

ANNUAL REPORT

2020



**EDUCATION
COMMISSION**
OF THE STATES

RESEARCH

The four pillars of our work are Research, Report, Counsel, and Convene. The **RESEARCH** pillar is our **foundation** and encompasses our **legislative tracking** of state education policies, from early learning through workforce development.

State Education Policy Tracking

Tracking state education policy across all 50 states and the District of Columbia is the crux of what we do at Education Commission of the States. We summarize education legislation for easier understanding, allowing us to spot trends and provide state leaders with relevant context around pressing education issues. We have summaries of enacted and vetoed legislation, dating back to the early 1990s and spanning the entire education spectrum — from early learning through workforce development — on our website.

Our one-of-a-kind, interactive [State Education Policy Tracking](#) tool, launched in 2017, allows users to search enacted and vetoed legislation across more than **45 education issues** and **278 sub-issues**. Search results can be filtered by state and or issue and sub-issue, or by keywords found in the bill titles. In 2020, our staff **summarized more than 900 bills** for this resource. The State Education Policy Tracking tool received **more than 19,700 pageviews** in 2020. In addition, our [archive](#) contains summaries of enacted and vetoed legislation dating back to 1996.

In addition to this resource, we also create a [State Education Policy Watch List](#), which captures pending, enacted and vetoed bills pertaining to trending topics in 2020. (This list changes from year to year.) For this resource, we **tracked nearly 3,700 bills** from introduction related to career and technical education, COVID-19, financial aid, high school, postsecondary affordability and finance, postsecondary campus safety, postsecondary workforce development, school safety and teaching. The State Education Policy Watch List resource received **more than 11,800 pageviews** in 2020.

Tracking state legislation in this way informs many of the services and products we provide to state leaders across the country. Three of those most valued products are 50-State Comparisons, State Information Requests and Policy Snapshots.

50-State Comparisons

These resources, often the most visited on our website, provide a comprehensive look at how all 50 states and the District of Columbia approach or address a specific education issue in law or statute. They allow policymakers to compare their states' laws against other states on topics such as teacher license reciprocity, open enrollment, statewide admissions, K-12 governance structures and many others. In 2020, we reached a new milestone when we added our 50th 50-State Comparison.

Of note is the addition of the Early Care and Education Governance 50-State Comparison, which completes our governance resources from early learning through postsecondary.

In 2020, we compiled **5 new 50-State Comparisons** and **updated 13 existing ones**:

- [529 Education Savings Plans](#)
- [Charter School Policies](#)
- [Early Care and Education Governance](#)
- [Education and Workforce Development Connections](#)
- [English Learner Policies](#)
- [Free and Compulsory School Age Requirements](#)
- [Instructional Time Policies](#)
- [K-12 Governance](#)
- [K-12 High School Feedback Reports](#)
- [Teacher License Reciprocity](#)
- [Postsecondary Education Funding](#)
- [Secondary Career and Technical Education](#)
- [State Financial Aid Barriers for Students Impacted by the Justice System](#)
- [State K-3 Policies](#)
- [State Policies on Postsecondary Tuition Setting, Capping and Freezing](#)
- [State Postsecondary Governance Structures](#)
- [Teacher Employment Contract Policies](#)
- [Transfer and Articulation Policies](#)

State Information Requests

One of the most unique and valued ways we assist state education leaders is by responding to their requests for information, typically within 48 hours, on pressing education needs or topics in their states

In 2020, our policy staff completed nearly **535 personalized responses** to State Information Requests from education leaders and legislative staffers from across the country. These requests came from every state and the District of Columbia, and the top categories include:

- **Early learning.**
- **Curriculum.**
- **Health.**
- **High school, including graduation requirements and dual enrollment.**
- **K-12 accountability.**
- **K-12 finance.**
- **Online learning.**
- **Postsecondary finance.**
- **School choice.**
- **Teaching issues.**

Policy Snapshots

These reports capture recent state legislative activity on a given education policy issue and include examples of legislation — usually enacted, but sometimes failed or pending, if there are lessons to be drawn from those. They also outline the importance of the policy issue and why it is currently trending in states. Policy Snapshots pertain to a specified time period, generally the last legislative session, unless otherwise noted.

In 2020, we compiled **three Policy Snapshots**:

- [Dual Enrollment Access](#)
- [School and District Leadership](#)
- [State Workforce Development Policies](#)

REPORT

The four pillars of our work are Research, Report, Counsel, and Convene. The **REPORT** pillar builds on our research work by highlighting trends, identifying legislative examples, and providing important context for the education policy decisions leaders are making in their states.

COVID-19 Pandemic

The global COVID-19 pandemic interrupted the learning environment in unprecedented ways, presenting new challenges for policymakers to support education delivery and exacerbating longtime gaps in services and supports. To support policymakers during constantly changing circumstances, we created [a webpage](#) to house up-to-date information on state guidance and directives. During the beginning of the pandemic, we updated it weekly to stay abreast of developing trends and information. The page also includes additional resources policymakers can consult to make informed decisions for their states. In 2020, this page far surpassed the traffic we've received on any other resource on our website in its history; it exceeded 100,000 pageviews. We will continue to update it in 2021.

Governors' State of the State Addresses

Each year, we follow governors' State of the State Addresses and summarize any education-related policy proposals or mentions in [an online resource](#). Based on this tracking, we are able to identify top trends among governors' priorities, as outlined in their addresses, which we compile in [a report](#). We updated this resource in 2020, and it is searchable by *year and state or year and issue*.

