



The Consortium of State School Boards Associations

Weekly Education Report

LAST WEEK IN WASHINGTON

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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. **News, Publications, & Updates on COSSBA Policy Priorities**
 - **Teacher-Principal Training and Recruitment**
 - **Educators Release Joint Statement on Teacher Shortage Solution:** On Wednesday, September 21, a number of professional organizations for teachers released a joint statement on sustainable systems for quality teaching.
2. **Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up**
 - **Impact on State School Board Associations**
3. **In Brief – Last Week in Washington**
 - **Aspen Institute Examines Education Framework for the Future:** On Monday, September 19, the Aspen Institute Education and Society Program held an event titled, “Opportunity to Learn, Responsibility to Lead: A Bipartisan Public Education Framework for the Future.”
 - **Ed and Labor Committee Examines Social and Emotional Learning:** On Tuesday, September 20, the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing on “Meeting Students’ Academic, Social, and Emotional Needs.”
4. **New Publications**

- **Principal Learning Opportunities and School Outcomes: Evidence from California**
Learning Policy Institute (September, 2022)
A growing body of research points to the substantial influence of principals on school conditions and students' learning. But how can principals learn to be good leaders? And are there professional learning strategies that make a difference in principal effectiveness? This study, which is part of a larger project synthesizing the research on principal learning, provides some new insight into these questions.

5. **In the News**

- **National Conservative Groups Pour Money into Local School Board Races**
Politico (September 19, 2022)
- **Crusading for Parental Rights May Cloak Other Motives**
The Washington Post (September 19, 2022)
- **With Over 210K Comments Submitted, What Did The Public Say About Proposed Title IX Changes?**
K-12 Dive (September 19, 2022)
- **How to Spend \$1 Billion in School Safety Funds: Here's What the Feds Recommend**
Education Week (September 20, 2022)
- **We Need More Money to Prevent Cyberattacks, School Districts Tell Feds**
Education Week (September 21, 2022)
- **Judge Dismisses Lawsuit Over DOJ Memo on School Board Threats**
CNN (September 24, 2022)

6. **Weekly Calendar - What's coming up this week?**

- **Webinar: Improving Child Tax Credit**
Monday, September 26
The Bipartisan Policy Center will hold a virtual discussion on "Solutions to Improve Take-Up and Administration of the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit."
- **Webinar: The Role of Teacher Diversity in Decriminalizing Latina Students**
Tuesday, September 27
The Hunt Institute will hold a webinar on how recruiting and supporting Latinx teachers can help mitigate the criminalization of Latina students and close discipline gaps.
- **Webinar: Catalyzing Climate Action in K-12 Schools**
Wednesday, September 28
The Environmental and Energy Study Institute will hold a virtual discussion on "Back to School: Catalyzing Climate Action in K-12 Schools."
- **Agency Meeting: NSF STEM Education Advisory Panel**
Thursday, September 29
The National Science Foundation will hold a virtual meeting of the STEM Education Advisory Panel to discuss the Equitable Data Working Group
- **Webinar: Collective Impact: Reengaging Students Through Cross-Sector Collaboration**
Thursday, September 29

The Hunt Institute and Learn4Life for a conversation surrounding the unique role that collective impact can play in improving student outcomes.

7. **On The Floor of Congress This Week**

- **H.R.6833**, the legislative vehicle for the CR
- **H.R. 7780** – Mental Health Matters Act
- **H.R. 3843** – Merger Filing Fee Modernization Act of 2022
- **S. 3969** – Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA) Program Inclusion Act
- **Possible Consideration of Legislation Making Further Appropriations for FY23**
- **Possible Consideration of Legislation Related to the STOCK Act**

8. **Bills to Watch**

- **H.R. 7309**: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2022

9. **Important U.S. House and Senate Links**

10. **About BPAG**

1. **COSSBA Policy Priorities**

TEACHER-PRINCIPAL TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT

EDUCATORS RELEASE JOINT STATEMENT ON TEACHER SHORTAGE SOLUTION

On Wednesday, September 21, a number of professional organizations for teachers **released** a joint statement on sustainable systems for quality teaching. The signatories include the: American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL); American Association of Physics Teachers; Association for Career and Technical Education; Association for Multicultural Science Education; International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA); National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT); National Council for the Social Studies; National Council of Teachers of English; National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; National Middle Level Science Teachers Association; National Science Teaching Association; and the Society for College Science Teaching. The statement details solutions for the national teacher shortage crisis and argues that short-term solutions will not correct the systemic issues that existed prior to the pandemic; that “filling classrooms with under qualified individuals” is not the answer. “Instead, we must create a sustainable system that prepares, retains, and supports teachers through accessible, high-quality teacher preparation, competitive compensation, ample resources, and ongoing professional learning and mentoring opportunities,” the statement explains. It continues, “These commitments demonstrate that educators are professionals and are critical to our social infrastructure and progress as a nation. Their positive impact on their students helps to ensure that we have a vibrant society and skilled workforce in the future.”

