



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

JANUARY 9, 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**
 - **Teacher-Principal Training and Recruitment:** On Thursday, January 12, the Department of Education will host a webinar on addressing teacher shortages and supporting educators, highlighting promising policies and practices that will help accelerate learning. For more details, see this week's [calendar](#).
2. **Budget and Appropriations Wrap-up**
 - **Impact on State School Board Associations**
3. **New Publications**
 - **Progress in Spending Federal K-12 Covid Aid: State by State**
Future Ed (January, 2023)
With less than two years left to spend \$189 billion in federal Covid-relief aid, school districts and states have used about \$67.5 billion--or about 36 percent of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief money, according to the latest federal data. That ranges from 55 percent of the federal dollars spent in Iowa to 16 percent in Vermont. This Future Ed chart reflects spending reimbursements reported to the Department of Education through the first three quarters of 2022.
 - **Do School Districts Allocate More Resources to Economically Disadvantaged Students?**
Brookings Institute (December, 2022)

This report contributes to research in school finance by examining how resources are allocated within districts. Brookings focuses on both extremely local levels (e.g., showing district-specific estimates of how districts allocate funds to schools serving different student populations) and more national trends (e.g., examining whether certain types of districts nationwide tend to have more progressive within-district funding). They also focus on questions of how those resources are used by examining expenditures associated with teachers and staffing.

4. **In the News**

- **A Chaotic Start to a New Congress: What Educators Need to Know**
EducationWeek (January 4, 2023)

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

- **Webinar: The Future of Charter Schools**: The Brookings Institution will hold a webinar on "The future of charter schools in the United States."
Wednesday, January 11
- **Webinar: Addressing Teacher Shortages and Support Summit**: The U.S. Department of Education (ED) will host a webinar on addressing teacher shortages and supporting educators, highlighting promising policies and practices that will help accelerate learning.
Thursday, January 12
- **Webinar: State by State Analysis of Early Care and Education Systems**: The Bipartisan Policy Center holds a virtual discussion on "Early Care and Education Systems: Revisiting a State-by-State Analysis."
Thursday, January 12

6. **Future Hearings & Events**

- **Webinar: Future of Teaching American History**: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research will hold a webinar on "the Future of Teaching American History."
Wednesday, January 18

7. **On The Floor of Congress This Week**

- **Senate floor**: In recess until Monday, January 23
- **House Floor**: Rules Package

8. **Bills to Watch**

- **None.**

9. **Important U.S. House and Senate Links**

10. **About BPAG**

1. COSSBA Policy Priorities

TEACHER-PRINCIPAL TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT ADDRESSING TEACHER SHORTAGES AND SUPPORT SUMMIT

On Thursday, January 12, the Department of Education will host a webinar on addressing teacher shortages and supporting educators, highlighting promising policies and practices that will help accelerate learning. For more details, see this week's [calendar](#).

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2. Budget and Appropriations Wrap-Up

Last week, those elected to serve in the House and Senate for the 118th Congress came to Washington, DC, to be sworn in, get organized, and start the business of advancing the interests of the country. In the Senate, that went as planned. Not so for the House.

As of Friday afternoon, Members-elect of the House of Representatives had voted 13 times to try to select a Speaker of the House, with no success. Representative Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) had the support of most Republicans, but a group of about 20 refused to vote for him all week. The Democratic leader and nominee, Representative Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), won unanimous support from his Democratic colleagues in every vote. The House reconvened at 10pm Friday night for the 14th vote, and by early Saturday morning, Representative McCarthy finally secured the Speaker's gavel on the 15th ballot with 216 votes. House lawmakers took their oaths of office early Saturday morning, shortly after the successful vote for Speaker.

The holdups to officially confirm a Speaker of the House came from a number of demands from the group of dissenters regarding the ability to pursue a “[motion to vacate](#)” – which allows for a vote to remove the Speaker, committee assignments, and procedural rules, among other issues. Before the negotiations for votes began, Republicans had proposed a package of rules changes that would change the way legislation moves through the chamber. The final rules package following McCarthy's election to Speaker is [here](#).

Now that Speaker McCarthy has finally been elected, Congress can get organized this week following passage of the House rules package, and advocates can get to advocating.

How does this impact State School Board Associations?

The effects of the inability to seat a Speaker last week were many. Those elected to the House—first-termers and returners—could not be sworn in, and were technically still Representatives-elect through Saturday morning. In addition, committees and their staff are not organized due to this delay. Education advocates still don't know who will be leading the House education committee panel, since Representative Tim Walberg (R-MI) said he intends to challenge Representative Virginia Foxx (R-NC) for the post. (It remains to see if last week's events affect those plans).

Also of note for the education community, Representative Andy Harris (R-MD), a member of the Freedom Caucus and one of the 20 Republicans hesitant to support a Speaker McCarthy until Friday, reportedly wants to chair the House Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee. (Representative Tom Cole (R-OK) was the Ranking Member of

the panel, but if he becomes Chairman of the Rules Committee, he will likely give up that position.) A Chairman Harris would arguably make the education community's work more difficult in fighting for robust funding for education in appropriations debates.

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3. New Publications

Progress in Spending Federal K-12 Covid Aid: State by State

Future Ed (January, 2023)

With less than two years left to spend \$189 billion in federal Covid-relief aid, school districts and states have used about \$67.5 billion--or about 36 percent of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief money, according to the latest federal data. That ranges from 55 percent of the federal dollars spent in Iowa to 16 percent in Vermont. This chart [linked here](#) reflects spending reimbursements reported to the Department of Education through the first three quarters of 2022.

Do School Districts Allocate More Resources to Economically Disadvantaged Students?

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4. In the News

A Chaotic Start to a New Congress: What Educators Need to Know

EducationWeek (January 4, 2023)

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THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

5. Weekly Calendar

Key: **E&S** – Elementary & Secondary; **H** – Higher Education; **D** – Disability Policy

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

Webinar: Future of Charter Schools (E&S)

Subject: The Brookings Institution will hold a webinar on “The Future of Charter Schools in the United States.”

Participants: Doug Harris, fellow, Brookings (Moderator); Katrina Bulkley, professor, College of Education and Human Services, Montclair State University; Shavar Jeffries, CEO, The KIPP Foundation; and Roberto Rodriguez, assistant secretary for planning, evaluation, and policy development, U.S. Department of Education.

Time: 11:00 AM ET

Registration: Register [here.](#)

Thursday, January 12, 2023

Webinar: Addressing Teacher Shortages and Support Summit (E&S)

Subject: The U.S. Department of Education (ED) will host a webinar on addressing teacher shortages and supporting educators, highlighting promising policies and practices that will help accelerate learning.

Time: 2:00 PM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

Webinar: State by State Analysis of Early Care and Education Systems (E&S)

Subject: The Bipartisan Policy Center holds a virtual discussion on "Early Care and Education Systems: Revisiting a State-by-State Analysis."

Time: 3:00 PM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

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6. Future Hearings and Events

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Webinar: Future of Teaching American History (E&S)

Subject: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research will hold a webinar on "the Future of Teaching American History."

Participants: Max Eden, research fellow, AEI; and William Bennett, former U.S. secretary of education.

Time: 11:00 AM ET

Registration: Register [here](#).

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7. On The Floor of Congress This Week

Senate Floor: In recess until Monday, January 23

House Floor: Rules Package

8. Bills to Watch

None.

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

[U.S. House and Senate 2022 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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11. **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:

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- Association Management
- Strategic Communications
- Policy Events

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