

The Consortium of State School Boards Associations Weekly Education Report

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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

- Child Nutrition
 - <u>House Appropriations to Markup Fy25 Agriculture Bill</u>: On Tuesday at 6pm Eastern, the House Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a markup of the FY2025 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill.
- 2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up
 - Impact on State School Board Associations
- 3. <u>In Brief Last Week in Washington</u>
 - Superintendents of Color on Creating Equitable Ecosystems in School: On May 23, the Education Trust held a webinar titled, "Superintendents of Color Leading with Excellence."
 - House Education Panel Looks at Border Security Impact on K-12 Schools: On Tuesday, the House Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing on "The Consequences of Biden's Border Chaos for K-12 Schools."
- 4. New Publications
 - <u>The State of Preschool Yearbook</u>
 National Institute for Early Education Research (May 2024)

The State of Preschool Yearbook tracks state-funded preschool efforts annually since 2001-2002, offering vital insights for informed early childhood education decisions.

5. In the News

- <u>Bipartisan Senate Bill Would Create Federal Guidance for AI in Schools</u> *K-12 Dive (June 5, 2024)*
- National Science Foundation Expands Mentoring Requirements to Bolster STEM Pipeline

Inside Higher Ed (June 5, 2023)

- Cardona Denies Title IX Athletics Rule Delays Are Due to Election Year K-12 Dive (June 4, 2024)
- The State of Career and Technical Education, in Charts Education Week (June 3, 2024)
- <u>Billions in Taxpayer Dollars Now Go to Religious Schools Via Vouchers</u>

 The Washington Post (June 3, 2024)
- Pandemic Aid for Schools is Ending Soon. Many After-School Programs
 May Go with It

NPR (June 1, 2024)

- Federal Student Aid Office to Undergo 'Full-Scale Review'
 Higher Ed Dive (May 31, 2024)
- EPA Announces Recipients of Nearly \$900 Million for Clean Buses Under President's Investing in America Agenda

US Environmental Protection Agency (May 29, 2024)

• <u>Inspiring the Next Generation of Women in STEM</u> Homeroom | US Department of Education (May 28, 2024)

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

• Equitable Access, High Quality Programming: A New Framework for Dual Language Education: The Century Foundation will hold a webinar event, "Equitable Access, High Quality Programming: A New Framework for Dual Language Education."

Tuesday at 1pm Eastern

House Appropriations Agriculture Subcommittee FY25 Bill: The House
Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration,
and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a markup of the FY2025
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related
Agencies bill.

Tuesday at 6pm Eastern

- <u>Technology's Impact on Mental Health and Education</u>: The Brookings Institution will hold a virtual discussion on "Screens and children's well-being: The latest evidence of technology's impact on mental health and education." *Wednesday at 9:30am Eastern*
- <u>Senate Education Committee on WIOA and Needs of Youth and Employers</u>: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee will hold a hearing on "The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Supporting Efforts to Meet the Needs of Youth, Workers, and Employers."

- Wednesday at 10am Eastern
- Education Research and Development: Innovating Solutions: The Alliance for Learning Innovation will hold an event to discuss education innovation through federal education research programs and implementation of best practices. Thursday at 8:45am Eastern
- Using State Data Systems to Spur Collaboration and Improve Education:
 The Education Commission of the States will hold a webinar on the powerful role that Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems have in fostering cross-agency collaboration to improve education. State longitudinal data systems have revolutionized data collection and analysis in education by providing information that guides decision-making across multiple agencies and stakeholders.

 Thursday at 3pm Eastern

7. On The Floor of Congress This Week

- Senate floor:
 - Consideration of nominations
 - o <u>S.4445</u>, A bill to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization
- House floor:
 - H. Res. Report to accompany the Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find United States Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary (Sponsored by Rep. Jordan / Judiciary Committee)
 - <u>H.R. 8070</u> Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Sponsored by Rep. Rogers (AL) / Armed Services Committee)
- 8. <u>Important U.S. House and Senate Links</u>
- 9. About BPAG

1. COSSBA Policy Priorities

CHILD NUTRITION

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS TO MARKUP FY25 AGRICULTURE BILL

On Tuesday at 6pm Eastern, the House Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a markup of the FY2025 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill. Bose Public Affairs will report on the hearing, and a live stream will be available here.

