



The Fans Go Wild!

7



This seat is taken...

8





2012 Election Demographics

9

Race and Gender

- Women: Obama 55%
- LGBT: Obama 76%
- African American: Obama 93%
- Hispanic: Obama 71%
- Asian: Obama 73%
- White: Romney 59%

Obama's share of the white vote shrank, **but** the overall number of white voters also shrank.

13



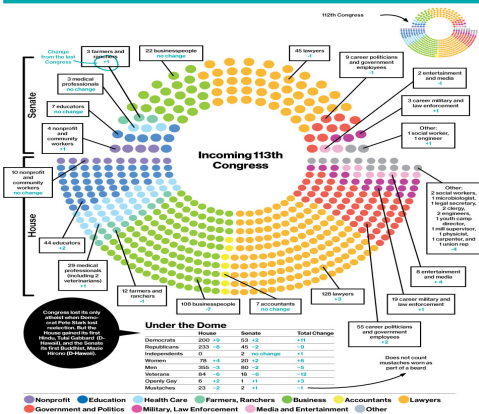
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15



15




Congressional Champions




**Thank You
Tom Harkin
&
George
Miller!**




16




2014 Mid-Term Elections

**Senate Prediction:
Democrats: 48 • Republicans: 49 • Toss-Ups: 3**

**House Prediction:
Democrats: 193 • Republicans: 230 • Toss-Ups: 12**

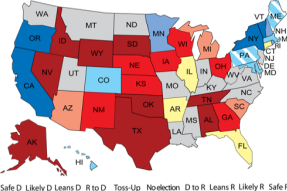
Updated Mar. 31, 2014



Safe D Likely D Leans D R to D Toss-Up No election D to R Leans R Likely R Safe R

Democrats: 43 **Toss-ups: 3** **Republicans: 51**

Updated Mar. 31, 2014




Safe D Likely D Leans D R to D Toss-Up No election D to R Leans R Likely R Safe R

**Gubernatorial Prediction:
Democrats: 13 • Republicans: 19 • Toss Up: 4**

Courtesy of University of Virginia www.centerforpolitics.org/

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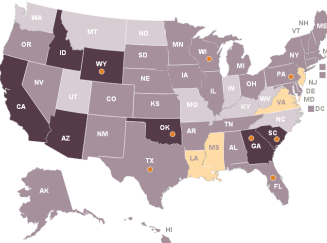


Election 2014: Year of Education?!

2014 State Races to Watch

This year, 36 states have gubernatorial elections, seven have elections for state schools superintendent, and 46 have legislative elections for one or both chambers. With the candidate landscape still unfolding, here are some likely hot spots.

Click on an orange button below to see more information about specific states.



Key

- Gubernatorial, and Superintendent
- Gubernatorial and Subnational Legislative Only
- Legislative Only
- No Race

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Education Legislation & Reforms

Council for Exceptional Children
The voice and vision of special education

22

OVERDUE

- ESEA
- IDEA
- Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
- Education Sciences Reform Act
- Higher Education Act

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The voice and vision of special education

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Remind Me...

President Signs into Law!!

Full House Passes Bill

Full Senate Passes Bill

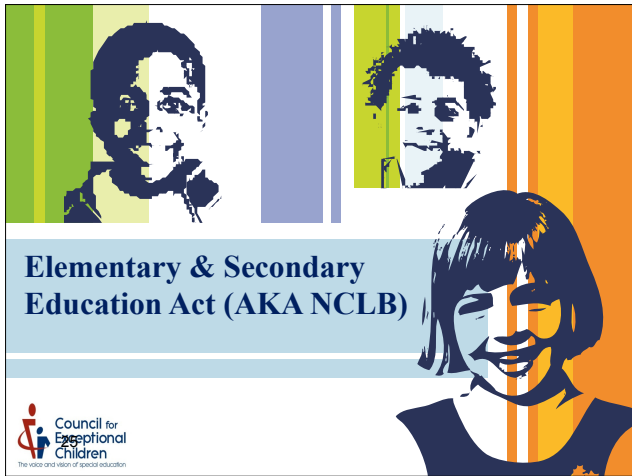
Conference Committee

House Committee Passes Bill


Senate Committee Passes Bill

24


25



Elementary & Secondary Education Act (AKA NCLB)

