



## The COSSBA 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**

#### • **Broadband Connectivity and E-Rate**

**2022 Student Connectivity Study:** *The Consortium for School Networking*

In a previous study, the Consortium for School Networking examined the network connectivity experience of students who participated in virtual learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that many students have gone back to their school locations, this study looks at how things have changed.

#### • **IDEA**

##### **What New Special Education Directors Need to Know about Academic**

**Assessments:** *The National Center on Education Outcomes*

State special education directors have an important role to play in ensuring that students with disabilities are provided accessible assessments, and that appropriate decisions are made about the participation of students with disabilities in these assessments. This toolkit will help to provide special education directors with easy access to information that will help ensure the participation of students with disabilities in assessments.

#### • **Teacher-Principal Training and Recruitment**

**New America Foundation examines educator apprenticeship for youth and adults:**

On Wednesday, July 13, New America's Center on Education and Labor held a webinar titled, "Educator Apprenticeship for Youth and Adults." The event examined apprenticeship programs as a solution for states and school districts grappling with teacher shortages and the need to diversify the teaching profession.

### 2. **Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up**

#### • **Impact on State School Board Associations**

### 3. **In Brief – Last Week in Washington**

- **ED to grant \$68M to support students, full-service community schools:** On Tuesday, July 12, the Department of Education (ED) announced that it is requesting applications for the Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) grant program that provides academic support and

strengthens connections among schools, parents and families, and their surrounding communities.

- **ED launches Engage Every Student Initiative:** On Thursday, July 14, the Department of Education (ED) held an event to launch the Engage Every Student Initiative, which will ensure every child, has a spot in a high quality afterschool program. The event featured Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and other out-of-school-time stakeholders.

#### 4. New Publications

- **K-12 Education: Student Population Has Significantly Diversified, But Many Schools Remain Along Racial, Ethnic, and Economic Lines:** *Government Accountability Office*  
In this report, the Government Accountability Office examines the prevalence and growth of segregation in K-12 public schools by examining the extent of (1) racial, ethnic, and economic divisions in K-12 public schools, and (2) district secession – a process by which schools sever governance ties from an existing district to form a new district – and any resulting student demographic shifts.

#### 5. In the News

- **Judge blocks West Virginia school voucher law:** *Associated Press*
- **Moms for Liberty’s conservative activists are planning their next move: Taking over school boards:** *NBC News*
- **National 988 crisis hotline readied for rollout:** *Roll Call*
- **Teacher shortage is currently ‘the worst I’ve ever seen,’ union president says:** *yahoo!finance*
- **Statement from Education Secretary Miguel Cardona on the Bipartisan Safe Communities Act:** *U.S. Department of Education*

#### 6. Weekly Calendar - What’s coming up this week?

- **Hearing:** House Budget Committee on Early Childhood investments (July 20)
- **Webinar:** Research Priorities for Advancing Equitable Dual enrollment Policy and Practice (July 20)
- **Hearing:** Joint Economic Committee on Cost of Gun Violence (July 20)
- **Webinar:** Homeroom with Education Leaders: Why Educators Are Leaving and How to Stem the Tide (July 21)
- **Webinar:** Effectively Using Data for Continuous Improvement in Community Schools (July 21)

#### 7. Future Hearings & Events

#### 8. On The Floor of Congress This Week

- **H.R. 8294:** Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, Agriculture, Rural Development, Energy and Water Development, Financial Services and General Government, Interior, Environment, Military Construction, and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2023
- **H.R. 8373:** Right to Contraception Act

#### 9. Bills to Watch

- **H.R. 7309:** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2022
- **H.R.4521:** America COMPETES Act of 2022
- **S.1260:** United States Innovation and Competition Act of 2021
- **H.R.5376:** Build Back Better Act

#### 10. Important U.S. House and Senate Links

#### 11. About BPAG

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## **1. COSSBA Policy Priorities**

### **BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY AND E-RATE**

#### **2022 Student Connectivity Study**

*The Consortium for School Networking (July, 2022)*

In a previous study, the Consortium for School Networking examined the network connectivity experience of students who participated in virtual learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that many students have gone back to their school locations, this study looks at how things have changed.

### **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)**

#### **What New Special Education Directors Need to Know about Academic Assessments**

*National Center on Education Outcomes (July 2022)*

State special education directors have an important role to play in ensuring that students with disabilities are provided accessible assessments, and that appropriate decisions are made about the participation of students with disabilities in these assessments. This toolkit will help to provide special education directors with easy access to information that will help ensure the participation of students with disabilities in assessments.