Election Tracking

Each year, we closely track statewide elections, including education-related ballot measures, for the effects they might have on education policy decisions in each state — particularly as it pertains to leadership positions. A new governor, for example, can have a cascading effect on state education policy if the governor is responsible for appointing state education chiefs or board members. We compile this information into an [interactive online resource](#).

Reports

2020 was a marquee year for us. We published **47 reports**, diving into the current legislative context on education issues spanning the spectrum from early childhood through workforce development.

POLICY OUTLINES

Policy Outlines are one-pagers and foundational reference guides for a specific topic.

📍 [State Financial Aid Barriers for Students Impacted by the Justice System](#)

- 📍 [Opportunities for STEAM Education Through ESSA and Perkins V](#)
- 📍 [Glossary of School Health Professionals](#)
- 📍 [Education Policy Approaches to Trauma-Informed Practices](#)
- 📍 [Trends in State Pre-K Policies](#)
- 📍 [Work-Based Learning](#)
- 📍 [Teacher Pipelines](#)
- 📍 [COVID-19 Series: Accountability and School Improvement](#)
- 📍 [COVID-19 Series: College Readiness](#)
- 📍 [COVID-19 Series: Professional Learning for Teachers and Leaders](#)
- 📍 [COVID-19 Series: Remote Learning](#)
- 📍 [COVID-19 Series: Funding Equity](#)
- 📍 [COVID-19 Series: Upskilling and Reskilling](#)
- 📍 [COVID-19 Series: State Task Forces and Advisory Groups](#)
- 📍 [Two-Generation Strategies to Improve Educational Attainment](#)

POLICY BRIEFS

Policy Briefs explore one facet of a larger education policy issue.

- 💡 [Principal Development as a Strategy in School Improvement](#)
- 💡 [Community College Bachelor's Degrees: An Update on State Activity and Policy Considerations](#)
- 💡 [Strengthening the Early Childhood Education Workforce](#)
- 💡 [Exploring New Research on Pre-K Outcomes](#)
- 💡 [Improving Early Childhood Education Systems](#)
- 💡 [Building a Diverse Teacher Workforce](#)
- 💡 [Prioritizing Equity in Dual Enrollment](#)
- 💡 [Policy Solutions That Foster Competency-Based Learning](#)
- 💡 [Modernizing Math Pathways to Support Student Transitions](#)
- 💡 [Expanding High-Quality Work-Based Learning](#)
- 💡 [Boosting FAFSA Completion to Increase Student Success](#)
- 💡 [Establishing a State-Level Postsecondary Advising Network](#)
- 💡 [Building a Better K-3 Literacy System](#)
- 💡 [Support for Students in Foster Care](#)
- 💡 [Expanding the Arts Across the Juvenile Justice System](#)
- 💡 [Supporting Successful Student Transitions Through State Financial Aid Reform](#)
- 💡 [Supporting the Class of 2021 Through Postsecondary Transition](#)
- 💡 [Broadband Access and the Digital Divides](#)

POLICY GUIDES

Policy Guides provide a comprehensive look at an education policy issue.

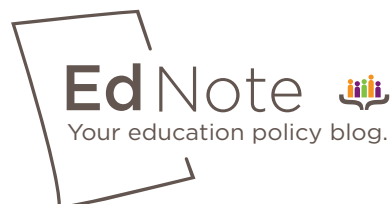
- 🔗 [Enhancing STEM in P-3 Education](#)
- 🔗 [A State Policymaker's Guide to Equitable Transitions in the COVID-19 Era](#)
- 🔗 [State Policies to Enhance Transitions Into Kindergarten](#)

SPECIAL REPORTS

These products vary and are typically a specialized format; they include reports that are done in collaboration with other organizations.

- ★ [Core Principles for Transforming Remediation Within a Comprehensive Student Success Strategy](#)
- ★ [ArtScan at a Glance](#)
- ★ [Governors' Top Education Priorities in 2020 State of the State Addresses](#)
- ★ [Engaging the Arts Across the Juvenile Justice System](#)
- ★ [The Arts Education Data Toolkit](#)
- ★ [Data Lessons and Resources for the Arts Education Field](#)
- ★ [From Data to Action: CA Applies Collective Impact Approach to Track Arts Education and Drive Improvement](#)
- ★ [Getting to 100 Percent: How NJ Used Data-Driven Strategies to Achieve Universal Access to Arts Education](#)
- ★ [Mapping the Arts: TX Uses Data to Spotlight Disparities and Drive Equal Access to Arts Education](#)
- ★ [The Arts in Charter Schools](#)
- ★ [Dance Counts](#)

Ed Note



In addition to our reports, we maintain our [Ed Note blog](#) for shorter, more responsive pieces that highlight current trends and innovative practices. We also feature authors from other organizations, in an effort to provide our readership with an array of expertise. In 2020, we published **93 posts**.

COUNSEL

The four pillars of our work are Research, Report, Counsel, and Convene. The **COUNSEL** pillar encompasses our assistance to states, including information dissemination, testimony, technical assistance, presentations and other face-to-face engagements with our experts.

Our state relations team, together with members of our policy staff, provides personalized state support, including technical assistance, testimony and presentations. In 2020, we provided counsel services to **all 50 states and the District of Columbia** through both in-person and virtual engagements.

