



Bob Wise: From Detroit to the Rio Grande, Parents Want the Same Opportunities for Their Children

Last week was one of the most rejuvenating weeks I have experienced in a long time; it began in Detroit, Michigan, and finished in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Despite great differences between the two in cultures and contexts, I saw a steady and strong commitment to improving equity in education despite significant hardships that educators and advocates face.

[Read More from Bob Wise](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) Read why @BobWise48 says last week was the most rejuvenating one he's had in a while bit.ly/2fLXPiq



New Analysis Shows E-Rate Program Supporting Wi-Fi Services in More Than 42,700 Schools Nationwide

New analysis by the Alliance for Excellent Education and Funds for Learning® shows that more than 42,700 schools have accessed Wi-Fi services through the Federal Communications Commission's (the FCC's) E-rate program. The analysis provides a state-by-state breakdown of how much each state benefits from the program's recent expansion to support high-speed Wi-Fi infrastructure and services in schools and libraries.

[View the Chart](#)

Learn how E-rate has improved Wi-Fi services and opened doors for students and teachers alike at Silver Lake Unified School District (USD 372) in Kansas.

[Read the Blog](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) New analysis by @all4ed @FFL gives a state-by-state breakdown of #Erate funds used for Wi-Fi services all4ed.org/erate-wifi-state-data/



How Important Are Ninth-Grade Grades to Future Success?

A new report from the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research examines the predictive power of the first year of high school to students' future enrollment in college, as well as whether they persist beyond the first year of college.

[Read More](#)

[Click to Tweet:](#) How important are 9th-grade grades to future success? <https://all4ed.org/how-important-are-ninth-grade-grades-to-future-success/>

Coming Soon

Using Title I to Promote Deeper Learning



This webinar will address how states can use resources provided by the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) to implement deeper learning practices in schools and school districts, specifically how Title I can be used to emphasize deeper learning, as that pot of funding focuses on standards, assessment, and accountability.

[Register Now](#)

In Case You Missed It



Federal Flash: Top Democrats Question Education Department's Scrutiny of State ESSA Plans

This episode of Federal Flash covers a scathing letter from two top Democrats to the U.S. Department of Education regarding its review of state education plans submitted under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). It also covers the recent Senate confirmation hearing for Carlos Muñoz, President Trump's nominee to serve as General Counsel at the Education Department, where some of the concerns included in the letter came to a head.

[Watch the Video](#)

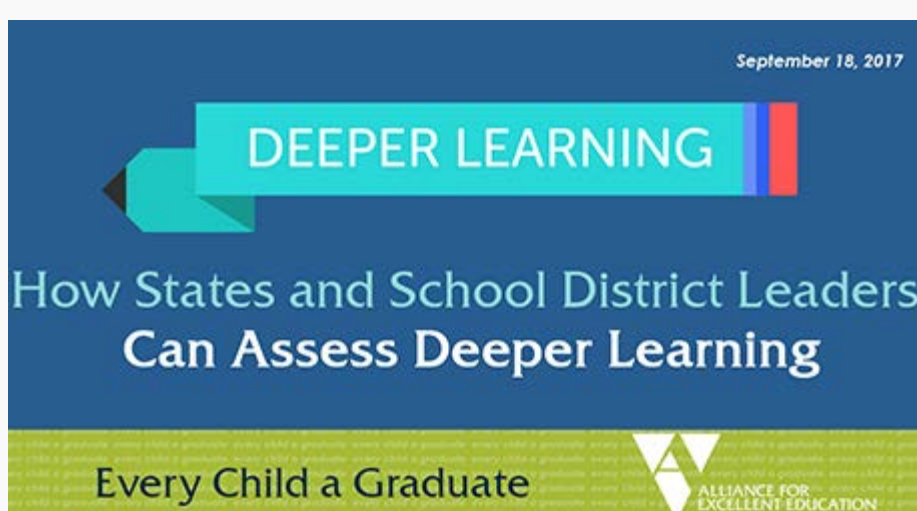
[Click to Tweet:](#) Today's #FederalFlash via @all4ed: Top Dems Question Education Department's Scrutiny of State #ESSA Plans. Watch: all4ed.org/FederalFlash



Learning Transformed: 8 Keys to Designing Tomorrow's Schools, Today

In this webinar, Alliance President Bob Wise moderated a conversation with Tom Murray and Eric Shener, coauthors of ASCD's *Learning Transformed: 8 Keys to Designing Tomorrow's Schools, Today*, on their eight keys—each of which serves as a puzzle piece for redesigning the learning experience—to unlock tomorrow's schools so that today's modern learners leave ready to create new industries, find new cures, and solve world problems.

[Watch the Webinar](#)



How States and School District Leaders Can Assess Deeper Learning

This webinar discussed how state education agencies can take advantage of an opportunity in ESSA to move the deeper learning agenda in assessment. The webinar focused on how the law has direct references to using portfolios, projects, and extended learning on performance tasks in the design of assessments and highlights New Hampshire's Performance Assessment of Competency Education (PACE).

[Watch the Webinar](#)



Advancing Positive Learning Mindsets Through Deeper Learning

This webinar focused on how educators can nurture positive learning mindsets among their students so they develop better habits and skills that lead to deeper learning outcomes. The discussion was based on a paper cowritten by two of the panelists—*Learning Mindsets and Skills in the Every Student Succeeds Act*. The webinar explored opportunities in the Every Student Succeeds Act to use funds to advance positive learning mindsets and deeper learning skills.



Alliance in the News

Looking Beyond Test Scores in State ESSA Plans

States are focusing on attendance, specifically chronic absenteeism, and college-and-career readiness as measures in their ESSA accountability plans, reports *Education Week*. The Alliance's Phillip Lovell chimed in on this development, calling it a "good-news story." "We found that the indicators that are being selected are, generally speaking, of high quality and they really aren't watering down accountability," he said. "We're seeing generally the best of worlds."

[Read More](#)

School Report Cards in Pennsylvania

Not giving schools a letter grade or a numerical score could cause confusion, explained the Alliance's Phillip Lovell in regards to Pennsylvania's new school report card. "Will parents and the public really have a clear idea of the school performance in the absence of that?" he asked on *TribLIVE.com*. Lovell also highlighted the importance of ensuring that the report card, called Future Ready PA Index, truly reflects a high-performing school.

[Learn More](#)

Recommended Reading



Efforts to 'raise the bar' for becoming a teacher are running headlong into efforts to diversify the profession. Now what?

Chalkbeat

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'How America's Most Integrated School Segregated Again

Citylab

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How school districts around Minnesota are responding to tension over immigration issues

MinnPost

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Ask the Alliance!



Do you have a question about policy implementation in your state or district? How about a question on the best or promising practices for improving high schools? Ask the Alliance! The Alliance will share concise, research-backed answers, with resources, that you can use to inform your work. Visit all4ed.org/ask-the-alliance/ to learn more.

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Bob Wise

@BobWise48

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