



Straight A's® is a registered trademark of the Alliance for Excellent Education

Vol. 18 No. 11: June 5, 2018

[Download the PDF](#)



All4Ed Starts Major Initiative to Ensure Science of Adolescent Learning Drives Critical Secondary Education Decisions

By Bob Wise

This week we released a report that is the start of a major initiative for the Alliance for Excellent Education (All4Ed) to ensure that critical education decisions are driven by science. Working with colleagues, I authored *Synapses, Students, and Synergies: Applying the Science of Adolescent Learning to Policy and Practice* to point out the major opportunities that exist in the next few years and also urge new ways to work together to maximize impact.

Because improving high schools for all students, especially the historically underserved, has always been All4Ed's prime mission, focusing on the science of adolescent learning and how it affects secondary learners is a natural part of our work. This fast emerging area of science of learning has the power to be one of the major forces affecting K-12 education, especially shaping the growing movement to deeper learning outcomes of critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and student agency.

[Read More](#)

[Download the Report](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) @All4Ed Starts Major Initiative to Ensure Critical Secondary Education Decisions are Driven by Science of Adolescent Learning



JUST RELEASED: 2018 Building a Grad Nation Report

In 2001, the national high school graduation rate stood at 71 percent. Fifteen years later — and for the first time ever, no state in the nation has a high school graduation rate below 71 percent and there are now thirty-nine states above 80 percent. This improvement marks a major milestone toward reaching the country's goal of a 90 percent graduation rate, according to the latest *Building a Grad Nation* report co-authored by Civic Enterprises and Everyone Graduates Center, and released in partnership with America's Promise Alliance and the Alliance for Excellent Education.

However, even with clear progress — and an additional three million students graduating rather than dropping out over that same time period — the country has more work to do to finish the job to reach its goal.

[Read the Press Release](#)

[Download the Report](#)


[Click to Tweet:](#) Get the latest on state and U.S. progress toward a 90 percent high school graduation rate by downloading the 2018

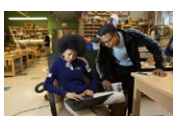


How Student Voice Can Inform Assessment for Learning in Schools

Schools often consult outside experts to help them enhance their curriculum or improve student outcomes, using the latest and greatest assessment tools in hopes of seeing a difference in student outcomes. But there is an easily accessible support available to teachers that taps resources sitting right in their classrooms—their students.

[Read More](#)

 [Click to Tweet:](#) How Can Student Voice Inform Assessment for Learning in Schools? Find out in this @CenterPointEd blog post by @All4Ed's @hedden_natalie bit.ly/2LX82qH #AssessmentFORLearning




Deeper Learning Digest: Twitter Chat, Much?

Twitter chat, much? From a Hewlett Foundation chat on how foundations can help expand deeper learning opportunities for students, especially those that need it most, to another chat solely focused on assessment *for* learning, the Twittersphere is buzzing with talk of deeper learning.

In addition to info and highlights from these chats, this digest highlights an important podcast episode by NPR's *Teaching Matters* on assessments, equity, and the workforce, and the "perfect match" connection between project-based learning and social emotional learning.

[Read More](#)

 [Click to Tweet:](#) Twitter Chat, Much? This #DeeperLearning Digest from @All4Ed features recent twitter chats by @Hewlett_Found and @CenterPointEd, a new @NPR Teaching Matters podcast episode, & more! bit.ly/2LZ61dJ

Coming Soon

URGENT: Students Without Status: Urge Congress to Support Rights of Undocumented Immigrant Students

THURSDAY
JUNE 7, 2018
4:00 – 4:30 P.M.
(EDT)

Join the Alliance for Excellent Education and UnidosUS for a brief call-to-action webinar urging Congress to support the rights of undocumented immigrant students. Two Congressmen are leading an effort to force the U.S. House of Representatives to vote on solutions for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, better known as DACA, and border security. Join us to learn what's happening on Capitol Hill, and how you can help provide undocumented students the protection they need and deserve.