State relations visits

These are opportunities to connect Commissioners (1) with Education Commission of the States staff and (2) with fellow Commissioners and policymakers in their states. State relations visits also foster conversations that help Education Commission of the States better identify pressing needs and trending issues for policymakers in education.

Technical assistance

This is a service we provide Commissioners, upon request, and it generally involves tailored support on a specific policy issue, development or implementation. It often involves more than one visit and includes followup support.

Testimony

The Education Commission of the States policy team is often requested to provide third-party expert testimony, based on its trusted research, at legislative committee hearings, taskforces and other venues.

Presentations

Similar to testimony, Education Commission of the States staff create and deliver tailored presentations that describe the current context or landscape — both within a state and nationally — of a specific policy issue.

Because the pandemic limited our ability to offer some of our traditional in-person services, we introduced two new ways to support the states this year: virtual information requests and education sessions.

Virtual information requests

These engagements offer a one-on-one opportunity to connect with our policy team and discuss a specific education policy question; these opportunities are helpful for our Commissioners who need clarity or have additional questions.

Education sessions

The Education Commission of the States policy team provide in-depth consultations on a particular education topic and generally include a formal presentation with opportunities for Q&A.

2020 State Engagements



*New service, as of September 2020.

CONVENE

The four pillars of our work are Research, Report, Counsel, and Convene. The **CONVENE** pillar encompasses our events, large and small, that prioritize bringing together policymakers from across states to learn from each other.

While the COVID-19 pandemic prohibited us from meeting in person for much of 2020, the implications and challenges for state education leaders in the last year necessitated connection and collaboration — perhaps more than ever. The convene team worked tirelessly to adapt much of our convenings for the virtual environment, in addition to offering new opportunities for state policymakers to connect with each other and with our policy team.

ECS LIVE!



ECS LIVE!

Your education policy connection.

This two-day virtual event included expert speakers, dynamic breakout sessions, live discussions and opportunities for Q&A, as state education leaders navigated the implications of the pandemic. We welcomed close to 900 registered attendees, representing all 50 states and two U.S. territories, far exceeding our registration projection.

Other Convenings

In 2020, we convened several small groups of education leaders from across the states to discuss and learn about specific education policies. These opportunities allow attendees to examine details and best practices, through sharing lessons and celebrations from each other's states.

A few highlights include:

- **Connecting Education to Work** in North Carolina with attendees from 10 states.
- **Strong Start to Finish Annual Convening** in Florida with attendees from 23 states.
- **Arts Education Partnership Annual Meeting** virtually convened 641 attendees from 50 states and two U.S. territories.
- **Legislative Education Staff Network Summer Series** virtually convened up to 70 attendees from 35 states for eight networking sessions over four weeks.
- **Juvenile Justice Thinkers Meeting** virtually convened attendees from 10 states.
- **Connecting Education to Work** virtually convened 24 attendees from seven states.
- **Executive Director Policy Forum** virtually convened 26 attendees from 17 states.
- **Strong Start to Finish Cross-Site Webinar** virtually convened 89 attendees from 14 states.
- **Governor's Education Policy Advisors Summit** virtually convened 58 attendees from 29 states.
- **State Policies to Enhance Transitions to Kindergarten** virtually convened 100 attendees from 35 states.
- **Strong Start Partner-Led Research on Developmental Education** virtually convened 76 attendees from 14 states.
- **Pre-School to Third Grade State Policy Academy** virtually convened 51 attendees from 8 states.
- **Post-Election Webinar** virtually convened 63 attendees from 22 states.
- **Arts Education Partnership Quarterly Partner Webinar** virtually convened 37 attendees from 14 states.
- **Strong Start to Finish Cross-Site Webinar** virtually convened 120 attendees from 13 states.
- **Early Learning STEM Policy Academy** virtually convened 42 attendees from 8 states.

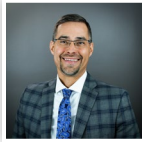
APPENDIX



- A | **Education Commission of the States Leadership Team**
- B | **Standing Committees**
- C | **Steering Committee and Commissioners**
- D | **Partners and Policy Support**
- E | **Budget and Financial Summary**
- F | **Best of 2020**

Appendix A

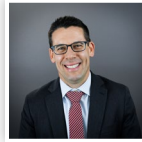
Education Commission of the States Leadership Team



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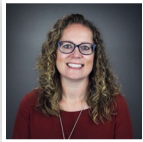
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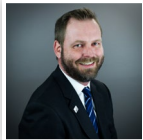
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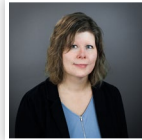
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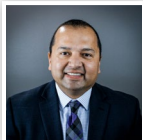
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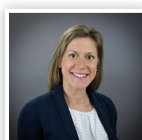
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Appendix B

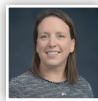
2020 Standing Committees

Executive Committee

CHAIR



Tom Wolf
Governor, Pennsylvania



Meg Snead
*Secretary of Policy and Planning,
Office of Gov. Tom Wolf, Pennsylvania*



Allison Jones
*Deputy Secretary of Policy and Planning,
Office of Gov. Tom Wolf, Pennsylvania*

VICE CHAIR



Wendy Horman
Representative, Idaho

MEMBERS



Katy Anthes
Commissioner of Education, Colorado



Stephanie Bell
*Member, State Board of Education,
Alabama*



Peter Blake
*Director, State Council of Higher
Education, Virginia*

TREASURER



Margie Vandeven
Commissioner of Education, Missouri

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR



Phil Bryant
Governor, Mississippi



Laurie Smith
*Executive Director State Workforce
Investment Board, Education Policy
Advisor, Office of Gov. Phil Bryant,
Mississippi*