### **TEACHER-PRINCIPAL TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT**

#### **NEW AMERICA FOUNDATION EXAMINES EDUCATOR APPRENTICESHIP FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS**

On Wednesday, July 13, New America's Center on Education and Labor held a webinar titled, "Educator Apprenticeship for Youth and Adults." The event examined apprenticeship programs as a solution for states and school districts grappling with teacher shortages and the need to diversify the teaching profession. The event featured Taylor White, director of the Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship and senior advisor for k-12 and workforce policy at New America; Sean Impeartrice, chief academic officer for the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System; Meaghan Sullivan, executive director of CareerWise Colorado; and Amaya Garcia, deputy director of preK-12 at New America. White highlighted the five components of an apprenticeship, which include full-time jobs; on-the-job learning in a work setting; job-related classroom training; mentor guided learning; and industry-recognized credentials. Garcia examined Grow Your Own (GYO) programs, underscoring program partnerships between school districts, educator preparation programs, and community based programs in order to encourage local students to become educators at schools they attended in the communities where they grew up. Garcia explained that GYO programs leverage the assets of local individuals in the community, which eases training due to district familiarity. Garcia also noted that GYO programs can address teacher and geographic shortages, as well as diversify the teacher population to better match student demographics. Impeartrice followed Garcia, emphasizing the diversity fostered through GYO programs. He touted the Fresno Unified School District for creating a teacher pipeline pathway. Impeartrice referenced wrap-around supports as a driver for successful GYO programs. Lastly, Sullivan examined the CareerWise youth apprenticeship programs in Colorado, which strives for two goals: Diversify the program's career options and change the stigma around apprenticeships. Sullivan additionally examined educator pathways and "employer led efforts," which provide educators with apprentices that

have the opportunity to obtain their Bachelor's degree while working for the school district. You can find an archived recording of the event [here](#).

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

Both the House and Senate returned to Washington, DC last week and quickly set the rumor mill buzzing about what might be happening on several legislative fronts of interest to the education advocacy community. Regarding the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 appropriations, the House is planning to vote on its first package of bills this week. A six-bill package, often referred to as a “mini-bus,” will reportedly include the Agriculture, Energy and Water, Financial Services, Interior, Military Construction-Veterans Affairs and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) spending plans. House Appropriations Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) has said publicly that she would like to pass all 12 FY 2023 spending bills before Congress recesses for August.

Before the July 4th recess, the House Appropriations Committee approved all of the FY 2023 funding bills. However, bipartisan, bicameral negotiations on topline total spending numbers for the appropriations bills have stalled. Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT), who has been recovering from hip replacement surgery, is reportedly planning to skip having individual subcommittees mark up each bill and will simply release Senate proposals by the end of this month. In addition to disagreements on topline numbers and the relative allocations of funding to defense and non-defense spending, there is partisan disagreement over policy priorities that are in some of the House bills, including closing Guantanamo Bay and attempts to preserve abortion access.

Education advocates continue to hope that a final Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill will include the increases in Department of Education spending approved by the House Appropriations Committee. It seems unlikely those levels will be in a final bill. And enactment of a final bill will almost certainly not come until after the November elections. And maybe not until 2023.

A slimmer reconciliation package was being negotiated this week by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV). As you'll recall, reconciliation is a budget procedure that allows the majority party in the Senate to pass legislation impacting the federal budget with a simple 51 vote majority instead of the 60 votes usually needed to pass legislation. Details of the new reconciliation proposal change by the hour, and last week's report on record-breaking inflation affected Senator Manchin's support for certain elements. By Friday, it appeared that the West Virginia lawmaker would only support lowering prescription drug prices and extending Affordable Care Act subsidies. As inflation continues to remain high, the package's ultimate fate remains unclear.

Lastly, the many different interests and advocates who have been watching negotiations on the America COMPETES Act, important legislation on manufacturing and workforce development, heard what some might consider disappointing news by week's end. After months of talks on thousands of provisions, Senate leaders—with backing from the Biden Administration—were crafting a bill that focuses on the needs of the semi-conductor and micro-chip industry and

spends \$52 billion to alleviate its woes. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo has been making the rounds in Congress to build support for this approach. There are some indications that lawmakers might return to other provisions in the fall, but Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (STEM) education advocates and others are concerned that removing the relief for private industry from the overall negotiations also removes any urgency for passing a would-be second bill that would include education provisions.

