



The Consortium of State School Boards Associations  
Weekly Education Report  
**LAST WEEK IN WASHINGTON**

**JULY 10, 2023**

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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**

• **Funding - Biden Admin Announces Renew America's Schools Grant**

**Funding:** On June 29, The Biden-Harris Administration, through the Department of Energy (DOE), **announced** the first round of selectees for the Renew America's Schools grant program, a competitive award that will support the implementation of energy improvements in K-12 schools across the country. There are 24 Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in 22 states that will share in approximately \$178 million of funding. This historic investment will directly benefit about 74,000 students and 5,000 teachers in 97 school buildings across America, according to the DOE's press release. DOE's focus on public schools, which make up the second-largest sector of American infrastructure after transportation, supports President Biden's Investing in America Agenda by promoting STEM education and workforce development and stimulating local economies. Selected LEAs can be found [here](#).

- **Child Nutrition – Food Purchases for School Meals:** On June 23, the Department of Agriculture (USDA) **announced** that it is providing nearly \$1.3 billion to states and territories to purchase domestic foods to be distributed to schools, bringing the total amount of additional commodity support for school meals to nearly \$3.8 billion since December 2021. This additional funding is needed to address elevated food and labor costs that will continue to affect school meal programs into the 2023-24 school year, when schools will lose the added,

temporary financial support Congress had authorized for the 2022-23 school year in the bipartisan Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022. An investment of another \$1.22 billion will be used for the fourth round of Supply Chain Assistance funds provided to states to support the purchase of American-grown foods for their meal programs. Supply Chain Assistance funding can be used by school districts to purchase unprocessed and minimally processed domestic food such as fresh fruit, milk, cheese, frozen vegetables and ground meat. Each state will allocate the funds to schools based on student enrollment, with a minimum amount per district to ensure that small schools are not left behind. This assistance builds on the three rounds of Supply Chain Assistance funds that totaled nearly **\$2.5 billion** that USDA previously allocated in December 2021, June 2022, and December 2022. These funds deliver direct relief from ongoing supply chain issues and improve the quality and consistency of school meals for children in communities experiencing disruptions, making it easier for schools to operate successful meal programs.

2. **Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up**

- **Impact on State School Board Associations**

3. **In Brief – Last Week in Washington**

- **Brookings Institute Launches Childhood Cost Calculator**: On Thursday, June 29, the Brookings Institute held an event to highlight the **launch of its Childhood Cost Calculator**, a tool designed for costing out interventions for children and youth. The event featured presentations by representatives from three countries who shared their experiences piloting the cost calculator.
- **SCOTUS Rules on Affirmative Action in College Admissions**: On Thursday, June 29, the Supreme Court of the United States (“the Court”) released their highly anticipated ruling on the use of affirmative action in university admissions. The Court effectively barred universities from using race as a factor in university admissions, marking the start of a new era in higher education and rolling back decades of precedents that had allowed affirmative action programs.

4. **New Publications**

- **The Reading Revolution: How States Are Scaling Literacy Reform**

*FutureED (June, 2023)*

This new report tells the story of how Mississippi, Tennessee, and other states have redesigned reading instruction and raised student achievement in thousands of public schools through bold, state-level leadership—demonstrating that with the right ingredients, change can happen in public education on a large scale, smart policy can drive higher performance, and bipartisan school reform is possible even in today’s fraught political climate.

5. **In the News**

- **Google Executive: AI Could ‘Transform’ School into a ‘Personal Learning Experience’**