ECS PRESIDENT



Jeremy Anderson
*President, Education Commission of
the States*



Ben Cannon
*Executive Director, Higher Education
Coordinating Commission, Oregon*



Shirley Weber
Assemblymember, California

Finance Committee

TREASURER and COMMITTEE CHAIR



Margie Vandeven
Commissioner of Education, Missouri

VICE CHAIR



Shirley Turner
Senator, New Jersey

MEMBERS



Bob Behning
Representative, Indiana



Tami Pyfer
Education Advisor, Office of Gov. Gary Herbert, Utah



Matthew Blomstedt
Commissioner of Education, Nebraska

National Forum Planning Committee

CHAIR



Wendy Horman
Representative, Idaho

VICE CHAIR



Nancy Norman
Education Consultant, Alaska

MEMBERS



Cara Harrison
Policy Advisor, Office of Gov. Gina Raimondo, Rhode Island



Don Schaible
Senator, North Dakota



Hanseul Kang
State Superintendent of Education, District of Columbia



Aaron Thompson
President, Council on Postsecondary Education, Kentucky



Jim McNiece
Member, State Board of Education, Kansas

Nominating Committee

CHAIR



Shirley Weber
Assemblymember, California

VICE CHAIR



Stephanie Bell
*Member, State Board of Education,
Alabama*

MEMBERS



Peter Blake
*Director, State Council of Higher
Education, Virginia*



Allison Roberts
*Senior Education Advisor, Office of
Gov. Asa Hutchinson, Arkansas*



Linda Fandel
*Special Assistant for Education, Office
of Governor Kim Reynolds, Iowa*



Chuck Wiger
Senator, Minnesota

Appendix C

2020 Steering Committee and Commissioners

The Steering Committee is the primary policy-setting body of Education Commission of the States. Specifically, the Steering Committee adopts and approves statements and communications to implement, effectuate and share our work; considers policy recommendations from any person, committee or other body; discusses and debates education issues in order to provide major programmatic direction; recommends bylaw changes; and approves our strategic plan, annual budget and annual report.

Commissioners by state as of December 31, 2020. Steering Committee members are listed in **bold**.

ALABAMA

- **Stephanie Bell**, Alabama State Board of Education
 - Kay Ivey, Governor, State of Alabama
 - Governor's Proxy: Nick Moore, Education Policy Advisor, Alabama Governor's Office
 - Eric Mackey, State Superintendent, Alabama State Department of Education
 - Arthur Orr, Chair, Finance and Taxation Education Committee, Alabama Senate
 - Bill Poole, Chair, House Ways and Means Education Committee, Alabama House of Representatives
 - Jim Purcell, Executive Director, Alabama Commission on Higher Education

ALASKA

- **Nancy Norman**, Education Consultant, Norman Consultant Services
 - Mike Dunleavy, Governor, State of Alaska
 - Deena Bishop, Superintendent of Schools, Anchorage School District
 - Harriet Drummond, Chair, House Education Committee, Alaska State House of Representatives
 - James Fields, Chair, Alaska Board of Education and Early Development
 - Michael Johnson, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
 - Gary Stevens, Vice Chair, Senate Education Committee, Alaska State Senate

ARIZONA

- **Doug Ducey**, Governor, State of Arizona
 - Sylvia Allen, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Arizona Senate
 - Walter Blackman, Arizona House of Representatives
 - Heather Carter, Chair, Higher Education and Workforce Development, Arizona Senate
 - Janice Palmer, VP & Director of Policy, Helios Education Foundation
 - Michelle Udall, Chair, House Education Committee, Arizona House of Representatives
 - Rachel Yanof, Executive Director, Achieve60AZ

ARKANSAS

- **Asa Hutchinson**, Governor, State of Arkansas
 - Governor's Proxy: Allison Roberts, Senior Education Advisor, State of Arkansas
 - Lance Eads, State Senator, Arkansas Senate
 - Johnny Key, Commissioner of Education, Arkansas Department of Education
 - Maria Markham, Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education
 - Sarah Moore, Board Member, Arkansas Department of Higher Education
 - Ivy Pfeffer, Deputy Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education
 - DeAnn Vaught, State Representative, Arkansas House of Representatives

CALIFORNIA

- **Shirley Weber**, Member, Assembly Education Committee, California Assembly
 - Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California
 - Lande Ajose, Senior Policy Advisor for Higher Education, Office of the Governor
 - Ben Allen, State Senator, California State Senate
 - Estela Bensimon, Professor and Director, University of Southern California
 - Linda Darling-Hammond, President, California State Board of Education
 - Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, California Department of Education

COLORADO

- **Katy Anthes**, Commissioner, Colorado Department of Education
 - Jared Polis, Governor, State of Colorado
 - Amie Baca-Oehlert, President, Colorado Education Association
 - Bill Jaeger, Vice President, Early Childhood & Policy Initiatives, Colorado Children's Campaign
 - Angie Paccione, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Higher Education
 - Kevin Priola, State Senator, Colorado Senate
 - Emily Sirota, State Representative, State of Colorado