According to the Congressional calendar, the House will be in session for two more weeks before leaving for the August recess. Their Senate colleagues have three more weeks of work. Those weeks will be busy ones.

### **How does this impact State School Board Associations?**

Decisions on overall spending levels and the final process for the FY 2023 appropriation's bills 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. The ongoing negotiations for the America COMPETES Act could also imperil billions of dollars that will be invested in STEM education programs.

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### **3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington**

#### **ED TO GRANT \$68M TO SUPPORT STUDENTS, FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

On Tuesday, July 12, the Department of Education (ED) announced that it is requesting applications for the Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) grant program that provides academic support and strengthens connections among schools, parents and families, and their surrounding communities. These grants align with the Biden Administration's work to scale evidence-based approaches to support students' academic, social, emotional, and physical well-being. The program will award \$68 million to support community schools across the country. Through this commitment, ED will help spur the planning and capacity-building, development, implementation, operation, and coordination of effective services for children and families, particularly in urban and rural areas with high rates of poverty. FSCS requires grantees to provide a continuum of coordinated supports to students that include social, health, nutrition, and mental health services and supports. "These grants will help community schools provide quality wraparound services to students and their families, from access to health care and nutritional assistance, to tutoring and enrichment opportunities, to mental health supports and violence prevention programs," said Secretary Miguel Cardona. Read the full press release [here](#). Learn more about the Full-Service Community Schools Program [here](#).

#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LAUNCHES ENGAGE EVERY STUDENT INITIATIVE**

On Thursday, July 14, the Department of Education (ED) held an event to launch the Engage Every Student Initiative, which will ensure every child has a spot in a high quality afterschool program. The event featured Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona, who was joined by the Afterschool Alliance, the School Superintendents Association (AASA), the National League of Cities, the National Summer Learning Association, and the National Comprehensive Center at Westat. Cardona underscored the importance of out-of-school time programs for children significantly affected by the pandemic. "Right now, for every child enrolled in a program, three more are left out of these opportunities, which is the exact issue that the Engage Every Student

Initiative seeks to address,” Cardona said. The launch event also featured statements from Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Senator Tina Smith (D-MN). Both members of Congress spoke to the importance of afterschool programs. They highlighted funds made available through the American Rescue Plan and additional funding from ED made available to out-of-school programs. The event also highlighted two panels featuring Robert Blaine, director of NLC’s Institute of Youth, Education, and Families; Gladys Cruz, AASA President Elect; Eric Billet, an expanded learning specialist at the Minnesota Department of Education; Laveta Wills-Hale, network coordinator at the Arkansas State Afterschool Network; Suzette Harvey, president and CEO of Primetime in Palm Beach County; Angela Henry, director of SAFE BASE; Matt Hathaway, founder of Teachers in the Park; and Angeles Mejia, a current high school senior who participated in the HANDY afterschool program. Blaine touted the role city Mayors play in leading afterschool program initiatives, building networks across cities, and targeting communities that have historically been left out of high-quality programs. Cruz voiced that learning should be aligned with the workforce and highlighted the paid youth apprenticeship program she developed in her community. Billet emphasized youth engagement and Wills-Hale urged afterschool network stakeholders to take advantage of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. Mejia, a high school Senior, applauded the HANDY afterschool program in Broward County, Florida, for its positive and personalized environment, while Harvey and Henry discussed in detail the opportunities that quality afterschool programs can provide for children and young adults. Hathaway emphasized an educator’s role in out-of-school time initiatives and highlighted the need for robust resources so teachers can amplify educational outcomes.

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#### **4. New Publications**

##### **K-12 Education: Student Population Has Significantly Diversified, But Many Schools Remain Along Racial, Ethnic, and Economic Lines**

*Government Accountability Office (July, 2022)*

In this report, the Government Accountability Office examines the prevalence and growth of segregation in K-12 public schools by examining the extent of (1) racial, ethnic, and economic divisions in K-12 public schools, and (2) district secession – a process by which schools sever governance ties from an existing district to form a new district – and any resulting student demographic shifts.

