



U.S. High School Graduation Rate Hits Another Record High—Are the Gains Real or Manufactured?

The U.S. stock market is at an all-time high and many investors are beginning to wonder if a crash is on the horizon. Similarly, the national high school graduation rate just hit another record high, leaving some to wonder whether the gains are real or manufactured.

[Read More](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) U.S. High School Graduation Rate Hits Another Record High-Are the Gains Real or Manufactured? bit.ly/2jfL7Ks #GradNation #GradRate



Healthcare for Children Shouldn't be a Bargaining CHIP By Gov. Bob Wise

When I ran for governor in 2000, my Republican opponent and I had much to disagree on. But when it came to the federally-supported Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), we only sparred over who would implement coverage more aggressively, not over the merits. Almost all policymakers recognize the importance of this bipartisan legislation enacted in 1997 in reducing the percentage of uninsured children from almost 14 percent to less than 5 percent.

[Read More from Gov. Wise](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) @BobWise48 says: Healthcare for Children Shouldn't be a Bargaining #CHIP. bit.ly/2kmGkdp #CHIPworks #ExtendChip



Using Adolescent Learning Research to Improve High Schools

"Today, education is where medicine was in 1910," stated Dan Leeds, Chairman of the Alliance for Excellent Education (All4Ed) Board of Directors. Leeds was referring to the pivotal moment in history, after the publication of the Flexner report, when American medical schools began to adhere strictly to the protocols of science in their teaching and research.

All4Ed recently gathered together an impressive group of researchers, practitioners, and policy experts to examine these advances in research and discuss how recent findings from the

science of adolescent learning might inform high school improvement strategies under the ESSA.

[Read More](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) Using Adolescent Learning Research to Improve High Schools #ScienceOfLearning bit.ly/2AuPKYA



How Do the Problem-Solving Skills of American Students Stack Up Globally?

As they look to fill jobs, employers are looking for students who can think critically and solve problems in new and rapidly changing environments. But how well do American students stack up against the rest of the world when it comes to problem solving? Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills and Special Advisor on Education Policy at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), stopped by All4Ed's office to offer his insights and share findings from a new OECD report.

[Read More](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) How Do the Problem-Solving Skills of American Students Stack Up Globally? @All4Ed @OECDeduSkills have some answers. bit.ly/2zPAjJ4 #OECDPISA #collaborative #problemsolving

The Every Student Succeeds Act

To keep you up to date on the latest happenings with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and its implementation, the Alliance for Excellent Education has created a series of bite-sized materials – both print and video – that provide concise but comprehensive analyses of several key areas within ESSA.

- [ESSA in States](#)
- [Opportunities Within ESSA to Transform High Schools](#)
- [Accountability](#)
- [Assessments](#)
- [High Schools](#)
- [Teachers and Leaders](#)

[Access these and other ESSA materials](#)

Upcoming Webinars

Future Ready Librarians: Cultivating Community Partnerships



This Future Ready Librarians webinar will look at how teacher librarians can cultivate partnerships within the school and local community (families and caregivers, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, public and higher education libraries, businesses, etc.) to promote engagement and a lifelong learning process.

[Register Now](#)

State ESSA Plans: Gift or Empty Stocking for Nation's Students?

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 13, 2017
3:30 - 4:30 P.M.
(EDT)

It has been nearly two years since ESSA was signed into law by President Barack Obama, who called the measure "a Christmas miracle." Are ESSA state plans a gift for the nation's students or do they represent an empty stocking?

Join All4Ed for a webinar on trends in state plans to implement ESSA. Which state policies are innovative? What policies are concerning? How are the U.S. Congress and ED responding to state plans? Find out in this webinar with

Bellwether Education Partners.

[Register Now](#)

Leading Personalized and Digital Learning: A Framework for Implementing School Change

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 14, 2017
1:30 - 2:30 P.M.
(EDT)

This Future Ready Schools® webinar will focus on the Implementing School Change framework at the center of the newly released book, *Leading Personalized and Digital Learning: A Framework for Implementing School Change* by Mary Ann Wolf, Elizabeth Bobst, and Nancy Mangum. In the same way that learning cannot be one-size fits-all, a leader and a school's approach to personalized and digital learning will look and rollout differently from school to school. These differences are part of the challenge and also the opportunity of

talking about and implementing personalized education.