[Register Now](#)

In Case You Missed It



Agents of Their Own Success: Self-Advocacy Skills and Self-Determination for Students with Disabilities in the Era of Personalized Learning

During this briefing, a group of distinguished panelists offered actions that students, parents, community members, educators, and policymakers can take to ensure self-advocacy and self-determination are integrated into personalized learning systems, especially for students with disabilities, who will have to more proactively advocate for their needs in higher education, the workforce, and community life.

[Watch the Webinar](#)



Future Ready Schools®: Raising Readers to Leaders, One Page at a Time

In this webinar, members of the California's Val Verde Unified School District (VVUSD) leadership team share how they used the five-step Future Ready Schools (FRS) planning process to create their district's FRS action plan. They describe the process used during their two years of intense planning and collaboration with various departments within the district, along with input from parent groups. Through this systematic research-based process, they created a dynamic plan that puts their students first and provides them with opportunities to acquire twenty-first-century career skills that will carry them into the future.

[Watch the Webinar](#)



Future Ready Coaches: Student-Centered Initiatives

Future Ready Schools® (FRS) instructional coaches are essential to the continued growth and development of customized professional learning for their schools and districts. This webinar explores ways that **Chris Aviles**, coordinator of innovation, technology, and twenty-first-century skills for Fair Haven Public Schools in New Jersey, is challenging the status quo as it relates to what a technology class should be and what technology integration looks like in the classroom.

Watch the Webinar

Miss a Webinar?

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

Webinars on Demand

Looking for meeting space? Want to broadcast you own webinar?

Visit all4ed.org/studio/ to learn how you can rent All4Ed's conference space or studio to host your organization's next event.



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.

Access ESSA Materials

Federal Flash ⚡



This Federal Flash brings you the highlights from Education Secretary Betsy DeVos's recent Congressional testimony – including one controversial response that education advocates say went against the Constitution. And could federal relief be in sight for striking teachers seeking better pay and

more resources for schools?

[Watch the Video](#)

[Click to Tweet](#): Did Betsy DeVos's answer in her congressional testimony violate the Constitution? Some education advocates say yes. #FederalFlash takes a deeper look. Also, is federal relief on the horizon for striking teachers? Watch at all4ed.org/FederalFlash

[Watch Previous Episodes](#)

Recommended



Can a school save a neighborhood?

The Hechinger Report

[Read More](#)



Summer Melt: Why One Third of College-Bound Students Don't Make It to Campus in the Fall

Ed.gov Homeroom

[Read More](#)



The 'shadow education system': How wealthier students benefit from art, music, and theater over the summer while poor kids miss out

Chalkbeat

[Read More](#)

Get Social

Follow All4Ed on Twitter and Facebook

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)



Javier Guzman
@bigpicjavier

Follow



Schools alone cannot achieve educational equity. The larger community must be enrolled, engaged, and activated. We didn't get to where we are because schools became inequitable on their own.

[#hewlettlistens](#) [#bigpiclearning](#)
[#equityfellows](#) [#intlsnetwork](#)

11:12 AM - 31 May 2018

28 Retweets 56 Likes



↻ 28

♡ 56



Bob Wise
@BobWise48

Follow



[#HewlettListens](#) we have to help teachers “rearrange their crowded backpacks” with deeper learning skills that either replace or improve their existing practices. Key not to seem like we are just layering on new pedagogy.

10:40 AM - 1 Jun 2018

1 Retweet 8 Likes



↻ 1

♡ 8



Janice Jackson, EdD ✓
@janicejackson

Follow



An inclusive society that welcomes people of all backgrounds is a collective goal that we should all work toward. Honored to celebrate the achievement of our Native American students.



11:52 AM - 3 Jun 2018

8 Retweets 41 Likes



↻ 8

♡ 41