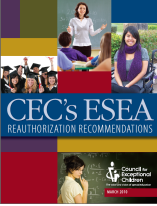


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CEC's ESEA Guiding Principles

- Supporting a **Well Prepared Successful Educational Workforce**
- Meaningful Systems that Encourage Collaborative and Supportive Measurement, Evaluation, and Reward of **Professional Performance**
- Strengthening **Assessment and Accountability** for **ALL**
- Developing Improved Strategies that Create **Positive School Reform**
- Providing **Full Funding** to Execute the Goals and Provisions of ESEA
- Meeting the Unique Needs of **Gifted Learners**
- Improving Outcomes for All Children Through the **Collaboration of All Educators**



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2007...2008...2009...2010...2011...2012...2013...
2014??



Lots of Talking...

28



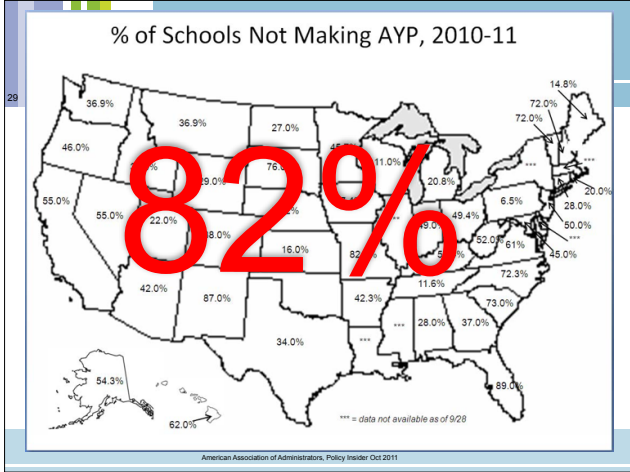
Senator Tom Harkin
D-Iowa

Senator Lamar Alexander
R-Tennessee



% of Schools Not Making AYP, 2010-11

29





30



White House Announces Waivers

September, 2011

31





ESEA Waivers

32

- Remove 2014 AYP deadline
- Funding Flexibility
- Changes to Accountability
- Flexibility for HQT Plans



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ESEA Waivers

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4 Conditions:

- Adopt College & Career Ready Standards
- Develop Assessments that Measure Student Growth
- Develop Differentiated Accountability System
- Develop Guidelines for Local Teacher and Principal Evaluations Based on Effectiveness



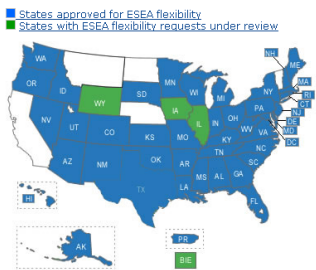
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ESEA Waivers

34

- 42 States + Washington, DC have waivers



ESEAFLEX

34



Waiver Concerns

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No 2 State applications are the same. . .



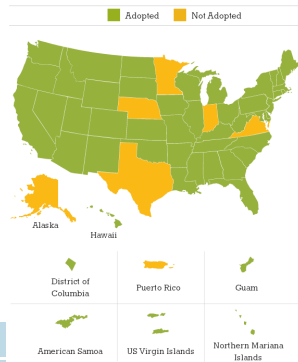
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Transition #1: College & Career Ready Standards

36

45 States + District of Columbia



36

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Transition #2: New Assessments

Next Generation of Assessments

1% Dynamic Learning Maps	1% National Center & State Collaborative	99% Smarter Balanced Consortia	99% PARCC Consortia
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43

44

Transition #2: New Assessments

Field Tests: March – June 2014
4 million + students
36 states, District of Columbia

Hardware? Bandwidth?
Desktops? Laptops?
Tablets?

What Works?
What Doesn't?

Confusing?
Overwhelming for students?