*EducationWeek (July 6, 2023)*

- **Ransomware Criminals Are Dumping Kids' Private Files Online After School Hacks**  
*Associated Press (July 5, 2023)*
  - **Office of Head Start Seeks Public Comment on Extension of COVID-19 Recordkeeping**  
*Federal Register Notice by the Children and Families Administration (June 30, 2023)*
  - **Schools Bring Police Back to Campuses, Reversing Racial Justice**  
*The New York Times (June 27, 2023)*
  - **CMS Launches School-Based Services Technical Assistance Center**  
*Medicaid.gov (June, 2023)*
6. **Weekly Calendar - What's coming up this week?**
- **Afterschool and Summer Learning Programs: Helping Youth Succeed**  
*Wednesday at 3:30pm ET*
  - **Engage Every Student Summit**  
*Thursday at 9:30am ET*
  - **Senate Finance Committee on 25 Years of the Child Tax Credit**  
*Thursday at 10am ET*
  - **Championing a Strong, More Diverse Education Workforce**  
*Thursday at 10am ET*
  - **Unpacking Recent SCOTUS Decisions**  
*Thursday at 12pm ET*
7. **Future Hearings & Events**
- **Technology in Early Childhood: Risks and Opportunities**  
*July 17 at 2pm ET*
  - **A Briefing and Conversation with the Institute of Education Sciences**  
*July 19 at 12:30pm ET*
  - **Homeroom with Education Leaders: Exploring the Power of Innovation in the Classroom**  
*July 20 at 2pm ET*
  - **Breaking Barriers: Recognizing and Uplifting Gifted Students from Diverse Backgrounds**  
*July 25 at 2pm ET*
  - **Improving Workforce Development and STEM Education**  
*July 27 at 10am ET*
  - **National Student Privacy & Data Security Summer Webinar Series**  
*August 16, 23, and 30 at 2pm ET*
8. **On The Floor of Congress This Week**
- **Senate floor:** Consideration of nominations
  - **House floor:** H.R. 2670 – National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024

## 9. [Important U.S. House and Senate Links](#)

## 10. [About BPAG](#)

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### 1. COSSBA Policy Priorities

#### FUNDING

##### **BIDEN ADMIN ANNOUNCES RENEW AMERICA'S SCHOOLS GRANT FUNDING**

On June 29, The Biden-Harris Administration, through the Department of Energy (DOE), [announced](#) the first round of selectees for the Renew America's Schools grant program, a competitive award that will support the implementation of energy improvements in K–12 schools across the country. There are 24 Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in 22 states that will share in approximately \$178 million of funding. This historic investment will directly benefit about 74,000 students and 5,000 teachers in 97 school buildings across America, according to the DOE's press release. DOE's focus on public schools, which make up the second-largest sector of American infrastructure after transportation, supports President Biden's Investing in America Agenda by promoting STEM education and workforce development and stimulating local economies. Selected LEAs can be found [here](#).

#### CHILD NUTRITION

##### **FOOD PURCHASES FOR SCHOOL MEALS**

On June 23, the Department of Agriculture (USDA) [announced](#) that it is providing nearly \$1.3 billion to states and territories to purchase domestic foods to be distributed to schools, bringing the total amount of additional commodity support for school meals to nearly \$3.8 billion since December 2021. This additional funding is needed to address elevated food and labor costs that will continue to affect school meal programs into the 2023-24 school year, when schools will lose the added, temporary financial support Congress had authorized for the 2022-23 school year in the bipartisan Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022. An investment of another \$1.22 billion will be used for the fourth round of Supply Chain Assistance funds provided to states to support the purchase of American-grown foods for their meal programs. Supply Chain Assistance funding can be used by school districts to purchase unprocessed and minimally processed domestic food such as fresh fruit, milk, cheese, frozen vegetables and ground meat. Each state will allocate the funds to schools based on student enrollment, with a minimum amount per district to ensure that small schools are not left behind. This assistance builds on the three rounds of Supply Chain Assistance funds that totaled nearly [\\$2.5 billion](#) that USDA previously allocated in December 2021, June 2022, and December 2022. These funds deliver direct relief from ongoing supply chain issues and improve the quality and consistency of school meals for children in communities experiencing disruptions, making it easier for schools to operate successful meal programs.

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### 2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-Up

The House and Senate were both in recess the previous two weeks. Regardless, there was plenty of news from Washington, DC, as the Supreme Court released decisions on a number of cases, including two education-related ones. First, the Court [struck down affirmative action policies at Harvard and the University of North Carolina](#), arguably setting back decades of efforts to

diversify campuses nationwide. Second, the Court said that the Biden Administration's campaign to forgive student loan debt is illegal.