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2. **Budget and Appropriations Wrap-Up**

The end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 is less than a week away, and Congress has not yet approved a continuing resolution (CR) to keep the federal government operating in FY 2023. Democrats and

Republicans continue to negotiate the terms of a CR, likely to extend government funding for at least two months.

Senate Democratic leaders hope to vote on a bill this week that would support federal operations through December 16th, with a House vote to follow. Outstanding issues include emergency funding for COVID, Ukraine and natural disasters; whether to include policy proposals, such as Senator Joe Manchin's (D-WV) permitting proposals and renewal of free school lunch waivers; and, how long the temporary funding bill will last. To the duration of the CR, Democrats, want a bill that funds the government through December 16th to give Congress time to finalize an omnibus spending package before the end of the calendar year. Republicans would prefer a bill that goes into 2023, so that if either chamber ends up with a Republican majority after the elections, they will have more influence on the final spending package. Of course, the education advocacy community continues to press for increased funding levels as outlined in the House's FY 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education spending bill, versus the smaller increases proposed by Senate appropriators.

Republicans are optimistic about their chances for taking control of the House in the next Congress, and last week Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) and his colleagues unveiled their "Commitment to America" outlining priorities for a Republican-led House. The proposal includes a pledge to "Make sure every student can succeed and give parents a choice." The pledge's tenets include advancing the "Parents' Bill of Rights," recovering "lost learning" from school closures, expanding parental choice options, and ensuring "only women can compete in women's sports." The details on these tenets are scant, but Republican candidates are being encouraged to use them and the larger plan on the campaign trail.

While there doesn't seem to be any appetite for high-drama around the end of the fiscal year and passing a spending bill to prevent a federal government shutdown, an election year means that high-drama can appear without much notice. Advocates will be watching lawmakers closely next week.

How does this impact State School Board Associations?

The 2023 appropriations process, including the eventual CR, will ultimately determine how much money is allocated for the Department of Education and the programs that provide critical support at the district and school level. If a CR is passed through mid-December, the Department of Education will be funded at 2022 levels until 2023 spending bills are passed. Additionally, there are discussions that a renewal of free school lunch waivers might be included in the CR, as mentioned above. If there were a short term shut down of only a few days, because money for education is mostly forward funding, there would likely be little to impact on public schools.

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3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington

ASPEN INSTITUTE EXAMINES EDUCATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE

On Monday, September 19th, the Aspen Institute Education and Society Program held an event titled, "Opportunity to Learn, Responsibility to Lead: A Bipartisan Public Education Framework for the Future." The event featured Linda Darling-Hammond, president of the California State Board of Education; Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner of Education for Rhode Island; and

Iowa State Senator Amy Sinclair (R-14), majority whip and Senate Education Committee Chair. The panel came together to discuss new bipartisan “Opportunity to Learn” (OTL) Principles for state leadership in education, which were developed by a group of state policymakers and education officials based on their visions, values, and the examination of research evidence on opportunities for students in public schools. The Principles cover essential elements of the student experience, the learning conditions schools are responsible for, and the unique role of state leadership. Darling-Hammond opened the event by introducing the OTL Principles and gave commentary on how the California State Board of Education is implementing them. Darling-Hammond spoke on the importance of a holistic approach to childhood education and stressed the significance of networking public schools with private educational providers to ensure that students have every tool to succeed available to them. Infante-Green gave insight to Rhode Island’s metrics and how the state has used the OTL principles to conduct annual surveys concerning the climate of schools across the state. Infante-Green explained that they use this data to provide aid to districts for infrastructure, while also prioritizing students' needs. Sinclair expressed that “students have the right, the constitutional right, to become civically engaged and prepared students,” and the means to achieve this in a healthy and safe environment. Sinclair highlighted that Iowa state government is responsible for setting up a framework of success for students so that they are supplied with the same opportunities wherever they receive their education. The panel also explored inquiries regarding ways in which school personnel can adopt OTL principles; how states will be held accountable; and what the policy implications are at the federal level. An archived recording of the webinar can be found [here](#).