Accommodations Policies, Implementation

"The newness of this program will generate a few hiccups."
– PARCC Official, March 2014

44

45

Transition #2: New Assessments

Dynamic Learning Maps

18 States
Alaska, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin

Alternate Assessment based on Alternate Achievement Standards


45



Transition #2: New Assessments

- **2010-11 School Year:** Launch and design phase
- **2011-12 School Year:** Development begins
- **2012-13 School Year:** Item research and tryouts, and related research and data collection
- **2013-14 School Year:** Field testing and related research and data collection
- **2014-15 School Year:** Full operational administration of assessments

55



Field Testing Participation Info

- 37,000 Schools
- 4 million students
- 36 States
- 3-4 Hours of testing
- Most students taking online

Source: EdWeek

TESTING THE TESTS

The two state consortia that are designing tests for the Common Core State Standards begin field-testing their assessments this month.

PARCC

FIELD-TESTING WINDOWS

MARCH 24 - APRIL 11 for performance-based component, May 5 - June 6 for end-of-year component	MARCH 25 - JUNE 6
---	--------------------------

PROJECTED TESTING TIME FOR MOST STUDENTS

3 HOURS OR LESS (the operational test, in 2015, will be 8 TO 10 HOURS)	3 TO 4 1/2 HOURS (the operational test, in 2015, will be 7 TO 8 1/2 hours)
---	---

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING

About 16,000	About 21,000
--------------	--------------

NUMBER AND GRADE LEVEL OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING

1 MILLION , grades 3-11 (of 10 MILLION students in tested grades in PARCC field-testing states)	More than 3 MILLION , grades 3-8 and 11 (of total 6.7 MILLION students in tested grades in SBAC field-testing states)
--	---

NUMBER OF MEMBER STATES IN EACH CONSORTIUM PARTICIPATING


14 STATES and the District of Columbia (Florida, Indiana, and Pennsylvania are not participating)	22 STATES (Pennsylvania is not participating)
--	--

ONLINE VERSUS PAPER VERSIONS

About THREE QUARTERS of schools will use online versions; ONE QUARTER will use paper-and-pencil version	A SMALL STUDY SAMPLE of schools in a few states will use paper versions; THE REST will use the online version
---	---

SMARTER BALANCED

56



Field Testing Participation Info

- 37,000 Schools
- 4 million students
- 36 States
- 3-4 Hours of testing
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---	---

SMARTER BALANCED

57

Transition #3: New Evaluations


“...States must carefully analyze instruments and results to make sure special education teachers are getting a **fair deal**.”

- National Council on Teacher Quality
State of the States 2013
Connect the Dots: Using evaluations of teacher effectiveness to inform policy and practice

64

Transition #3: New Evaluations

CEC's Position on Special Education Teacher Evaluation



- > System Components
- > Complex Role
- > Measure Evidence-Based Practice
- > Recognize Professionalism
- > Incorporate Research
- > Dissemination

65


Transition #3: New Evaluations

CEC's Position on Special Education Teacher Evaluation

Include Fundamental System-Wide Components


- ✓ All educators must be included in **one evaluation system**.
- ✓ Evaluation systems must **identify appropriate professional development opportunities** for teachers based on the results of their evaluations.
- ✓ Evaluations must **support continuous improvement**.
- ✓ Evaluation processes and all measures of teacher effectiveness must be **open and transparent** to the teacher being evaluated.

66


 **Transition #3: New Evaluations**
CEC's Position on Special Education Teacher Evaluation

"If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one."

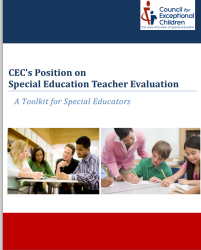
- Dolly Parton



73

 **Transition #3: New Evaluations**
Tools for You!


Visit: www.cec.sped.org
Policy & Advocacy




CEC Position on Special Education Teacher Evaluation

Teacher Evaluation Toolkit for Special Educators!

74

 **Transition #3: New Evaluations**
Tools for You!



Learn, Understand, Navigate New Teacher Evaluation Systems with the Help of your CEC Colleagues Through this Online Dialog!

Visit: www.cec.sped.org

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2013 House vs. Senate ESEA Bills

82

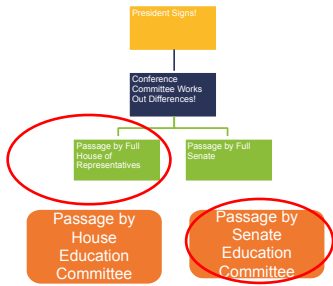


Total Opposites!!