While appropriators were out of town, reports suggest that House Republicans are planning ahead and considering a vote on a continuing resolution (CR) this month. The idea is to have a CR in place to fund the federal government beyond September 30<sup>th</sup> in case all of the spending bills are not signed by then. That would prevent any government shutdown—partial or otherwise. Republicans might then avoid pressure from their Democratic colleagues who are very unhappy about House leaders' intentions to develop spending bills at levels lower than agreed to in the debt limit spending deal. Another consideration is the Republican Caucus. Republicans cannot afford to lose more than five of their own on any vote for a spending bill, and Democrats will almost certainly vote against all of them. With some fiscal hawks already saying that the agreed to spending levels remain too high, leadership is reportedly assessing who might be trouble and how to keep them on board. They are even soliciting ideas for additional spending cuts, although they are already at odds with Senate colleagues, who intend to develop bills at the level agreed to in the debt limit deal. The two chambers are about \$119 billion apart.

The Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill is expected to be marked up before Congress leaves town again for the August recess. Of course, it is always one of the most controversial bills and the surrounding negotiations could affect those intentions. Congress returns today, July 10<sup>th</sup> and the August recess is scheduled to begin July 28<sup>th</sup>. These three weeks will certainly be busy and full of spending negotiations.

### **How does this impact State School Board Associations?**

The Supreme Court's decision on affirmative action may have implications in K-12 education. It could affect the use of some policies, such as the use of race in admissions to selective magnet schools; race-based scholarships, counseling, and recruitment efforts; and broader efforts to promote racial and ethnic diversity and equity in elementary and secondary schools.

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### **3. In Brief – Last Week in Washington**

#### **BROOKINGS INSTITUTE LAUNCHES CHILDHOOD COST CALCULATOR**

On Thursday, June 29, the Brookings Institute held an event to highlight the launch of its Childhood Cost Calculator, a tool designed for costing out interventions for children and youth. The event featured opening and closing remarks from the Center for Universal Education's Emily Gustafsson-Wright, presentations by representatives from three countries who shared their experiences piloting the cost calculator, and a panel discussion on costing needs and challenges moderated by Brookings Non-resident Senior Fellow Tamar Manuelyan Atinc. The Childhood Cost Data initiative and the accompanying Childhood Cost Calculator (C3) was developed using ten years of research on the billions of dollars spent globally to improve the lives of children and youth and to better understand the actual costs of programs and interventions. Ultimately, Brookings envisioned and designed the tool to reduce the barriers that decision makers face in assessing dependable data. The free tool can be used by lawmakers, investors, implementers, and researchers, as well as across a broad range of sectors such as education, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, social protection, and governance. Gustafsson-Wright noted how cost data is often neglected, yet outlined how it is critical for advocacy, priority setting, budgeting and planning, managing program activities, and accountability of

spending. Realizing insufficiencies in the supply and demand side of costing, the Brookings Center for Universal Education set out to create a tool that would fill the gap. Succeeding a prior iteration that was less user-friendly, the C3 tool and accompanying user-guide was developed and addresses questions around program planning, adaptation and changes, and cost distribution, just to name a few. Following Gustafsson-Wright's overview, individuals from pilot countries detailed their experiences using the C3 tool for research projects on scaling teacher professional development (TPD) in Ghana and Honduras and a project for raising awareness and innovative strategies for early childhood development in Cambodia. Using the Childhood Cost Calculator for these projects shed light on the tool's potential to catalyze policy dialogue and action, benefitting C3 partners and their missions. A panel discussion with the Global Schools Forum's Alina Lipcan and Rachel Hinton from the U.K. Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office examined plans for promoting the costing tool and incentivizing others to use it in order to build a quality data-base of costed programs so that comparisons can be made across programs and countries to advance stakeholder understanding and appreciation of costing. In closing Gustafsson-Wright explained how eventually, through the use of the C3 tool, they hope to establish "locally-driven costing hubs" within universities or think tanks working closely with government in order to enhance the costing explorer and communities of practice. The Childhood Cost Data Initiative landing page is [here](#), and the cost calculator can be found [here](#). The webinar can be viewed [here](#).