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2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-Up

This past week, the House spending subcommittees continued to make progress on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 spending bills, with a few bills being subject to markups. In addition, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs bill passed the House, marking the first of the 12

spending bills to pass the chamber. House Appropriations Committee Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK) is committed to his timeline of getting all bills passed before the August recess, even if some staff suggest that plan will hit snags when the controversial bills—like the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill—are considered. Regardless, he remains determined to push ahead with regular order.

Senate spending subcommittees continue to host administration leaders to discuss various proposals for federal spending, but there has been no word from Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Patty Murray (D-WA) about her timeline for developing and marking up bills. That could very well be because there is widespread assumption that one or more temporary spending bills will keep the federal government operating through the elections. The lame duck session or even the 119th Congress are the more likely venues for final FY 2025 spending decisions.

How does this impact State School Board Associations?

In the meantime, advocates continue to flood Capitol Hill to make their case for "adequate," "robust," and "meaningful" federal investments, and education funding stakeholders should continue to monitor the appropriations process that is unfolding. President Biden's FY 2025 request for the Department of Education reflects a \$3.1 billion (4.0 percent) increase from the FY 2024 annualized Continued Resolution level, but Congress of course will have final say with budget numbers, and it's likely that the FY 2025 funding process will look like FY 2024.

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3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington SUPERINTENDENTS OF COLOR ON CREATING EQUITABLE ECOSYSTEMS IN SCHOOL

On May 23, the Education Trust held a webinar titled, "Superintendents of Color Leading with Excellence." The event included a panel of education experts – Dr. Adrienne Battle, Metro Nashville Public Schools Superintendent; Dr. LaTanya D. McDade, Prince William County Public Schools Superintendent; Dr. Tiffany Anderson, Topeka Public Schools Superintendent; Dr. Tahira Dupree-Chase, Westbury Union Free School District Superintendent; Karen Pittman, founding partner of Knowledge to Power Catalysts; Trey Baker, author & Rising Voices mentor; and others. Delving into the importance of creating equitable ecosystems, Pittman emphasized the need to foster a sense of belonging among students, particularly Black children. To achieve this, Baker advocated for the expansion of robust mentorship programs and highlighted the significance of diverse storytelling. He specifically noted the success of art-based programs, such as spoken word, in helping students find their voices. In addition, the panel discussed strategies to foster academic, social, and emotional growth in students, emphasizing trauma-informed approaches and social-emotional learning (SEL). Dr. McDade stressed the importance of family and community engagement through centrally funded parent liaisons and language barrier removal. She also spotlighted effective initiatives like **PWCS Heals**, that aim to support students and staff. Moreover, Dr. Dupree-Chase addressed the youth mental health crisis, advocating for intentional investments in social and emotional learning (SEL) and the creation of parent workshops to help families identify signs of mental health concerns in their children. To conclude the event, the panelists shared their experiences as Black women in leadership, emphasizing the importance of having a supportive community among Black women leaders and finding personal fulfillment in their roles. A recording of the event can be found here.

HOUSE EDUCATION PANEL LOOKS AT BORDER SECURITY IMPACT ON K-12 SCHOOLS

On Tuesday, the House Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing on "The Consequences of Biden's Border Chaos for K-12 Schools." Witnesses for the hearing included Danyela Egorov, vice president of New York City's Community Education Council; Amalia Chamorro, UnidosUS Education Policy Project Director; Sheena Rodriguez, Alliance for a Safe Texas President; and Mari Barke, a trustee for the Orange County Board of Education. During the hearing, legislators and witnesses examined the impact undocumented children may be having on schools with lesser resources. Also on Tuesday, the Biden administration announced new actions to secure the southern border. In his opening remarks, Subcommittee Chair Aaron Bean (R-FL), stated that "K-12 schools... are often the first to feel the impact of our open border." He pointed to the US Supreme Court's 1982 ruling that required public schools to educate children regardless of immigration status and asserted that since, countless child immigrants have been "filtering into the school system." Providing education for these children "requires substantial resources, altering the learning environment for all students," Bean stated. Meanwhile, Subcommittee Ranking Member Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) claimed that Republicans are trying to "undermine" the Court's 1982 ruling. "In that landmark case, the Supreme Court affirmed the principle that education is a fundamental right, regardless of a student's immigration status," she countered. She further accused her Republican colleagues of portraying undocumented students as "a threat to school safety and a burden on public resources," while not focuses enough on actual school threats such as "unfettered access to firearms." Witnesses alluded to several impacts the immigration policies have on public schools, including higher numbers of enrollments; transportation delays; increased English as a Second Language (ESL) costs; and lower levels of parental involvement among this student population. There was substantial disagreement during the hearing on whether the solution is to change immigration policies or provide schools with more resources. Furthermore, Committee Democrats questioned the hearing's intent, asserting that immigration policies are not within the committee's jurisdiction. A recording of the hearing and witness testimony is here.