Where are we in the legislative process??

83






Student Success Act (HR 5) House Version of ESEA

84

- July 19, 2013: Passed House by 221-207 vote; all Democrats and 12 Republicans voted against
- Two days of debate
 - 18 amendments passed
 - 4 amendments defeated
 - 4 withdrawn

CEC Opposed, as did most of the education & disability communities

85




Student Success Act (HR 5) House Version of ESEA

Provisions in Student Success Act (HR 5) CEC Supports

- ✓ *Eliminates AYP & 2014 Deadline*
- ✓ *Maintains Disaggregation of Subgroup Data*

85

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Student Success Act (HR 5) House Version of ESEA

CEC Expresses Serious Concerns with Student Success Act (HR 5)

- ✗ *Reduces Accountability for Students with Disabilities*
- ✗ *Eliminates Highly Qualified Teacher Provisions*
- ✗ *Lacks focus on Professional Development*
- ✗ *Reduces, Caps and Eliminates Funding; Locks into place sequestration*
- ✗ *Increases Privatization*
- ✗ *Ignores High-Ability Students*

86

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Strengthening America's Schools Act Senate Version of ESEA

- Passed Senate Health, Education, Labor, Pensions (HELP) Committee June 12, 2013
- Passed with only Democrat support
- Two days of debate and amendments

CEC supported with some reservations, as did most of disability community; education community split

87



Strengthening America's Schools Act Senate Version of ESEA

88

88

Provisions in Strengthening America's Schools Act CEC Supports

- ✓ **Focus on early learning for entry "ready to learn"**
- ✓ **Encourage equity through greater transparency and fair distribution**
- of
- ✓ **Limits Use of Alternate Assessment**
- ✓ **Changes to Accountability System, Focus on Bottom 15%, Low Performing Subgroups, Maintains Subgroup Disaggregation, Student Growth & Performance Targets: Eliminates AYP & 2014 Deadline**
- ✓ **Early Intervening Services in General Ed, UDL, PBIS**
- ✓ **Mental Health Supports**
- ✓ **Includes Key Provisions of CEC-Endorsed, TALENT Act for High-Ability**



Strengthening America's Schools Act Senate Version of ESEA

89

89

Provisions in Strengthening America's Schools Act That Concern CEC

- ✗ **New Requirements without Adequate Resources**
- ✗ **Accountability System Focus on Bottom 15% of Schools and Only Reporting for Remaining 85%**
- ✗ **Includes "Turnaround" Models that Promote Firing of Staff and Other**
- ✗ **Overemphasis of Teacher Evaluation from Federal Level**
- ✗ **Defining "Highly Qualified" to Include Individuals Still Enrolled in Alternate Route to Certification Programs**



What's Next for ESEA?

90

90



91

92

93



Charters & Vouchers

94

April 1, 2014: Congressmen Kline (R-MN) and Miller (D-CA) introduced the *Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act*.

✓ Requirement that State entities describe in their applications how they will **ensure charters can meet the educational needs** of students with disabilities;

✓ An assurance that State entities will ensure authorizing agencies ensure **charter schools are meeting the obligations of IDEA and section 504**;

✓ An assurance that State entities will adequately monitor and help charter schools **to recruit, enroll, and meet the needs of all** students with disabilities.





New Initiatives in Early Learning



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Preschool for ALL?!

97

- "I propose working with states to make high-quality preschool available to every child in America."

Every dollar we invest in high-quality early education can save more than seven dollars later on – by boosting graduation rates, reducing teen pregnancy, even reducing violent crime."

– President Obama, 2013 State of the Union





President & Congressional Early Learning Proposal

98

- New federal-state partnership to provide preschool to all low and moderate income four-year olds
- Incentivizes full day kindergarten
- Investment in Head Start, Early Head Start-Child Care partnership
- Well trained preschool teachers who are paid comparably to K-12 staff
- Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge



Where are the IDEA Early Childhood Programs???

99

- IDEA's Early Intervention (Part C) and Preschool Programs (sec. 619) were not highlighted in President's plan
- CEC/DEC working to fix this!!



Higher Education Act

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What is the Problem??