### **SCOTUS RULES ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS**

On Thursday, June 29, the Supreme Court of the United States ("the Court") released their highly anticipated ruling on the use of affirmative action in university admissions. The Court effectively barred universities from using race as a factor in university admissions, marking the start of a new era in higher education and rolling back decades of precedents that had allowed affirmative action programs. Voting 6-3 along ideological lines, the justices rejected arguments by Harvard College and the University of North Carolina that their admissions programs are warranted to ensure campus diversity. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the majority opinion, saying the programs violated the Constitution's equal protection clause. "Both programs lack sufficiently focused and measurable objectives warranting the use of race, unavoidably employ race in a negative manner, involve racial stereotyping, and lack meaningful end points," Roberts wrote. "We have never permitted admissions programs to work in that way, and we will not do so today," he further stated. Bloomberg Government's Greg Stohr reported that the ruling could result in fewer Black and Hispanic students at top universities in the United States and require schools to overhaul their admissions policies. "Studies indicate a majority of selective U.S. universities now consider race in admissions," Stohr wrote. Although the Court's opinion did not expressly overturn *Grutter v. Bollinger*, a 2003 case that reaffirmed considering race in admissions factors, Justice Clarence Thomas's concurring opinion states that the 2003 ruling "is, for all intents and purposes, overruled." Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson dissented. "The court cements a superficial rule of colorblindness as a constitutional principle in an endemically segregated society where race has always mattered and continues to matter," Sotomayor wrote. Numerous public leaders and officials have spoken out about the ruling mostly split along ideological lines, with most Democrats opposed to the ruling and most Republicans supporting it. "Today, the court once again walked away from decades of precedent. The court has effectively ended affirmative action in college admissions, and I strongly, strongly disagree with the court's decision," said President Joe Biden. The President

also announced that his Administration is taking swift action to promote educational opportunity and diversity in colleges and universities. Those actions can be found [here](#). Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona released a [statement](#), saying, “Today’s Supreme Court decision takes our country decades backward, sharply limiting a vital tool that colleges have used to create vibrant, diverse campus communities.” He further urged higher education leaders to not lessen their commitment to fostering diverse campus communities, as did Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Chair Bernie Sanders in a [tweet](#). House Education and the Workforce Committee Ranking Member Bobby Scott also released a statement criticizing the Court’s decision. “Regrettably, the Supreme Court’s decision to end the consideration of race as a factor in college admissions is a significant setback in our effort to eliminate disparities in access to higher education and ensure diverse learning environments for all students,” he said. In May, Scott hosted a [briefing](#) with experts on the implications of the case. Furthermore, Ranking Member Scott introduced the [Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act \(EIEA\)](#), which would restore the right of students and parents to hold schools accountable for discrimination in education. Chair of the Education and Workforce Committee Virginia Foxx issues a [statement](#) praising the ruling saying “Today’s decision by the Supreme Court is a welcome victory for countless students across the country – academia’s ivory towers should not divide and promote preferences based on the color of one’s skin.” In a [tweet](#), House Speaker Kevin McCarthy also praised the ruling. *ABC News* reported on remarks provided by other influential individuals [here](#). As mentioned earlier, though this ruling is focused on higher education, the precedent set could have a significant impact on broader efforts to pursue diversity and equity in K-12 education.

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#### 4. New Publications

##### [The Reading Revolution: How States Are Scaling Literacy Reform](#)

*FutureED* (June, 2023)

This new report tells the story of how Mississippi, Tennessee, and other states have redesigned reading instruction and raised student achievement in thousands of public schools through bold, state-level leadership—demonstrating that with the right ingredients, change can happen in public education on a large scale, smart policy can drive higher performance, and bipartisan school reform is possible even in today’s fraught political climate.