[Register Now](#)

Federal Flash ⚡



This Federal Flash covers U.S. Senator Patty Murray's harsh words for the U.S. Department of Education on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), an update on congressional plans to rewrite the Higher Education Act, and the latest on President Trump's nominees to lead two top Education Department posts.

[Watch the Video](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) Today's #FederalFlash covers Sen. Patty Murray's harsh words for the Education Department on #ESSA, new legislation to rewrite the Higher Education Act, and the latest on Trump's nominees to lead two top education posts. Watch at all4ed.org/FederalFlash

[Watch Previous Episodes](#)

Digital Learning Day 2018 Map is Live!



Digital Learning Day 2018 is right around the corner! On February 22, 2018, teachers and students from around the country will participate in the nationwide celebration highlighting great teaching and demonstrating how technology can improve student outcomes. **Will you join them?** If you're celebrating #DLDay 2018, [add your event to the map](#) today.

Add Your Event

In Case You Missed It



Getting to Deeper Learning: The Policies and Practice of Science Teaching and Learning

What can we learn from top-performing countries about how to provide students with equitable opportunities to learn science and how to develop science teachers? What's happening in U.S. districts and schools to ensure that all students, particularly those who traditionally are underserved, receive the kind of science instruction that will prepare lead to the deeper learning outcomes necessary for college and career preparedness?

This webinar explores science teaching and learning and how educators in the District of Columbia Public Schools have changed how they teach science to ensure that all students have access to rigorous, content-rich science classes.

Watch the Webinar

Miss a Webinar?

All4Ed records all of its webinars and makes the video available "on demand"

Webinars on Demand

Alliance in the News

High School Grad Rates Hit New High

The national high school graduation rate has hit a new high, at 84 percent, but "just because students are graduating from high school doesn't mean they're ready for college," said All4Ed's Phillip Lovell in *Education Week*. "We are clearly doing something right when it comes to getting kids across the line, but we're not quite there when it comes to ensuring students are ready for the next step," Lovell explained.

[Learn More](#)

Five Things To Know About The Push To Rethink American High School

All4Ed President Bob Wise spoke with *Houston Public Media's* Laura Isensee about what's happening with the nationwide push to transform the high school experience and shared five pieces of insight that you won't want to miss.

[Learn More](#)

Best Economic Development Package: Investing in Education

"Increasing the high school graduation by just a few percentage points would provide economic mobility to thousands of Utah children and significantly increase the financial well-being of everyday, hardworking Utahans," said All4Ed's President Bob Wise in *The Deseret News*. Wise explained that the best economic development package, for the state of Utah, and the rest of the country, is an investment in education.

[Read More](#)

Recommended



Apprenticeships could provide a path to the middle class for millions of workers, new study says

The Hechinger Report

[Read More](#)



Deep in South Carolina's 'Corridor of Shame,' Teachers at New Tech Network Strive for a Big Turnaround

The 74 Million

[Read More](#)

We made a **promise** to our kids.

Watch: The future of learning: It's time to renew our promise.

Education in the United States has been a story of promises broken and unevenly fulfilled. This video calls for a renewal of the promise of public education for all—a promise that fosters a public education system where every kid, in every community can learn in a high-quality and meaningful environment.

[Watch](#)

How can we engineer today's classrooms for tomorrow's job? Great conversation on the importance of #STEM education-esp for historically underserved students- at #AmazonFutureofWork with @caitlinzemma @RafranzDavis @RepHultgren @HHFoundation.



6:44 AM - 30 Nov 2017 from Newseum

6 Retweets 13 Likes



1 6 13

"Dreamers are who we are. Congress, the time to act is NOW" #DreamActNow



11:05 AM - 4 Dec 2017

20 Retweets 31 Likes



2 20 31

 **HAPPY HOLIDAYS** 



The Alliance for Excellent Education wishes you and yours a happy holiday season and best wishes for 2018! This is the last issue before the All4Ed newsletter—although not the All4Ed staff—settles in for a short winter's nap. The next issue of *Straight A's* will be **January 16, 2018**.

Straight A's[®] is a registered trademark of the Alliance for Excellent Education
1201 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 901
Washington, DC 20036

[Manage your email preferences](#) | [Visit our Website](#)