- What is the Department saying...
 - “Teacher preparation programs are **not always attracting the strongest candidates** – only 24% of all teachers, and only 14% of teachers in high-poverty schools, come from the top third of college graduates”
 - “More than three in five education school alumni report that their **education school did not prepare them** for “classroom realities”
 - “70% of superintendents and principals **said teachers were not prepared** to address the needs of students with disabilities.

101



Shift to Effectiveness... Not Just in K-12

- Rate every teacher preparation program on 1-4 scale (1 best, 4 worst)
- Rating system based on:
 - K-12 student outcomes
 - Employment rates (including placements)
 - Customer satisfaction (including principal surveys);
 - Professional standards; R state approval;

Tie ranking to financial aid eligibility!

102

Education Sciences Reform Act

103

CEC's ESRA Recommendations



Strengthen National Center for Special Education Research



Bridge Research-to-Practice Gap



Recognize Special/Gifted Ed in Institute for Education Sciences



Support, Strong Consistent Leadership

104

Strengthening Education Through Research Act

Introduced on 4/2/14 by Representatives Kline (R-MN), Miller (D-CA), Rokita (R-IN), McCarthy (D-CA)

Includes key CEC Recommendations:

- ✓ Prioritizing special education research funding within the Institute of Education Sciences.
- ✓ Emphasizing the elimination of the achievement gap between students with and without disabilities.
- ✓ Increasing dissemination and collaboration with the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).
- ✓ Increasing the pipeline of early career special education researchers.
- ✓ Ensuring peer reviewers have expertise in areas relevant to grant applications.

CEC has significant concerns as funding levels are far too low

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New opportunities in gifted education policy

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Federal initiatives

House: TALENT Act
Rep. Tom Latham (R-IA)
Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO)

Senate: TALENT Act
Sen. Grassley (R-IA)
Sen. Mikulski (D-MD)
Sen. Casey (D-PA)

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NT Act

Supporting indicator development to ensure academic growth

Confronting and Addressing the National Achievement Gap

Continuing Research and Dissemination on Best Practices in Gifted Ed

Providing Public Transparency of Student Achievement Data

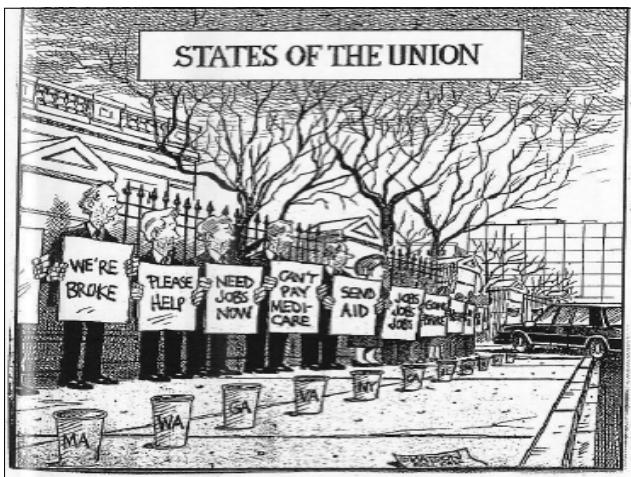
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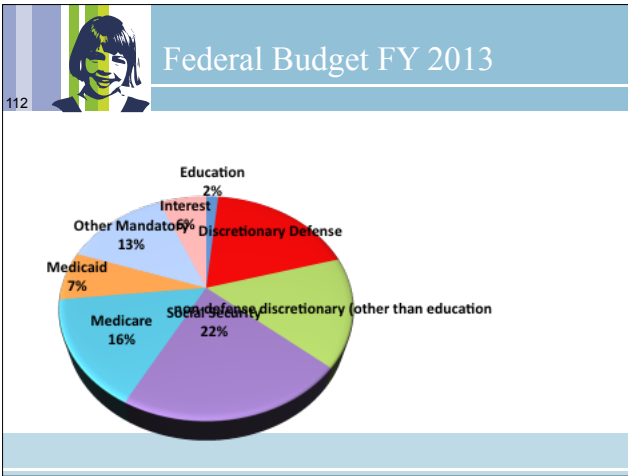
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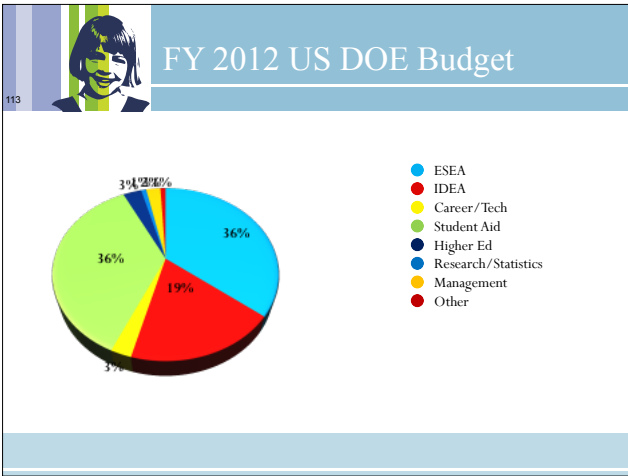
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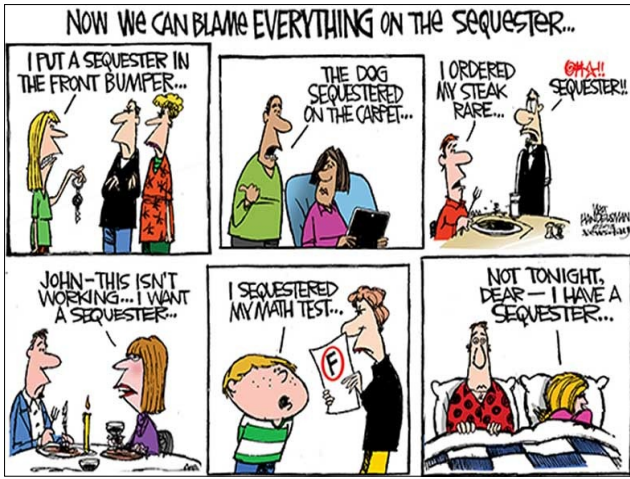