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#### 5. In the News

##### [Google Executive: AI Could ‘Transform’ School into a ‘Personal Learning Experience’](#)

*EducationWeek* (July 6, 2023)

##### [Ransomware Criminals Are Dumping Kids’ Private Files Online After School Hacks](#)

*Associated Press* (July 5, 2023)

##### [Office of Head Start Seeks Public Comment on Extension of COVID-19 Recordkeeping](#)

*Federal Register Notice by the Children and Families Administration* (June 30, 2023)

##### [Schools Bring Police Back to Campuses, Reversing Racial Justice](#)

*The New York Times* (June 27, 2023)

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## THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

### 6. Weekly Calendar

#### Wednesday, July 12, 2023

**Webinar: Afterschool and Summer Learning Programs: Helping Youth Succeed**

**Subject:** The Senate Afterschool Caucus, in partnership with the Afterschool Alliance and the National Summer Learning Association, will hold a briefing on how federal funding for afterschool and summer programs is making a difference for youth, families, and communities.

**Participants:** Aaron Dworkin, ceo, National Summer Learning Association; Jodi Grant, executive director, Afterschool Alliance; Amobi Okugo, founder, OK U Go Foundation *and* A Frugal Athlete, Sacramento, California; Angela Mickens, program director, On the Road Collaborative, Harrisonburg, Virginia; Katie Landes, director, Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network, Atlanta, Georgia; Sophia Owen, Juneau Economic Development Council's FIRST Tech Challenge, Juneau, Alaska.

**Time and Location:** 3:30-4:30 p.m.; G-11 Dirksen Senate Office Building.

**Registration:** [RSVP here](#)

#### Thursday, July 13, 2023

**Webinar: Engage Every Student Summit**

**Subject:** The Department of Education will hold an event to commemorate the launch of the Engage Every Student initiative and to celebrate the strides that were made at the national, state and local levels in year one of the initiative to ensure that all students have opportunities to engage in high-quality afterschool and summer learning programs.

**Time and Location:** 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Registration:** Live stream available [here](#).

**Hearing: Senate Finance Committee on 25 Years of the Child Tax Credit**

**Subject:** The Senate Finance Taxation and IRS Oversight Subcommittee will hold a hearing on "Assessing 25 Years of the Child Tax Credit (1997-2022)."

**Witnesses:** Angela Rachidi, senior fellow, American Enterprise Institute; Indivar Dutta-Gupta, president and executive director, Center for Law and Social Policy; Kevin Corinth, senior fellow and deputy director, American Enterprise Institute's Center on Opportunity and Social Mobility; and Katherine Micheltore, associate professor, University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m.; 215 Dirksen SOB.

**Registration:** Live stream available [here](#).

**Webinar: Championing a Stronger, More Diverse Education Workforce**

**Subject:** The One Million Teachers of Color Campaign will have an in-person briefing on educator diversity.



**Participants:** Maricela Aceves, teacher, Yes Prep Northside Campus, Houston, TX; Soya Moore, principal, Northwest Prep Academy, Memphis, TN; Dr. Joseph Davis, superintendent, Ferguson-Florissant School District, MO.

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m.; 2045 Rayburn House Office Building (In-person).

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

### **Webinar: Unpacking Recent SCOTUS Decisions**

**Subject:** Education Reform Now will hold a webinar to examine the recent Supreme Court decision to overturn race based admissions in higher education, the implications of the decision, and what educators, policymakers, and advocates can do to protect diversity and equity in admissions.

**Participants:** Chris Quintana, USA Today; CJ Powell, National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC); Dr. Julie Park, The University of Maryland; and James Murphy, Education Reform Now.

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

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## **7. Future Hearings and Events**

### **Monday, July 17, 2023**

#### **Webinar: Early Efforts | Technology in Early Childhood: Risks and Opportunities**

**Subject:** The Hunt Institute will hold a webinar on the risks and opportunities of technology into the lives of young children.

**Participants:** Kris Perry, executive director, Children and Screens; Dr. Victor Lee, director of data interactions and STEM teaching and learning lab, Stanford University; and Dr. Deborah Rosenfeld, senior research associate, Education Development Center.

