DEVELOPING A POLICY AGENDA
TO IMPROVE YOUNG PEOPLE’S OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT SUCCESS

Pathways to Adult Success COVID-19 & Social Justice Solution Forum
Everyone Graduates Center
Johns Hopkins University School of Education
January 19, 2021
WELCOME AND TODAY’S AGENDA

• Developing a Policy Agenda to Improve Young People’s Opportunities for Adult Success

• Solution Sharing:
  – Phillip Lovell, Vice President of Policy Development and Government Relations for the Alliance for Excellent Education

• Insights from the PAS Network -- idea and resource sharing
ORGANIZING OUR DISCUSSION

• We have a large and diverse group of people and organizations participating in today’s call
  – K-12, Higher Ed, Non-Profits, State Dept. of Ed.
• So we can hear from as many as possible, we have muted everyone upon entry. Please share ideas and ask questions via the chat function.
  – One of the moderators will read each question or comment out loud, and then ask for responses via the chat function
  – The moderator may ask the participant to respond verbally for elaboration or clarification
  – If you are sharing a resource that can be reached via a web link, please share the link in the chat box
  – After the call, we will send out a follow-up email listing resources shared during the session and add to the COVID-19 resource webpage on the PAS website
Using an indicator and response system to keep all students on track to postsecondary success: **EWS 2.0**

Navigation and guidance supports for all, from upper elementary on through postsecondary persistence

Cross-sector collaborations and networks

Supporting student success with improved data systems and their use in schools, districts, and states
RECENT POLICY DEVELOPMENTS THAT IMPACT THE PAS LEARNING COMMUNITY
FEDERAL 2021 SPENDING AGREEMENT – PAS-RELATED ITEMS

• Simplifies FAFSA form
  – reduced from 108 to 36 questions
• Forgave capital improvement loans to historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs)
• Restored incarcerated students’ access to Pell Grants
PRESIDENT-ELECT BIDEN ANNOUNCES AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

Emergency legislative package to
• Fund vaccinations,
• Provide immediate, direct relief to families bearing the brunt of the COVID-19 crisis, and
• Support struggling communities

PAS related items
PROVIDE $130 BILLION TO HELP SCHOOLS SAFELY REOPEN

• These funds can be used to reduce class sizes and modify spaces so students and teachers can socially distance
• Ensure every school has access to a nurse
• Increase transportation capacity to facilitate social distancing on the bus
• Hire counselors to support students as they transition back to the classroom
• Close the digital divide that is exacerbating inequities during the pandemic
• Provide summer school or other support for students that will help make up lost learning time this year
• Create and expand community schools
• Districts must ensure that funds are used to not only reopen schools, but also to meet students' academic, mental health and social, and emotional needs in response to COVID-19, (e.g. through extended learning time, tutoring, and counselors)
A portion of funding will be reserved for a **COVID-19 EDUCATIONAL EQUITY CHALLENGE GRANT**, which will support state, local and tribal governments in partnering with teachers, parents, and other stakeholders, to advance equity- and evidence-based policies to respond to COVID-related educational challenges and give all students the support they need to succeed.
EXPAND THE HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

• The president-elect’s plan will ensure colleges have:
  – critical resources to implement public health protocols,
  – execute distance learning plans, and provide emergency grants to
    students in need.

• This $35 billion in funding will be directed to public institutions,
  including community colleges, as well as, public and private
  HBCUs and other minority serving institutions.

• This funding will provide millions of students up to an additional
  $1,700 in financial assistance from their college.
HARDEST-HIT EDUCATION FUND

Provides $5 billion in funds for governors to use to support educational programs and the learning needs of students significantly impacted by COVID-19, whether K-12, higher education, or early childhood education programs.
PHILLIP LOVELL
Vice President of Policy Development and Government Relations
Alliance for Excellent Education
WHAT ARE THE EDUCATION POLICY PRIORITIES OF THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION AND THE NEW CONGRESS?

• COVID-19 Relief and Recovery
• School Improvement and Student Supports
• College and Career Readiness (CTE)
• Higher Education
WHAT IS LIKELY TO HAPPEN IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS?
WHAT POLICIES WOULD HELP ADVANCE INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT SUCCESS IN YOUR COMMUNITY OR WITH THE STUDENTS YOU SERVE?

IDEAS WILL BE COLLECTED IN A SHARED GOOGLE DOC
HTTPS://DOCS.GOOGLE.COM/DOCUMENT/D/1VNDX_6IM0QHJYXBI6MCWULBTKUVO4AZYGVUF0N9P4/EDIT?USP=SHARING
HELPFUL LINK/RESOURCE

• Good Jobs for All: How Federal Laws Can Create Pathways From Education and Training to Good Jobs
  • Laura Jimenez & Livia Lam, Center for American Progress

• Despite the billions of dollars that the federal government spends each year on education and workforce training, education and labor market outcomes remain inequitable.
  – For example, not all students graduate from high school, and even when they do, most are ineligible for their postsecondary training program of choice.¹
  – Research shows that students do not receive sufficient information about what careers are available and which courses best lead to those options, so they waste time in courses that do not lead to good jobs.
  – What’s more, it is not clear how effective public workforce programs are at raising wages and increasing access to better jobs.
UPCOMING EVENT

• PAS Solutions Forum:

  Putting Students On-Track to Adult Success During and After COVID-19: State Departments of Education Innovations

  • Feb 23, 2021 at 2:00pm ET
IN CONCLUSION

• Send your follow-up ideas and thoughts to rbalfanz@jhu.edu
• We will send out:
  – a recording of the session
  – a copy of the slides
  – a list of references and materials shared today
• If you would like an attendee list, please email info@pathwaystoadultsuccess.org
• Be well, thank you, and onwards