CONNECTICUT

- **Ned Lamont**, Governor, State of Connecticut
 - Eric Berthel, Ranking Member, Senate Education Committee, Connecticut Senate
 - Cheryl Dickinson, Professor Emeritus, Southern Connecticut State University
 - Gail Lavielle, Ranking Member, House Education Committee, Connecticut House of Representatives
 - Robert Sanchez, Chair, House Education Committee, Connecticut House of Representatives
 - Hayley Zinn-Rowthorn, Owner, Educational Consultant, REALize Learning, LLC

DELAWARE

- **David Sokola**, President Pro Tempore, Delaware State Senate
 - John Carney, Jr., Governor, State of Delaware
 - Madeleine Bayard, Vice President, Policy and Practice, Rodel Charitable Foundation of Delaware
 - Susan Bunting, Secretary of Education, State of Delaware
 - Kevin Fitzgerald, Superintendent, Caesar Rodney School District
 - John C. Gooden, President, M. Davis & Sons, Inc.
 - Earl Jaques, State Representative, Delaware House of Representatives

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- **Hanseul Kang**, State Superintendent, Office of the State Superintendent of Education
- Muriel Bowser, Mayor, District of Columbia Office of the Mayor
- Christopher Bell, Chairman, Board of Trustees, University of the District of Columbia
- David Grosso, Chair, Education Committee, Council of the District of Columbia
- Ronald Mason, Jr., President, University of the District of Columbia
- Phil Mendelson, Chairperson, Committee of the Whole, Council of the District of Columbia
- Ruth Wattenberg, President, District of Columbia State Board of Education

FLORIDA

- **Ron DeSantis**, Governor, State of Florida
- Manny Diaz, Jr., Chair, Senate Education Committee, Florida State Senate
- Randy Fine, State Representative, Florida House of Representatives
- Bill Montford, Vice Chair, Senate Education Committee, Florida State Senate
- Jennifer Sullivan, Chair, House Education, Florida House of Representatives

GEORGIA

- **Brian Kemp**, Governor, State of Georgia
- Wes Cantrell, State Representative, Georgia House of Representatives
- William S. Schofield, Superintendent, Hall County School District
- Freddie Powell Sims, Secretary, Education and Youth Committee, Georgia Senate
- Richard Woods, State Superintendent of Schools, Georgia Department of Education
- Steve Wrigley, Chancellor, University System of Georgia

HAWAII

- **Michelle Kidani**, Vice President, Hawaii Senate
- David Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii
- Joan Husted, Board of Directors, Education Institute of Hawaii
- Christina Kishimoto, State Superintendent of Schools, Hawaii Department of Education
- Carmielita Minami, Adjunct Professor, University of Hawaii at Manoa
- Alan Oshima, Board Member, State of Hawaii
- Justin Woodson, Chair, House Education Committee, Hawaii House of Representatives

IDAHO

- **Wendy Horman**, Representative, Idaho House of Representatives
- Brad Little, Governor, State of Idaho
- Governor's Proxy: Gregory Wilson, Senior Policy Advisor for Education, State of Idaho
- Matt Freeman, Executive Director, Idaho State Board of Education
- Rod Gramer, President and CEO, Idaho Business for Education
- Dean Mortimer, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Idaho Senate
- Sherri Ybarra, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Idaho Department of Education

ILLINOIS

- **Carmen I. Ayala**, State Superintendent, Illinois State Board of Education
- JB Pritzker, Governor, State of Illinois
- Kimberly A. Lightford, Senate Majority Leader, Illinois Senate
- Darren Reisberg, Chairman, Illinois State Board of Education

INDIANA

- **Bob Behning**, Chair, House Education Committee, Indiana House of Representatives
- Eric Holcomb, Governor, State of Indiana
- Teresa Lubbers, Commissioner, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- Jeff Raatz, Chair, Senate Education and Career Development Committee, Indiana Senate

IOWA

- **Linda Fandel**, Special Assistant for Education, State of Iowa
- Kim Reynolds, Governor, State of Iowa
- Jeff Edler, State Senator, Iowa Senate
- Eric Giddens, State Senator, Iowa Senate
- Tom Moore, State Representative, Iowa House of Representatives
- Cindy Winckler, State Representative, Iowa House of Representatives

KANSAS

- **Jim McNiece**, Member, Kansas State Board of Education
- Laura Kelly, Governor, State of Kansas
- Molly Baumgardner, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Kansas Senate
- Ann Brandau-Murguia, Regent, Kansas Board of Regents
- Steve Huebert, Chair, House Education Committee, Kansas House of Representatives
- Cynthia Lane, Chair, Governor's Council on Education
- Randy Watson, Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education

KENTUCKY

- **Aaron Thompson**, President, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
- Andy Beshear, Governor, State of Kentucky
- Derrick Graham, State Representative, Kentucky House of Representatives
- Gary Houchens, Associate Professor, Western Kentucky University
- Bob Hutchison, Owner, McDonalds of Eastern Kentucky
- Sherry Powers, Dean, Eastern Kentucky University
- Mike Wilson, State Senator, Kentucky Senate

LOUISIANA

- **John Bel Edwards**, Governor, State of Louisiana
- Cade Brumley, State Superintendent of Education, Louisiana Department of Education
- Cleo Fields, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Louisiana Senate
- Raymond Garofalo, Chair, House Committee on Education, Louisiana House of Representatives
- Richard Hartley, Policy Advisor, Louisiana Office of the Governor
- Kim Hunter Reed, Commissioner of Higher Education, Louisiana Board of Regents
- Phyllis Taylor, Chairman and President, Patrick F. Taylor Foundation

