOE) to the Department of Justice (DOJ) and initiated proceedings to terminate Maine's federal K-12 education funding. The investigation stems from Maine's refusal to prohibit transgender students assigned male at birth from participating in girls'

sports, as required under a recent executive order redefining sex under Title IX. ED's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) launched the investigation in February 2025 and, by March, concluded that Maine's policies violated Title IX by permitting transgender female athletes to compete in girls' athletics and access female-only facilities. The unusually swift investigation led to a proposed Resolution Agreement that would have forced Maine to revoke awards given to transgender athletes, bar transgender females from girls' sports and facilities, and require public schools to comply with Title IX regardless of conflicting state laws. Maine officials, citing the Maine Human Rights Act's protections for gender identity, refused to sign. Following Maine's rejection, ED referred the matter to DOJ, which sued Maine on April 16. The lawsuit seeks to end Maine's transgender athletics policy, award damages, and create a process to compensate affected female athletes. The enforcement effort extends beyond ED and DOJ: the Department of Agriculture froze school lunch funding, the Department of Health and Human Services found similar violations, and the Social Security Administration briefly terminated a contract with Maine. Governor Janet Mills and Attorney General Aaron Frey argue that the federal actions overreach and violate states' rights. The case is expected to set a significant precedent for how Title IX applies to transgender students and the extent of federal authority over state education policies. The actions arguably follow from a heated exchange between Governor Mills and President Donald Trump earlier this year.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES MORE TRUMP-VANCE APPOINTEES

On April 15, the Department of Education (ED) announced new senior appointees who will support the Administration's education policy priorities, including a focus on state authority and higher education reform. Paul Moore has been appointed Assistant General Counsel and Chief Investigative Counsel. Moore previously served in the ED during the first Trump Administration, leading investigations into foreign funding at U.S. universities, and has written and testified on protecting federal research from foreign influence. Benjamin May joins as Deputy General Counsel, bringing experience from the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Inspector General and the U.S. Department of Justice. May is also a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom and a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. Brandy Brown has been named Deputy Assistant Secretary for K-12 Education in the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Brown's background includes roles at the Department of Homeland Security, the America First Policy Institute, and in legislative positions at the federal and state levels. Sarah Wilson will serve as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. Wilson previously worked at the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, where she managed initiatives focused on learning acceleration and college and career readiness. Lauren McCarthy joins as Senior Counsel after previous roles with the Republican National Committee and as Legislative Counsel in Congress. Michael Brickman returns as Senior Advisor, having previously worked at the Department on policies related to accreditation, workforce education, and skillsbased hiring initiatives. Finally, Noah Pollak also joins as Senior Advisor, bringing experience advising organizations on education, foreign policy, and media issues. The Department stated that these appointments are intended to support its broader goals related to education governance and federal policy administration.

NAEP ASSESSMENTS CUT FOLLOWING BUDGET AND STAFFING REDUCTIONS

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), widely known as the "nation's report card," will be significantly reduced over the next eight years following budget and staffing cuts at the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). These changes, <u>announced by the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) on Monday</u>, will impact the frequency and scope of student assessments nationwide. Beginning in 2026, NAEP assessments in specific subjects and

grade levels will be suspended; 12th-grade students will not be tested in science or U.S. history through at least 2032. Additionally, a planned writing assessment for grades 4, 8, and 12 in 2032 has been canceled. Fourth-grade students will no longer take the 2028 science assessment, and 8th-grade students will lose state-level reporting for U.S. history in 2030. District-level reporting for 8th-grade science will also be discontinued during the same period. These reductions stem from efforts by the Trump administration to cut federal education spending, culminating in the nearcomplete elimination of NCES staff in March 2025. In February, the long-term trend assessment for 17-year-olds, which had been active for over 50 years, was canceled, although testing for 9and 13-year-olds will continue. The decision to scale back NAEP was driven by congressional appropriations and direct signals from the administration to reduce expenditures. Martin West, NAGB vice chair, emphasized that the cuts were made reluctantly and reflected resource constraints, not a diminished valuation of the assessments' importance. Education stakeholders have voiced strong opposition to the reductions, warning that the loss of data on high school students and less frequently assessed subjects will impair efforts to analyze educational outcomes and disparities over time. In a joint letter, leaders from a dozen education research organizations urged Congress to protect NAEP and other essential data systems that support policymaking and educational equity analysis.

