2021 Education POLICY TRENDS

NAESP: National Leaders Conference
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Who we are.

The essential, indispensable member of any team addressing education policy.
We believe in the power of learning from experience and we know informed policymakers create better education policy.
How we do it.

We research, report, convene and counsel.
NAESP Survey Results-December 2020
Overview

• 2021 Policy Trends
  • Teaching
  • K-12 funding
  • Student attendance
  • Digital divide
  • Learning loss
  • Student health and wellness

• K-3 Deep Dive
  • Kindergarten enrollment
  • Assessment & learning loss
  • Literacy

• Governors’ State of the State Addresses

• Q &A
2021 Education POLICY TRENDS

Jeremy Anderson
President
2021 TRENDING TOPICS
Teachers are the most important educational factor contributing to student success.
2021 Teaching Trends

- Preparation and Professional Development
- Teacher Evaluations (2020-21 School Year)
- Recruitment and Retention
K-12 Funding

Additional funding for high-need student populations is linked to increased academic success.
Funding Equity for Disadvantaged Student Populations

Adjusting Attendance-Based Funding
Student Attendance

Due to the pandemic, attendance has decreased and become more difficult to track in remote environments.
2021 Attendance Trends

- Decreases in Attendance
- Alterations to Attendance Tracking Requirements
- Changes to Remote Learning and Attendance Requirements
Digital Divide

In 2018, 13.5 million students did not have access to the internet. This divide was exacerbated by the pandemic.
2021 Digital Divide Trends

- Disproportionate Impact on Certain Groups
- Governors Using Federal Funds
- Targeted, Multi-Phase Implementation
Learning Loss

Pandemic-prompted shifts to remote learning have led to concerns about student learning loss.
2021 Learning Loss Trends

- Use of Federal Funds
- Disproportionate Impact
- Expanded Learning Time Proposals
Student Health and Wellness

Student health and wellness are tied to students’ ability to attend school and consistently engage in their learning environments.
2021 Student Health Trends

- Providing Health Services
- Student Mental and Behavioral Health
- Raising Awareness and Providing Support
Kindergarten – Third Grade

Early learning in the K-3 grades (and before) is important for building strong foundations.
2021 K-3 Trends

- Kindergarten Enrollment
- Assessment and Learning Loss
- Literacy
Top Education Policy Priorities (link):

• Finance
• Remote Learning
• Workforce Development
• In-Person Learning
• Learning Loss
• Health
Inequality
Unequal access to opportunities

Equality?
Evenly distributed tools and assistance

Equity
Custom tools that identify and address inequality

Justice
Fixing the system to offer equal access to both tools and opportunities

Credit: Tony Ruth, Design in Tech, and Shel Silverstein
Q&A
THANK YOU!

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ECS Resources

- COVID-19 Pandemic Responses (link)
- State Education Policy Tracking (link)
- Broadband Access and the Digital Divides (link)
- Student Health and Wellness
  - Glossary of Student Mental Wellness Concepts (link)
  - Glossary of School Health Professionals (link)
- Kindergarten – Third Grade
  - 50-State Comparison: K-3 Policies (link)
  - State Policies to Enhance Transitions into Kindergarten (link)
  - Building a Better K-3 Literacy System (link)