**Time:** 2:00 PM

**Registration:** Live stream available [here](#).

### **Wednesday, July 19, 2023**

#### **Webinar: A Briefing and Conversation With the Institute of Education Sciences**

**Subject:** The Institute for Education Sciences (IES) will hold a webinar to examine a proposal for using funding to create a National Center for Advanced Development in Education (NCADE), which would support “quick-turnaround, high-reward, scalable solutions” and research to significantly improve outcomes for all students. As proposed, NCADE would follow a model like that of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to create the extra flexibility, staffing, interdisciplinary perspectives and practice orientation needed to achieve breakthroughs in education tools and practices.

**Participants:** Elizabeth Albro, PhD, commissioner of education research, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education; Mark Schneider, PhD, director, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education; and Vivian Tseng, PhD, founder and CEO, Foundation for Child Development.

**Time:** 12:30 p.m.

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

### **Thursday, July 20, 2023**

#### **Webinar: Homeroom with Education Leaders | Exploring the Power of Innovation in the Classroom**

**Subject:** The Hunt Institute will hold a webinar on the development and implementation of new teaching techniques such as personalized teaching.

**Participants:** Dr. Callie Edwards, acting director, Program Evaluation and Education Research, The Friday Institute; LaVerne Srinivasan, vice president, National Program and Program Director, Education, Carnegie Corporation of New York; David Cook, director of innovative learning, Office of Continuous Improvement and Support, Kentucky Department of Education; and Cynthia Leck, partner, Transcend.

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

### **Tuesday, July 25, 2023**

#### **Webinar: Race & Education | Breaking Barriers: Recognizing and Uplifting Gifted Students from Diverse Backgrounds**

**Subject:** The Hunt Institute will hold a webinar on the expansion and access of gifted programming in underperforming urban districts.

**Participants:** Kristen Seward, clinical associate professor, Teacher Certification Advisor, and Associate Director of the Gifted Education Research & Resource Institute (GER<sup>2</sup>I), Purdue University; and Jack A. Naglieri, Ph.D. emeritus professor, George Mason University.

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

### **Thursday, July 27, 2023**

#### **Webinar: Improving Workforce Development and STEM Education (E&S, H)**

**Subject:** The Brookings Institution will hold an event to examine improvements to workforce development and STEM education.

**Participants:** Darell West, senior fellow, Center for Technology Innovation; John Hazen White, Jr. executive chairman, Taco Family of Companies; and Katherine Meyer, fellow, governance studies, Brown Center on Education Policy, Brookings.

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C.

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

### **Wednesday, August 16, 2023**

#### **National Student Privacy & Data Security Summer Webinar Series: FERPA 101**

**Subject:** This presentation hosted by the Department of Education will review the basics of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and delve into common scenarios faced by districts. It is intended for anyone who works with personally identifiable student data on a daily-basis; from the classroom teacher level to the district superintendent. Outcomes: - Improved understanding of FERPA and the context for the law - Reduced misconceptions / misunderstandings about FERPA.

**Time/Location:** 2:00 pm ET

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

### **Wednesday, August 23, 2023**

## **National Student Privacy & Data Security Summer Webinar Series: Data Security and Data Breach Incident Response**

**Subject:** This session will provide training on current data security best practices for education data systems, including user privacy and security awareness, privacy and security program development. Attendees will also be faced with a data breach scenario and must make the critical decisions in addressing an ongoing breach, avoiding pitfalls and guiding an organization through the difficult and often murky issues facing organizations during that time. This can be customized to other levels/organizations.

**Time/Location:** 2:00 pm ET

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

## **Wednesday, August 30, 2023**

### **National Student Privacy & Data Security Summer Webinar Series: Vetting Ed Tech and Tech Transparency**

**Subject:** This virtual session will explore both the importance of and the means by which online educational technology can be assessed for privacy protections and general compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The webinar will also highlight findings from PTAC's research study on transparency and prompt a discussion of strategies for engaging with parents and reducing the fear around the collection and use of student data.

**Time/Location:** 2:00 pm ET

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

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## **8. On The Floor of Congress This Week**

**Senate Floor:** Consideration of nominations

**House Floor:** [H.R. 2670](#) – National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024

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## **9. Links for Up-to-Date Information on Hearings, Legislation, and Events**

[U.S. House and Senate 2023 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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## **10. About BPAG**

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- 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

For more information, please visit our [website](#).

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