NCEE HOSTS CONVERSATION ON TRANSFORMING SCHOOL TIME IN GRADES 1-9

On Tuesday, the National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) hosted a virtual conversation titled "Thinking Differently: Transforming Time in Grades 1-9." Moderated by NCEE CEO Vicki Phillips and Director of Policy Analysis Jackie Kraemer, the event featured insights from education leaders on reimagining how time is structured in schools. Panelists included Eve Eisenschmidt, professor of educational leadership at Tallinn University; Brian Pick, director of education grantmaking at the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies and former Chief of Teaching and Learning at D.C. Public Schools; and Vincent Balsamo, principal of Wallace Middle Schools in Waterbury, Connecticut. The conversation began with reflections on Part 1 of NCEE's Thinking Differently About Time brief. Panelists discussed strategies such as personalizing instruction and learning time, shortening class periods, improving access to high-quality materials, and increasing professional learning opportunities for teachers. A key point of comparison was the significant difference in instructional time between U.S. teachers and their international counterparts. Eisenschmidt, an expert on the Estonian school system, highlighted Estonia's decentralized approach, where school leaders have the autonomy to design curricula and allocate time based on student needs. She explained that this flexibility has fostered greater personalized learning opportunities and enhanced teacher agency. Brian Pick emphasized the need to reassess the structural and cultural assumptions that shape U.S. schools, advocating for intentional planning around teacher development days and systemic reforms aligned with modern educational priorities. Panelists agreed that supporting both students and teachers is critical as schools rethink how time is used. The webinar concluded with a call for school systems to recognize existing constraints while also thinking creatively about what is possible-and striving to achieve those goals.

SCOTUS HEARS CHALLENGE TO LGBTQ-INCLUSIVE STORYBOOK MANDATE

On Tuesday, the U.S. Supreme Court heard <u>a case</u> challenging Montgomery County (MD) Public Schools' decision to require elementary students to read LGBTQ-inclusive storybooks without offering parental opt-out provisions. The petitioners, primarily religious parents, argue that the mandate infringes on their First Amendment rights by burdening their ability to direct their children's religious upbringing. They seek a preliminary injunction that would allow them to

exempt their children from specific classroom content. During oral arguments, the petitioners' counsel contended that the storybooks go beyond passive exposure, actively integrating LGBTQ themes into instruction and school events, such as Pride Month celebrations. The books, which include themes of same-sex marriage and gender fluidity, are said to convey clear moral messages that conflict with the petitioners' religious teachings. They argue that mandatory participation imposes a substantial burden under Wisconsin v. Yoder and triggers strict scrutiny under the Free Exercise Clause, particularly since Montgomery County previously permitted religious opt-outs for other sensitive issues, such as imagery of the Prophet Muhammad. The justices explored whether mere exposure to ideas contrary to religious beliefs constitutes coercion, and whether it is feasible to draw distinctions based on age, content, or the type of instruction under the First Amendment. Several justices questioned the implications of allowing opt-outs for any instruction a parent finds religiously objectionable, including potential administrative burdens and fairness to other students. Others noted the inconsistency between permitting opt-outs in health education but not during story time. The petitioners emphasized that their objection is not to the availability of the books in libraries, but rather to their required instructional use. They argue that presenting nonbinary identities and same-sex marriage as normative amounts to indoctrination, violating their right to educate their children according to their faith, especially in the context of Maryland's compulsory education laws. Respondents countered that there is insufficient evidence of coercion or indoctrination and that the record does not clearly document how the books are used in practice.

PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDERS TARGETING EDUCATION REFORMS

