

Straight s

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Undocumented Immigrant Students: Can the Nation Avert an Education, Economic, and Moral Crisis Affecting Millions of Young People?

By Gov. Bob Wise

Imagine waking up to the news that millions of students disappeared overnight. Think of the incalculable cost to the nation of these young people not continuing their education. The patents never filed. The medicines never discovered. The companies never started. The disposable incomes never spent to create more jobs. All the lost human potential, brainpower, and economic contributions that these millions of future wage earners could provide during a time when the nation needs the talents and skills of all its people.

How could this happen, you ask? Already I am hearing reports from principals about the PTA attendance of immigrant families dropping sharply and of parents sending their children to school on alternate days to avoid everyone being picked up in a sweep.

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 [Click to Tweet](#): Can the Nation Avert an Education, Economic, and Moral Crisis Affecting Millions of Young People? by @bobwise48 bit.ly/2pYx68S



U.S. High School Graduation Rate at All-Time High but off Pace to Meet 2020 Goal of 90 Percent

The U.S. high school graduation rate is at an all-time high of 83.2 percent, but for the second straight year, the nation is off pace to meet the 90 percent graduation rate goal by 2020, according to the 2017 *Building a Grad Nation* report, issued by Civic Enterprises and the Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University, in partnership with America's Promise Alliance and the Alliance for Excellent Education.

Read more

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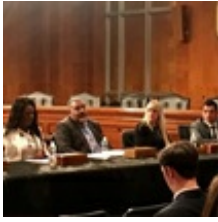


Addressing Disparities in Broadband Access

On my first day of teaching in rural Mississippi, I turned on the computer and projector expecting little to go wrong. As students shuffled in, searching for their assigned seats, I realized the internet connection was not working. This was the first but, sadly, not the last time I experienced connectivity issues during my teaching career. More importantly, this problem is not uniquely my own. Throughout the nation, teachers and students struggle with internet connectivity daily. This lack of access to high-quality internet has created a “digital divide” that must be addressed.

Read More


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[http://bit.ly/2qhKPYx](https://bit.ly/2qhKPYx) #digitalequity



College and Career Pathway Success Stories Shine on the Hill

First-generation college students Seraiya Wright and Jose Bojorquez helped bring federal policy to life during a Senate briefing on career and technical education (CTE) last week. Seraiya and Jose shared their stories of how college and career pathways can successfully bridge the gap between high school, post-secondary education, and the workforce.

[Read More](#)

 [Click to Tweet: College and Career Pathway Success Stories Shine on the Hill](#) #CTE #LinkedLearning bit.ly/2pecqKe

Coming Soon

Creating a Culture of High Expectations and Improvement for Students, Teachers, and Leaders



The webinar will explore the cultural shift in Asbury Park School District in New Jersey, which has become one of the most innovative districts in New Jersey. Its graduation rate has improved by 24 percentage points; less than 10 percent of students now drop out of school, compared with almost half previously; and teachers and leaders report a high level of collaboration, communication, and engagement with the district improvement process

[Register Now](#)

Global Lessons for America's High Schools



Join the Alliance for Excellent Education (the Alliance) and America Achieves for a webinar on how high schools are using global best practices to change classroom instruction and improve student outcomes. Panelists will discuss specific instructional practices and strategies highlighted in a new report by Policy Studies Associates (PSA), including communication strategies at the district and school levels, using data to drive improvement, engaging students through technology and real-life connections, and differentiating instruction to address differences in students' needs.

[Register Now](#)

Elevating Open Educational Resources: District-Scale Approaches to Openly Licensed Materials



Join Future Ready Schools® (FRS) for a webinar on open educational resources (OER), one of the most exciting—and most misunderstood—new options for schools and districts. Nine FRS superintendents, led by Matt Miller, have even made recent efforts to debunk key myths about OER. This webinar will focus on ways that FRS districts use OER to increase districtwide access to high-quality materials, both openly licensed supplements and full course curricula.

[Register Now](#)

In Case You Missed It



Federal Flash: Congress Passes Bill Funding Education; Begins Work on Career-Tech Rewrite

Congress was busy last week, finally passing a spending bill and also moving forward to update the federal law supporting career and technical education. Watch this Federal Flash for the details.

[Watch the Video](#)

College and Career Pathways: Stories of Innovation

The Senate Career and Technical Education (CTE) Caucus and the Alliance for Excellent Education held a briefing highlighting innovative approaches across the country to college and career pathways that have led to positive outcomes for traditionally underserved students. During the briefing, panelists discussed the latest findings on secondary and postsecondary outcomes of students who participate in high-quality college and career pathways; implementation efforts in a rural California school district; the role of business

and industry in supporting college and career pathways; and more. U.S. Senator Tim Kaine gave remarks.

Watch the
Event

Ask the Alliance!



Do you have a question about policy implementation in your state or district? How about a question on the best or promising practices for improving high schools? Ask the Alliance!

Through this new feature, education leaders, policymakers, advocacy groups, civil rights organizations, and others can ask questions about education policy and practice. The Alliance will share concise, research-backed answers, with resources, that you can use to inform your work. This might include samples of successful state or district policies and practices, high school redesign approaches or various aspects of school improvement.

Visit all4ed.org/ask-the-alliance/ to learn more and get asking!

Ask the
Alliance

Alliance in the News

Focusing on Student Subgroups to Improve Graduation Rates

To reach a 90 percent high school graduation rate, America must focus on minority students reports *The 74*. Diving into the recently released *Building a GradNation* report, *The 74* breaks down the disparities between student subgroups for graduation rates and explores the subgroups' progress over time.

Read the
Article

The Future of Ed-Tech Leadership

With the change in administration, the education world is wondering who will be the source of K-12 technology leadership in the coming years? Tom Murray, director of innovation for Future Ready Schools, a project of the Alliance, talks about the role of Future Ready Schools in *Education Week*.

Read the
Article

Spreading High-Quality Career and Technical Education

A federal push for more funding around career and technical education would directly help local programs and students in Virginia, says two principals in the *Bluefield Daily Telegraph*. Learn how the CTE Excellence and Equity Act, introduced last week in the Senate, would help deliver high-quality CTE programs to students in Virginia and across the country.

Read the
Article

Ensuring All Students Count in Michigan

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley wants to ensure that students with disabilities are meaningfully accounted for in the state's ESSA accountability plan. Calley argues against the current n-

size of thirty, meaning that there would have to be thirty or more students in a subgroup for schools to be held accountable for the performance of that subgroup. Learn more about this issue in *Michigan Live*.

Read the
Article

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Education is vital for millions of children everywhere. For many it's their only way out of poverty. #GradNation @BobWise48



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Monica R Almond, PhD

@MonicaRAmond

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#LinkedLearning in DC sharing a story of impact for traditionally underserved students. @All4Ed @mayorcabaldon @SarahASteinberg @BobWise48



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#FutureReady leaders are hard at work at @All4Ed today planning the upcoming regional institutes! Learn more: futureready.org/institutes



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