ED AND LABOR COMMITTEE EXAMINES SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

On Tuesday, September 20, the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing on “Meeting Students’ Academic, Social, and Emotional Needs.” Witnesses included Phyllis Jordan, associate director of FutureEd; Dr. Aaliyah Samuel, President and CEO of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL); Dr. Penny Schwinn, Commissioner of Education for the Tennessee Department of Education; and Dr. Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education for the Nebraska Department of Education. The panel shared state and district specific data on how their communities and schools are addressing student learning loss as a result of the pandemic, and several provided substantive details on how their states and districts are using Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief (ESSER) and American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. Committee members on both sides of the aisle underscored the pandemic’s impact on children, families, and communities and agreed that while the initial shift to online learning saved lives, not being in the classroom hindered students’ social and emotional development and disrupted their academic experience. Despite this bipartisan sentiment, Republican members iterated their concern that states and school districts are not spending their federal dollars responsibly and expressed an apprehension that Social Emotional Learning programs are overshadowing more traditional academic subjects like math and reading. An archived recording of the hearing can be found [here](#).

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4. New Publications

Principal Learning Opportunities and School Outcomes: Evidence from California

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A growing body of research points to the substantial influence of principals on school conditions and students' learning. But how can principals learn to be good leaders? And are there professional learning strategies that make a difference in principal effectiveness? This study, which is part of a larger project synthesizing the research on principal learning, provides some new insight into these questions.

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Judge Dismisses Lawsuit Over DOJ Memo on School Board Threats

CNN (September 24, 2022)

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THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

6. Weekly Calendar

Key: E&S – Elementary & Secondary; H – Higher Education; D – Disability Policy

Monday, September 26, 2022

Webinar: Improving Child Tax Credit (E&S)

Subject: The Bipartisan Policy Center will hold a virtual discussion on "Solutions to Improve Take-Up and Administration of the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit."

Participants: John Koskinen, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; Andy Phillips, director, H&R Block's Tax Institute; Rebecca Thompson, vice president of strategic partnerships and network building, Prosperity Now; Gabriela Lastres, senior policy adviser, Harris County, Texas Office of County Judge Lina Hidalgo; and Isabel Dickson, economic mobility specialist, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Time/Location: 2:00 PM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

Webinar: The Role of Teacher Diversity in Decriminalizing Latina Students (E&S)

Subject: The Hunt Institute will hold a webinar on how recruiting and supporting Latinx teachers can help mitigate the criminalization of Latina students and close discipline gaps.

Participants: Dr. Feliza Ortiz-Licon, chief policy & advocacy officer, Latinos for Education; Marisol Quevedo Rerucha, author, *Beyond the Surface of Restorative Practices*; and Bayliss Fiddiman, director of educational equity & senior counsel, National Women's Law Center.

Time/Location: 2:00 PM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Webinar: Catalyzing Climate Action in K-12 Schools (E&S)

Subject: The Environmental and Energy Study Institute will hold a virtual discussion on "Back to School: Catalyzing Climate Action in K-12 Schools."

Participants: Joanna Pi-Sunyer, sustainability analyst, Baltimore City Public Schools; Sue Gander, director, World Resources Institute's Electric School Bus Initiative; Laura Schifter, senior fellow, Aspen Institute; Rep. Chellie Pingree, (D-ME); and Peter Pearson, senior director of food loss and waste, World Wildlife Fund.

Time/Location: 3:00 PM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

Thursday, September 29, 2022

Agency Meeting: National Science Foundation STEM Education Advisory Panel (E&S, H)

Time/Location: 10:00 AM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

Webinar: Collective Impact: Reengaging Students Through Cross-Sector Collaboration (E&S)

Subject: Join the Hunt Institute and Learn4Life for a conversation surrounding the unique role that collective impact can play in improving student outcomes.

Participants: Dr. Kenneth Zeff, executive director, Learn4Life; Tricia McManus, superintendent, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools; and Ashley Phillipsen, deputy director, IMPACTTULSA.

Time/Location: 2:00 PM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

Friday, September 30, 2022

None.

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7. On The Floor of Congress This Week

Senate Floor:

H.R.6833, the legislative vehicle for the CR

House Floor:

H.R. 7780 – Mental Health Matters Act

H.R. 3843 – Merger Filing Fee Modernization Act of 2022

S. 3969 – PAVA Program Inclusion Act

Possible Consideration of Legislation Making Further Appropriations for FY23

Possible Consideration of Legislation Related to the STOCK Act

8. Bills to Watch

Authorization Bills

H.R. 7309 *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2022*

Sponsor: Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA)

(5/17/22 Passed by House; 4/5/22 Passed by House Ed and Labor Committee;

3/31/22 Introduced in House)

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

U.S. House and Senate 2022 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

Bose Public Affairs Group is a full-service government affairs and public relations consulting firm that has built a reputation for producing results. We partner with clients committed to excellence in education and other social services to achieve policy and advocacy success by:

- 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:

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

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