On Wednesday, President Trump signed a series of executive actions affecting both higher education and K-12 schools. The orders focus on restructuring the accreditation system for colleges and universities, revising school discipline guidance, and promoting workforce training, artificial intelligence education, support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and disclosing of foreign gifts. One executive action directs the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to overhaul the college accreditation process. The order aims to encourage competition among accreditors and address what the administration describes as "ideological overreach" and discriminatory diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) standards. Another order targets school discipline policies. It instructs the ED to issue new guidance emphasizing discipline based on objective behavior rather than DEI considerations, revoking previous policies from the Biden and Obama administrations that sought to reduce racial disparities in suspensions and expulsions. Additional executive actions include launching a new White House initiative to support HBCUs, promoting high-demand workforce training programs like apprenticeships, and establishing a task force to advance the use of artificial intelligence in education. Reactions to the executive actions were mixed. Supporters, including figures like Tiffany Justice of Moms for Liberty, praised the focus on local control and discipline. Critics, including civil rights advocates like Judith Browne Dianis of the Advancement Project, expressed concern that the new discipline guidance could undermine civil rights protections. Education Secretary Linda McMahon described the package of executive actions as paving the way for "critical innovations" in education by enhancing transparency, promoting competition, and improving access to new technologies.

FEDERAL COURT BLOCKS ED'S ENFORCEMENT OF ANTI-DEI GUIDANCE

On Thursday, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction blocking the U.S. Department of Education (ED) from enforcing new restrictions targeting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in schools. The ruling came in response to a <u>lawsuit</u> filed by the National Education Association (NEA), its New Hampshire affiliate, and the Center for Black Educator Development.

Judge Landya McCafferty of the U.S. District Court in New Hampshire found that the plaintiffs were likely to succeed on their claim that the ED's February 14 "Dear Colleague" letter exceeded its authority and violated federal law. Although the plaintiffs sought a nationwide injunction, the ruling applies to any school system employing or contracting with NEA memberspotentially impacting millions of educators nationwide. The blocked actions included the ED's "End DEI" reporting portal and an April certification requirement mandating schools to acknowledge that favoring one race over another in DEI programs would violate Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Schools were warned that failure to comply could result in the loss of federal funding or recoupment of previously disbursed funds. Plaintiffs argued that ED's actions caused teachers to self-censor and created a climate of fear. Judge McCafferty noted that the guidance raised "the specter of a public 'witch hunt'" that could harm educational environments. Following the ruling, NEA President Becky Pringle called the decision a victory for students, parents, and educators, stating it allows schools to continue supporting all students without fear of unlawful federal penalties. The lawsuit claims violations of the First and Fifth Amendments and the Administrative Procedure Act. The case represents a significant setback for the Trump administration's efforts to restrict the use of DEI programs in federally funded schools.

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4. New Publications

Calculus or Statistics: Does it Matter?

Thomas B. Fordham Institute (April 2025)

The study underscores the importance of offering multiple advanced math options, suggests that there isn't a one-size-fits-all approach for college-bound students, and reaffirms the need to address longstanding disparities in advanced course-taking.

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5. In the News

Exclusive: NSF Director To Resign Amid Grant Terminations, Job Cuts, And Controversy Science (April 24, 2025)

<u>Trump Orders Revamp of School Discipline Policies, College Accreditation and Funding</u> *Politico (April 23, 2025)*

<u>Supreme Court weighs who should decide public school curriculum: Judges or school</u> <u>boards?</u> NPR (April 22, 2025)

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THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

6. Weekly Calendar

Monday, April 28, 2025

Webinar: Trump's AI in Education Executive Order Subject: Bellwether Education will hold a webinar on "Advancing AI Education – Navigating Trump's Executive Order." **Participants:** Amy Chen Kulsea, senior associate partner, Bellwether Education; and Erin Mote, CEO and founder, InnovateEDU. **Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Contact:** Register <u>here.</u>

Webinar: Building Education Movements

Subject: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) will hold a virtual discussion on "School Rethink 2.0: Building Education Movement."

Participants: Nina Ross, senior fellow, George W. Bush Institute; Juliet Squire, senior fellow, Bellwether; Adam Peshek, senior director, Stand Together Trust; Michael McShane, adjunct fellow, AEI; and Corey Mohn, president, CAPS Network.
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Contact: Register <u>here.</u>

Tuesday, April 29, 2025

Webinar: Federal and other financial risks for K12 in the months ahead Subject: The Edunomics Lab at Georgetown University will host a 30-minute webinar on "Federal and other financial risks for K12 in the months ahead." Time: 12:00 p.m. Contact: Register <u>here.</u>

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Webinar: Youth Apprenticeship Showcase: Three Intermediaries Connecting Students to In-Demand Careers
Subject: New America will hold an event, "Youth Apprenticeship Showcase: Three Intermediaries Connecting Students to In-Demand Careers."
Participants: GPS Education Partners-Wisconsin; Kalamazoo Public Schools, Kalamazoo Promise--Michigan; Education Service Center Region 13-Texas.
Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Contact: Register here.