MAINE

- **Janet Mills**, Governor, State of Maine
- Duke Albanese, Senior Policy Advisor, Great Schools Partnership
- Victoria Kornfield, Chair, Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, Maine House of Representatives
- Rebecca Millett, Chair, Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, Maine Senate

MARYLAND

- **Bill Ferguson**, President of the Senate, Maryland General Assembly
- Larry Hogan, Governor, State of Maryland
- Kate Hetherington, President, Howard Community College
- Jeff Richmond, Director of Enrollment, The George Washington University
- Karen Salmon, Superintendent of Schools, Maryland State Department of Education
- Gregory Schuckman, Assistant Vice President of Government Relations, University of Central Florida

MASSACHUSETTS

- **Richard Freeland**, President Emeritus, Northeastern University
- Matthew Malone, Superintendent, Fall River Public Schools
- James Peyser, Secretary of Education, State of Massachusetts
- Paul Toner, Executive Director, Teach Plus Massachusetts

MICHIGAN

- **Sheila Alles**, Chief Deputy Superintendent, Michigan Department of Education
- Gretchen Whitmer, Governor, State of Michigan
- Pamela Hornberger, Speaker Pro Tempore, Michigan House of Representatives
- Emily Laidlaw, Policy Director to the Governor, State of Michigan
- Kim LaSata, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Universities and Colleges, Michigan State Senate
- Punita Thurman, Vice President, Program and Strategy, The Skillman Foundation
- Cassandra E. Ulbrich, President, Michigan State Board of Education

MINNESOTA

- **Charles Wiger**, Ranking Minority Member, Senate E-12 Finance and Policy Committee, Minnesota State Senate
- Tim Walz, Governor, State of Minnesota
- Governor's Proxy: Aara Johnson, Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor
- Carla Nelson, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Minnesota State Senate
- Jim Davnie, Chair, House Education Finance Committee, Minnesota House of Representatives
- Dennis Olson, Commissioner, Minnesota Office of Higher Education
- Lee-Ann Stephens, Racial Equity Instructional Coach, St. Louis Park School District

MISSISSIPPI

- **Carey Wright**, State Superintendent of Education, Mississippi Department of Education
- Tate Reeves, Governor, State of Mississippi
- Richard Bennett, Chair, House Education Committee, Mississippi House of Representatives
- Dennis DeBar, Jr., Chair, Senate Education Committee, Mississippi Senate
- Mac Huddleston, Chair, House Universities and Colleges Committee, Mississippi House of Representatives
- Rita Potts Parks, Chair, Senate Universities and Colleges Committee, Mississippi Senate
- Alfred Rankins, Jr., Commissioner of Higher Education, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

MISSOURI

- **Margie Vandeven**, Commissioner of Education, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Michael Parson, Governor, State of Missouri
- Dottie Bailey, Vice Chair, House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee, Missouri State House of Representatives
- John Jungmann, Superintendent, Springfield Public Schools
- Frank Killian, Superintendent, Richland R-1 School District
- Robert Knodell, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
- Cindy O'Laughlin, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Missouri State Senate

MONTANA

- **Steve Bullock**, Governor, State of Montana
- Governor's Proxy: McCall Flynn, Governor's Education Policy Advisor, State of Montana
- Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Montana Office of Public Instruction
- Seth Berglee, Chair, House Education Committee, Montana House of Representatives
- Elly Driggers, STARS Preschool Coach, State of Montana
- Alison Harmon, Dean, College of Education, Health and Human Development, Montana State University
- Keith Regier, Senator, Montana Senate
- Darlene Schottle, Chair, Montana Board of Public Education

NEBRASKA

- **Matthew Blomstedt**, Commissioner, Nebraska Department of Education
- Pete Ricketts, Governor, State of Nebraska
- Mike Baumgartner, Executive Director, Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education
- John Spatz, Executive Director, Nebraska Association of School Boards
- Mike Groene, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Nebraska Legislature
- Adam Morfeld, State Senator, Nebraska Legislature
- Dave Murman, State Senator, Nebraska Legislature

NEVADA

- **Brittney Miller**, Assemblywoman, Nevada Assembly
- Steve Sisolak, Governor, State of Nevada
- Marilyn Dondero Loop, Senator, Nevada State Senate
- Jhone Ebert, Superintendent, Nevada Department of Education
- Jason Geddes, Chairman, Nevada System of Higher Education
- Selena Torres, Assemblywoman, Nevada Assembly
- Joyce Woodhouse, Senator, Nevada Senate

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- **Jay Kahn**, Senator, New Hampshire Senate
- Chris Sununu, Governor, State of New Hampshire
- Governor's Proxy: DJ Bettencourt, Director of Policy, New Hampshire Office of the Governor
- Kathryn Dodge, Principal, Dodge Advisory Group
- Mel Myler, Chair, House Education Committee, New Hampshire House of Representatives

NEW JERSEY

- **Shirley Turner**, Vice Chair, Education Committee, New Jersey Senate
- Phillip Murphy, Governor, State of New Jersey
- Clinton Calabrese, Assemblyman, New Jersey Legislature
- Susan Cole, President, Montclair State University
- Kristin Hennessy, Elementary School Teacher, Brielle Elementary School
- Peter Renwick, Former Director, Special Projects