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FY 2014: Where did we end up?

	Total Amount	Change
IDEA Part B	\$11.472 Billion	Increase of \$500 Million
IDEA Part B Section 619	\$353.24 Million	Sequestration still in place
IDEA Part C	\$438.49 Million	Increase of \$20 Million
IDEA Part D	\$225.14 Million	Sequestration still in place
Javits	\$5 Million	Increase of \$5 Million
SpEd Research	\$54 million	Increase of \$6.7 Million

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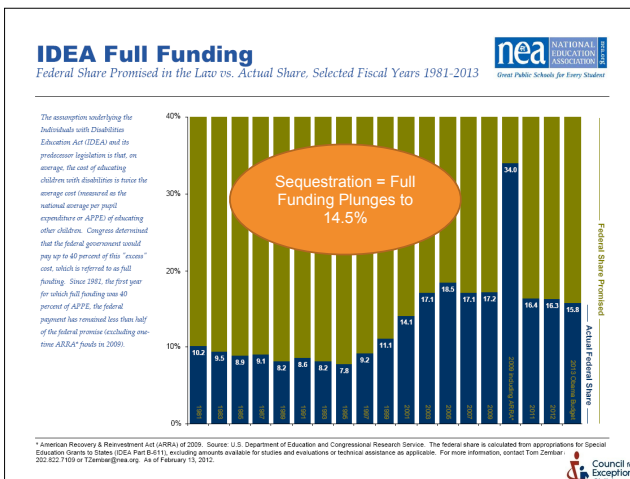
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“It’s easy for people to say we need to fund special education and then get distracted by many, many different things.

We oughta be meeting the federal government’s commitment to funding special education and that oughta be the first priority.”