Webinar: Trump's First 100 Days and Education

Subject: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) will hold a virtual discussion on " Grading Trump's First 100 Days on Education."

Participants: Frederick Hess, director of education policy studies, AEI; Nicole Nelly, president, Parents Defending Education; Andrew Rotherham, co-founder, Bellwether; Michael Petrilli, president, Thomas B. Fordham Institute; and Robert Eitel, president, Defense of Freedom Institute.

Time: 3:00 p.m. Contact: Register <u>here.</u>

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Webinar: Should the Federal Government Shape School Curriculum?

Subject: The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies will hold a webinar on "A Conversation on the Right: Should the Federal Government Shape School Curriculum?" **Participants:** Robert Eitel, co-founder and president, Defense of Freedom Institute; Roger Severino, vice president of domestic policy and fellow, Heritage Foundation; and Sarah Parshall Perry, vice president and legal fellow, Defending Education.

7. Future Hearings and Events

Monday, May 5, 2025

Webinar: Trump's Head Start Budget Proposal

Subject: The Center for American Progress will hold a virtual discussion on "Stealing From Our Children: Trump's Dismantling of Head Start Harms Children and Families."
Participants: Joel Ryan, executive director, Washington State Association of Head Start and the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program; Casey Parks, senior director for early childhood policy, CAP; Lauri Morrison-Frichti, executive director, Illinois Head Start Association; and Jen Bailey, executive director, Reach Dane.
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Contact: Register here.

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Webinar: Advancing Youth Mental Health

Subject: The Bipartisan Policy Center will hold a forum on "Advocating Youth Mental Health: Perspectives from Youth and Families."

Participants: Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC); Former Gov. Steve Beshear, (D-KY); and others **Time:** 10:00 a.m.

Contact: Register here.

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Webinar: What's Next for Federal Education Policy

Subject: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) will hold a virtual discussion on "What's Next for Federal Education Policy?" Time: 5:30 p.m. Contact: Register here.

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Webinar: Supporting and Expanding the K-12 STEM Teacher Pipeline

Subject: Brookings will hold a webinar on supporting and expanding the K-12 STEM teacher pipeline.

Participants: Michael Hansen, senior fellow, Brookings; Ann Cavallo, professor of science education, University of Texas-Arlington; Talia Milgrom-Elcott, founder and executive director, Beyond100K; Iris Wagstaff, STEM program director, AAAS; and Tuan Nguyen, professor, University of Missouri.

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Contact: Register here.

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8. On The Floor of Congress This Week

Senate Floor:

Consideration of nominations

House Floor:

<u>H.J. Res. 87</u>, which seeks to stop California's efforts to force truck manufacturers to sell zeroemission trucks.

H.J. Res. 88, which overturns the EPA's waiver that permits California to ban the sale of gas-powered cars by 2025.

H.J. Res. 89, another resolution that targets California, this time going after the EPA's decision to allow the Golden State to tighten nitrogen oxide engine emission standards.

H.J. Res 78, which repeals the endangered species listing for the longfin smelt.

<u>H.J. Res 60</u>, which repeals a rule prohibiting the use of off-road vehicles and ATVs on 24 miles of park roads in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

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9. Links for Up-to-Date Information on Hearings, Legislation, and Events

U.S. House and Senate 2025 Schedule

U.S. Department of Education

U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor

U.S. Senate Budget Committee

U.S. House Budget Committee

Congressional Budget Office

Federal legislative information

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10. About BPAG

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- leveraging our expertise and passion;
- strategizing intelligent solutions; and,
- Creating meaningful impact.

Our team includes long-term insiders in education policy from Pre-K through higher education, innovative thinkers and savvy strategists that provide a comprehensive array of customized client services. We have the knowledge, skills, and relationships that are necessary for successful advocacy at all levels. From grassroots to grass tops and everything in between, our broad-based legislative practice approaches every project with the same degree of determination and professionalism. BPAG provides expertise in a variety of services:

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- Research and Analysis
- Advocacy Training
- Association Management
- Strategic Communications
- Policy Events

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