NEW MEXICO

- **William Soules**, Chair, Senate Education Committee, New Mexico Senate
- Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor, State of New Mexico
- Barbara Damron, Chief Government Relations Officer, University of New Mexico
- Matt Pahl, Executive Director, New Mexico Coalition for Charter Schools
- G. Andres Romero, Chair, House Education Committee, New Mexico House of Representatives
- Joseph Shepard, President, Western New Mexico University

NEW YORK

- **Johanna Duncan-Poitier**, Senior Vice Chancellor of Community Colleges & the Education Pipeline, The State University of New York System Administration
- Andrew Cuomo, Governor, State of New York
- Bethaida Gonzalez, Vice President for Community Engagement, Syracuse University
- Shelley Mayer, Chair, Senate Education Committee, New York State Senate

NORTH CAROLINA

- **D. Craig Horn**, Co-Chair, House Education Committee, North Carolina House of Representatives
- Roy Cooper, Governor, State of North Carolina
- Governor's Proxy: Geoff Coltrane, Governor, State of North Carolina
- Deanna Ballard, Chair, Senate Education Committee, North Carolina Senate
- Peter Hans, President, North Carolina Community College System
- Mark Johnson, Superintendent of Public Instruction, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

NORTH DAKOTA

- **Donald Schaible**, Chair, Senate Education Committee, North Dakota Senate
- Doug Burgum, Governor, State of North Dakota
- Governor's Proxy: Maria Neset, Policy Advisor, State of North Dakota
- Kirsten Baesler, Superintendent of Public Instruction, North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
- Mike Bitz, Superintendent, Mandan Public School District
- Mark Hagerott, Chancellor, North Dakota University System
- Travis Jordan, Superintendent, Beulah School District 27
- Mark Owens, Chair, House Education Committee, North Dakota House of Representatives

OHIO

- **Mike DeWine**, Governor, State of Ohio
- LeeAnne Cornyn, Director of Children's Initiatives, State of Ohio
- Paolo DeMaria, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ohio Department of Education
- Randy Gardner, Chancellor, Ohio Department of Higher Education
- Don Jones, Majority Whip, Ohio State House of Representatives
- Peggy B. Lehner, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Ohio Senate
- Laura Kohler, President, Ohio State Board of Education

OKLAHOMA

- **Marcie Mack**, Director, Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technical Education
- Kevin Stitt, Governor, State of Oklahoma
- Rhonda Baker, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Oklahoma Legislature
- Joy Hofmeister, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Oklahoma Department of Education
- Glen Johnson, Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- Joe Newhouse, State Senator, Oklahoma State Senate
- Michael Rogers, Secretary of State, Oklahoma Secretary of State
- Gary Stanislawski, Majority Caucus Chair and Senate Education Chair, Oklahoma State Senate

OREGON

- **Ben Cannon**, Executive Director, Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission
- Lindsey Capps, Chief Education Officer, Oregon Chief Education Office
- Michael Dembrow, Chair, Senate Committee on Education, Oregon State Senate
- Colt Gill, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, Oregon Department of Education
- Diego Hernandez, State Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
- Sherrie Sprenger, State Representative, Oregon House of Representatives

PENNSYLVANIA

- **Tom Wolf**, Governor, State of Pennsylvania
- Governor's Proxy: Meg Snead, Secretary of Policy and Planning, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- Andrew Dinniman, Minority Chair, Senate Education Committee, Pennsylvania Senate
- Wayne Langerholc, State Senator, Pennsylvania Senate
- Russell Miller, Budget Analyst, Pennsylvania Senate
- Stanley Saylor, Chair, House Appropriations Committee, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
- David Volkman, Executive Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Education

RHODE ISLAND

- **Gina Raimondo**, Governor, State of Rhode Island
- Governor's Proxy: Cara Harrison, Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor
- Gregg Amore, State Representative, Rhode Island House of Representatives
- Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
- Anna Cano Morales, Assistant Vice President, Community, Equity & Diversity, Rhode Island College
- Hanna Gallo, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Rhode Island Senate
- Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner of Education, Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

SOUTH CAROLINA

- **Henry McMaster**, Governor, South Carolina Office of the Governor
- Merita Allison, Chair, House Education and Public Works Committee, South Carolina State House of Representatives
- Melanie Barton, Senior Education Advisor, Office of the Governor
- Akil Ross, Sr., Affiliate Professor of Educational Leadership and Policies, University of South Carolina
- Thomas Wilson, Superintendent, Anderson School District

SOUTH DAKOTA

- **Tiffany Sanderson**, Secretary of Education, South Dakota Department of Education
- Kristi Noem, Governor, State of South Dakota
- Jim Bolin, Majority Whip, South Dakota State Senate
- Lana Greenfield, Chair, House Education Committee, South Dakota State House of Representatives
- Jarod Larson, Superintendent, Brandon Valley School District
- Jay M. Perry, Ph.D., System Vice President for Academic Affairs, South Dakota Board of Regents

TENNESSEE

- **Dolores Gresham**, State Senator, Tennessee Senate
- Bill Lee, Governor, State of Tennessee
- John DeBerry, Jr., State Representative, Tennessee House of Representatives
- Tammy Grissom, Executive Director, Tennessee School Boards Association
- Claude Pressnell, Jr., President, Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association
- Lana Seivers, Dean, College of Education, Middle Tennessee State University
- Mark White, Chair, Education Committee, Tennessee General Assembly