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4. New Publications

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EPA Announces Recipients of nearly \$900 Million for Clean School Buses Under

President's Investing in America Agenda

US Environmental Protection Agency (May 29, 2024)

Inspiring the Next Generation of Women in STEM

Homeroom | US Department of Education (May 28, 2024)

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THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

6. Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Webinar: Equitable Access, High Quality Programming: A New Framework for Dual

Language Education

Subject: The Century Foundation will hold a webinar event, "Equitable Access, High Quality

Programming: A New Framework for Dual Language Education."

Participants: Dr. Shantel Meek, Children's Equity Project, Arizona State University; Dr. Conor Williams, senior fellow, Century Foundation; Dr. Xigrid Soto-Boykin, Children's Equity Project, Arizona State University; and Gladys Montes, former director, United Way of Miami.

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Registration: Live stream available <u>here.</u>

Markup: House Appropriations Agriculture Subcommittee FY25 Bill

Subject: The House Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee will hold a markup of the FY2025 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill.

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Registration: Live stream available here.

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Webinar: Technology's Impact on Mental Health and Education

Subject: The Brookings Institution will hold a virtual discussion on "Screens and children's well-being: The latest evidence of technology's impact on mental health and education." **Participants:** David Edwards, general secretary, Education International; Kaya Henderson, CEO, Reconstruction; Phil McRae, executive staff officer and associate coordinator of government research, Alberta Teachers' Association; Michael Rich, director and founder, Boston Children's Hospital's Digital Wellness Lab; and Elizabeth Milovidov, founder, DigitalParentingCoach.com.

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Registration:** Register <u>here.</u>

Hearing: Senate Education Committee on WIOA and Needs of Youth and Employers

Subject: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee will hold a hearing on "The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Supporting Efforts to Meet the Needs of Youth, Workers, and Employers."

Witnesses: Taylor White, Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship; David Bradley, Jobs for the Future; Monty Sullivan, Louisiana Community and Technical College System; Lisa Bly-Jones, Chicago Jobs Council; and Matthew Dickerson, Mid South Extrusion.

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Registration: Live stream available <u>here.</u>

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Event: Education Research and Development: Innovating Solutions

Subject: The Alliance for Learning Innovation will hold an event to discuss education innovation through federal education research programs and implementation of best practices. **Participants:** Dan Correra, CEO, Federation of American Scientists; Augustus Mays, vice president for partnerships and engagement, The Education Trust; Carey Wright, state superintendent of schools, State of Maryland; Erwin Gianchandani, assistant director, Directorate of Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships, National Science Foundation; and Matt Soldner, acting director, Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

Time and Location: 8:45 a.m. − 11:00 a.m.; B48 Dirksen SOB.

Registration: Register here.

Webinar: Using State Data Systems to Spur Collaboration and Improve Education

Subject: The Education Commission of the States will hold a webinar on the powerful role of Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems have in fostering cross-agency collaboration to improve education. State longitudinal data systems have revolutionized data collection and analysis in education by providing information that guides decision-making across multiple agencies and stakeholders.

Participants: Ross Goldstein, executive director, Maryland Longitudinal Data System; Trip Stallings, executive director, North Carolina Longitudinal Data System; Katrina Miller, director of educational partnerships, SAS; and Jose Munoz, president, Education Commission of the States.

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Registration: Register here.

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7. On The Floor of Congress This Week

Senate Floor:

- Consideration of nominations
- <u>S.4445</u>, A bill to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization

House Floor:

- H. Res. Report to accompany the Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find United States Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary (Sponsored by Rep. Jordan / Judiciary Committee)
- <u>H.R. 8070</u> Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (*Sponsored by Rep. Rogers (AL) / Armed Services Committee*)

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

U.S. House and Senate 2024 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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9. 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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