- Rep. John Kline (R-MN), Chairman, House Education & Workforce Committee

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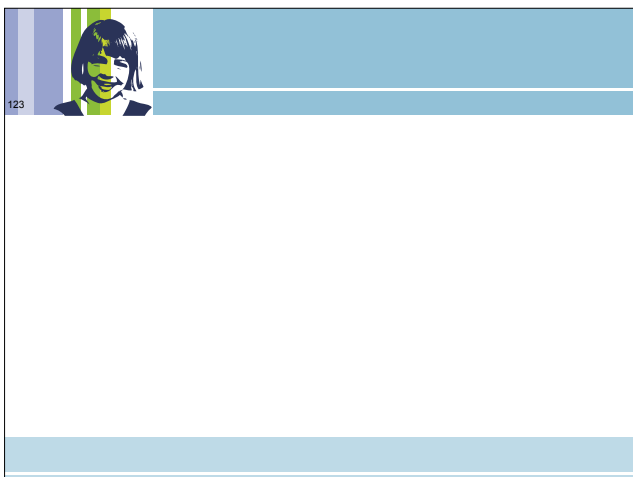
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**New Event!
ALL INVITED!**

Have We Mentioned the CEC National Legislative Conference?
June 7-10!

Powered By CEC's CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTION NETWORK

CEC National Legislative Conference:
Advocate ➔ Advance ➔ Transform

June 7-10, 2014
CEC Headquarters
Arlington, VA

Hear the latest special education policy news directly from policymakers.

Advocate for pro-special/gifted policy proposals on Capitol Hill.

Connect with colleagues and learn the impact of policies on key special education issues.

This unique event sets the direction for the future of special/gifted education, encompassing legislative briefings, advocacy development sessions, Hill visits to your members of Congress, and continuing education opportunities.

To Register, visit: <http://www.cec.sped.org/Policy-and-Avovacy>

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Find it Here!
CEC's Special/Gifted Education Policy Resources

Congress & the Obama Administration are considering policies that will impact children and youth with exceptionalities and the professionals who work on their behalf.

Join CEC's actively engaged advocacy community to promote policy that supports special & gifted education. Visit:

2013-2014 Public Policy Agenda Find CEC's policy priorities to promote special/gifted education in Congress and the Administration.

CEC's Federal Outlook for Exceptional Children Learn about the Federal investment in special & gifted education programs.

Professional Forum on Youth Issues Hear from CEC's professional partners on ways of using effective children and youth with exceptionalities, including charter schools, retention & retention, and positive school climate.

Evidence-Based Practice Standards: Understand the effectiveness of a range of practices for learners with disabilities.

ESEA/NCLB Recommendations: Learn how to improve the Elementary & Secondary Education Act (NCLB) for children and youth with exceptionalities and professionals.

Supporting Special Education Research: Find CEC's recommendations for the Education Science Reform Act that supports a continued focus on special/gifted education research.

A Fair Choice: An Anti-Voucher Toolkit Support public funding for public schools and rally against proposals to divert IDEA funding to private schools.

Special Education Teacher Evaluation Toolkit Access resources to understand new evaluation systems and promote your unique role with colleagues.

CEC's Policy Insider Blog & Weekly Email Digest Special/Gifted Education Policy News... As it Happens!

CEC's Legislative Action Center Connect with lawmakers on pressing special/gifted education policy issues in congress!

Join Us!
CEC's National Legislative Conference
June 7-10, 2014 • Arlington, VA

Advocate ► Advance ► Transform

Visit us at: www.cec.sped.org

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Council for Exceptional Children
The voice and vision of special education

U.S. Department of Education

Program Chair Invited Sessions

Thursday

OERS Priorities: High Expectations for Children with Disabilities
Michael V. Smith, Acting Assistant Secretary for Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Education.
April 10, 9:15-10:15 AM, 201 A, Convention Center

OERS OSEP Collaboration, IDEA and Title I Collaborations at the Federal Level: What It Means for Your
Manager Chann, Director, Office of Student Achievement and School Accountability and Paul Ryser, Deputy Director, Office of Special Education Programs, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Education.
April 10, 1:30-2:30 PM, 201 A, Convention Center


Friday

What's Happening in Washington?
Mildred Maguire, Director of the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education
Session 1: Improving Results for Children with Disabilities: What We Know, What We Ask, What We Do
April 11, 8:00-9:00 AM, 201 A, Convention Center

Overview of the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSE)
Sara McLaughlin, Co-ordinator, NCSE, U.S. Department of Education, April 11, 2:45-3:45 PM, 201 A, Convention Center


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Margaret Mead

"A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."



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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_DeZ9TsU88

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Questions?????



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THANK YOU!!!

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