TEXAS

- **Greg Abbott**, Governor, State of Texas
- Governor's Proxy: Mary Lynn Pruneda, Education Policy Adviser, Office of the Governor
- Peter Flores, State Senator, Texas State Senate
- Dan Huberty, Chair, Committee on Public Education, Texas House of Representatives
- Harrison Keller, Commissioner of Higher Education, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Morgan Meyer, Representative, Texas State House of Representatives
- Mike Morath, Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency
- Larry Taylor, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Texas Senate

UTAH

- **Tami Pyfer**, Education Advisor, State of Utah
- Gary Herbert, Governor, State of Utah
- Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Utah State Office of Education
- Tracy Gruber, Director, Office of Childcare, State of Utah
- Ann Millner, Assistant Majority Whip, Utah Senate
- Val Peterson, Chair, House Education Committee, Utah House of Representatives
- Dave Woolstenhulme, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education

VERMONT

- **Philip Baruth**, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Vermont Senate
- Heather A. Bouchey, Deputy Secretary of Education, Vermont Department of Education
- Daniel French, Secretary of Education, Vermont Department of Education
- Kathryn Webb, Chair, House Education Committee, Vermont State House of Representatives

VIRGINIA

- **Peter Blake**, Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
- Ralph Northam, Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
- James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education
- Stephen Newman, State Senator, Virginia State Senate
- Joan Wodiska, President, Pioneer Management Consulting, Pioneer Management Consulting, LLC

WEST VIRGINIA

- **Clayton Burch**, State Superintendent of Schools, West Virginia Department of Education
- James Justice, Governor, State of West Virginia
- Paul Espinosa, Delegate, West Virginia House of Delegates
- William Hosaflook, Superintendent, Wood County Schools
- Robert Plymale, State Senator, West Virginia State Senate
- Sarah Stewart, Executive Director, Policy and Government Relations, West Virginia Department of Education
- Sarah Tucker, Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

WISCONSIN

- **Luther Olsen**, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Wisconsin Senate
- Tony Evers, Governor, State of Wisconsin
- John Reinemann, Legislative Staff, Wisconsin State Assembly
- Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
- Amy Traynor, Lead Teacher, Mondovi School District

WYOMING

- **Jillian Balow**, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Wyoming Department of Education
- Mark Gordon, Governor, State of Wyoming
- Governor's Proxy: Lachelle Brant, Education Policy Advisor, State of Wyoming
- David Northrup, Chair, House Education Committee, Wyoming House of Representatives
- Rachel Rubino, Case Manager, Albany County School District
- Walt Tribbley, President, Northern Wyoming Community College District
- Kathy Vetter, President, Wyoming Education Association
- Jeff Wasserburger, State Senator, Wyoming State Senate

Appendix D

2020 Partners and Policy Support

2020 Education Commission of the States Partners

Platinum



Gold



Silver



Bronze



2020 Education Commission of the States Policy Support

- Alliance for Early Success
- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Ascendium Education Group
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
- Council of State Governments
- ECMC Foundation
- The Kresge Foundation
- Heising-Simons Foundation
- Hewlett Foundation
- National Endowment for the Arts
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
- Strada Education Network
- U.S. Department of Education
- The Wallace Foundation

Appendix E

Budget and Financial Summary

Statement of financial position for year ending Dec. 31, 2020.

Income Statement

REVENUES

GRANTS/CONTRACTS	11,312,081
SPONSORSHIP FUNDING/REGISTRATION	647,000
STATE FEES	3,040,895
GAINS/LOSS - INVESTMENTS	194,804
OTHER	1,074
TOTAL REVENUE	\$15,195,854

Expenses

SALARIES AND BENEFITS	7,102,962
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES	10,169,398
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 17,272,360

Balance Sheet

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS	13,353,295
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	408,348
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 13,761,643

Liabilities

CURRENT LIABILITIES	215,740
ACCRUALS	320,293
DEFERRED REVENUE	82,541
DEFERRED RENT	208,893
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 827,467

Net Assets

INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS	408,348
OPERATING RESERVE	1,520,448
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	8,233,886
UNDESIGNATED	2,771,494
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$12,934,176

Audited financial statements are available upon request.



TOP Policy Reports



- [Community College Bachelor's Degrees: An Update on State Activity and Policy Considerations](#)
- [A State Policymaker's Guide to Equitable Transitions in the COVID-19 Era](#)
- [Enhancing STEM in P-3 Education](#)
- [Education Policy Approaches to Trauma-Informed Practices](#)
- [Dual Enrollment Access](#)

TOP 50-State Comparisons



- [50-State Comparison: High School Graduation Requirements](#)
- [50-State Comparison: Teacher License Reciprocity](#)
- [50-State Comparison: State K-3 Policies](#)
- [50-State Comparison: K-12 Funding](#)
- [50-State Comparison: Charter School Policies](#)

TOP Blog Posts



- [Adjusting to a New 'Normal' in Education](#)
- [The 6 Education Policy Topics You'll See in 2020](#)
- [The COVID-19 Slide and What It Could Mean for Student Achievement](#)
- [What's Required to Become a CTE Teacher?](#)
- [COVID-19 and School Funding: What to Expect and What States Can Do](#)

TOP Web Resource

[COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
— Key Issue page



WE WERE PLEASED TO WELCOME

36

NEW COMMISSIONERS IN 2020.



EDUCATION COMMISSION

OF THE STATES

Education Commission of the States
700 Broadway Suite 810 Denver, CO 80203
ecs.org | @EdCommission