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#### **5. In the News**

##### **Judge blocks West Virginia school voucher law**

*Associated Press News (July 6, 2022)*

##### **Moms for Liberty’s conservative activists are planning their next move: Taking over school boards**

*NBC News (July 17, 2022)*

##### **National 988 crisis hotline readied for rollout**

*Roll Call (July 14, 2022)*



Teacher shortage is currently ‘the worst I’ve ever seen,’ union president says  
*yahoo!finance* (July 17, 2022)

Statement from Education Secretary Miguel Cardona on the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act

U.S. Department of Education (July 11, 2022)

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## THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

### 6. Weekly Calendar

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

#### Monday, July 18, 2022

None.

#### Tuesday, July 19, 2022

None.

#### Wednesday, July 20, 2022

##### **Hearing: House Budget Committee on Early Childhood Investments (E&S)**

**Subject:** The House Budget Committee will hold a hearing on "Examining the Powerful Impact of Investments in Early Childhood for Children, Families, and Our Nation's Economy."

**Witnesses:** Maureen Black, fellow in early childhood development, RTI International; Rasheed Malik, director of early childhood policy, Center for American Progress; and Hilary Hoynes, professor of economics and public policy and chair in economic disparities, University of California Berkeley.

**Time:** 10:30 a.m.

**Contact:** Live stream available [here](#).

##### **Webinar: Research Priorities for Advancing Equitable Dual Enrollment Policy and Practice (E&S, H)**

**Subject:** The College in High School Alliance will host a webinar to examine research priorities for advancing equitable dual enrollment.

**Participants:** Jason Taylor, associate professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, University of Utah; Mike Beam, assistant vice president for school partnerships, Advance College Project, Indiana University; Xiaodan Hu, assistant professor, Department of Counseling and Higher Education, Northern Illinois University; Julie Edmunds, program director for secondary school reform, SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro; John Fink, senior research associate, Community College Research Center, Columbia University; and Joel Vargas, vice president of programs, JFF.

**Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**Contact:** Register [here](#).

##### **Hearing: Joint Economic Committee on Cost of Gun Violence (E&S, H)**

**Subject:** The Joint Economic Committee will hold a hearing on "The Cost of Gun Violence."

**Witnesses:** Sarah Burd-Sharps, senior director for research, Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund; Ryan Busse, author of "Gunfight: My Battle Against the Industry that Radicalized America" and former firearms industry executive and senior adviser, Giffords; Chethan Sathya, pediatric general and thoracic surgeon, Cohen Children's Medical Center, director, Northwell Health Center for Gun Violence Prevention; and Amy Swearer, legal fellow, Heritage Foundation.

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Contact:** Live stream available [here](#).

### **Thursday, July 21, 2022**

#### **Webinar: Homeroom with Education Leaders: Why Educators Are Leaving and How to Stem the Tide (E&S)**

**Subject:** The Hunt Institute will host a webinar on "Homeroom with Education Leaders--Why Educators Are Leaving and How to Stem the Tide."

**Participants:** Harrison Peters, CEO, Men of Color in Educational Leadership; Donald E. Fennoy II, former superintendent, Palm Beach County School District; Jonathan Song, former special education teacher, Los Angeles Unified School District; and Margie Vandeven, commissioner of elementary and secondary education, Missouri Department of Education.

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Register [here](#).

#### **Webinar: Effectively Using Data for Continuous Improvement in Community Schools (E&S)**

**Subject:** The U.S. Department of Education, the Coalition for Community Schools and Children's Aid National Center for Community Schools will host a webinar on "Effectively Using Data for Continuous Improvement in Community Schools."

**Time:** 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Register [here](#).

### **Friday, July 22, 2022**

None.

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## **7. Future Hearings and Events**

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## **8. On The Floor of Congress This Week**

### **Senate Floor:**

Consideration of nominations

### **House Floor:**

[H.R. 8294](#) – Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, Agriculture, Rural Development, Energy and Water Development, Financial Services and General Government, Interior, Environment, Military Construction, and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2023



## H.R. 8373 – Right to Contraception Act

### 9. 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)

H.R.4521     *America COMPETES Act of 2022*  
Sponsor: Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)  
(2/4/22 Passed by House; 7/19/21 Introduced in House)

S.1260     *United States Innovation and Competition Act of 2021*  
Sponsor: Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY)  
(6/8/21 Passed by Senate; 4/20/21 Introduced in Senate)

H.R.5376     *Build Back Better Act*  
Sponsor: Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY)  
(11/22/21 passed by the House; 9/27/21 Introduced in House)

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### 10. 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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#### 11. 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:

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

- Policy Events

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