

Mark W. Bomster

*Assistant Managing Editor
Education Week*



Mark W. Bomster is the Assistant Managing Editor for Government and Politics at *Education Week*, America's newspaper of record for precollegiate education. In that capacity, he oversees news and analytical coverage of federal and state education policy, including coverage of the U.S. Department of Education, Congress, state departments of education, state schools superintendents, commissioners, and school boards, and the education agendas of governors and state legislatures.

Prior to joining *Education Week* in 2006, Mr. Bomster was with *The Baltimore Sun* and *Evening Sun* for more than 20 years as a business, legislative, and education reporter, and as an assignment editor and bureau chief directing education, political, and legislative coverage.

Sean Cavanagh

*Assistant Editor
Education Week*



Sean Cavanagh covers state policy for *Education Week*, where he has been a reporter since 2002. He has written extensively about education's role in elections for governor's offices and state legislatures, and about the financial woes facing state and local governments and the impact of those budget shortfalls on schools. Prior to taking over as the state policy reporter, Mr. Cavanagh reported on math and science education for *Education Week*, writing about such varied topics as efforts to improve standards and curriculum, comparisons between the United States' education system and those of foreign nations, and controversies over how evolution should be taught in public schools. In 2007, he traveled to China and produced a series of stories on that country's attempts to transform its education system.

Mr. Cavanagh has been a guest on CNN, C-SPAN's *Washington Journal*, National Public Radio, and other media outlets. Before joining *Education Week*, he reported for newspapers in Tennessee and Florida, where he covered government and politics.

Virginia B. Edwards

President, Editorial Projects in Education
Editor-in-Chief, *Education Week* and
edweek.org



As the President of Editorial Projects in Education, Virginia B. Edwards oversees the nearly 90-person, \$14 million-a-year nonprofit corporation that publishes *Education Week* and edweek.org. She has held the post since 1997.

Ms. Edwards has been the Editor of *Education Week*—the premier “newspaper of record” for precollegiate education in the United States—since 1989. The newspaper, which covers policy developments in K-12 education, has a paid circulation of about 45,000, is read in print by a total of nearly 250,000 subscribers and pass-along readers, and is accessed by an online community of nearly 1.2 million registered users. The newspaper also publishes three highly anticipated reports each year: *Quality Counts* (on state education policy), *Technology Counts* (on education technology), and *Diplomas Count* (on high school graduation and reform).

Before joining EPE, Ms. Edwards worked for two years for the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and, for the nearly 10 years before that, was an editor and reporter at *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville, Ky.

A frequent speaker on education-policy and media issues, Ms. Edwards serves on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, including the Center on Education Policy and the Center for Teaching Quality.

Mary Jean Gallagher

Chief Student Achievement Officer of
Ontario, and Assistant Deputy Minister
Ontario Ministry of Education



Mary Jean Gallagher was appointed Chief Student Achievement Officer of Ontario and Assistant Deputy Minister of Student Achievement in the Ministry of Education in the 2008-09 school year. She brings to this role a deep knowledge of teaching, learning, and leading.

Ms. Gallagher began her career as a mathematics teacher and has experience leading schools and school systems as a principal and superintendent of schools. She served as Director of Greater Essex County School Board for more than 10 years and, from 1997 to 2000, was Chief Executive Officer of Ontario’s Education Improvement Commission.

Deeply committed to community, Ms. Gallagher has served as chair, director, and member of various organizations, including the Arts Council of Windsor and Region, the Essex County District Health Council, the Essex County Health System Reconfiguration Project, the United Way, and the Steering Committee for Leadership Windsor-Essex. Her international experience includes spending a month in the Amazon region of Brazil during 2000 as a Rotary Volunteer in Action, where she worked to establish a new university serving the poor. In 2010, Ms. Gallagher travelled to India with Rotary and helped with a massive immunization effort that vaccinated 172 million children against polio within two days.

Amy M. Hightower

Director, EPE Research Center
Editorial Projects in Education



Amy M. Hightower, Ph.D., is project director of *Quality Counts 2012* and the Director of the EPE Research Center, a division of Editorial Projects in Education. In this capacity, she coordinates a staff of full-time researchers and interns who conduct annual policy surveys, collect data, and perform analyses that appear in the *Quality Counts*, *Technology Counts*, and *Diplomas Count* annual reports of *Education Week*.

Prior to joining EPE in 2007, Dr. Hightower was an Associate Director for the American Federation of Teachers' Educational Issues Department, where her work focused on federal policy, accountability, school improvement, and data use. She wrote policy papers on these and other topics, and co-designed a professional-development course for teachers and administrators on using data to improve student learning.

Dr. Hightower has an extensive research background in educational policy. While pursuing her Ph.D. at Stanford University's School of Education, she served as a researcher for two national centers—the National Center for Postsecondary Improvement and the Center for the Study of Teaching and Policy. Prior to pursuing her Ph.D., she was a researcher at Policy Studies Associates Inc., where she specialized in state policy, school-to-work transitions, and professional development.

Anthony Jackson

Vice President for Education
Asia Society



Anthony Jackson is Vice President for Education at Asia Society and leads the organization's Partnership for Global Learning (PGL), a national membership network of practitioners and policymakers dedicated to integrating knowledge about Asia and the world as a mainstay of American education. At Asia Society, he has also overseen the development of the International Studies Schools Network, an effort within the PGL working to create a network of internationally-themed secondary schools across the country.

Before joining Asia Society, Mr. Jackson was a director of the Walt Disney Company's Disney Learning Partnership and worked on Capitol Hill as a senior staff member on the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families. He later directed the Carnegie Corporation Task Force on the Education of Young Adolescents, producing the report *Turning Points*. He also co-authored the follow-up blueprint *Turning Points 2000*, which transformed many of the original report's design principles into concrete action steps for new and reconstituted secondary schools.

In 2011, Mr. Jackson co-authored *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World*, a publication co-developed by Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers' EdSteps Program. This book defines the concept of global competence as a consensus standard for the field and provides a cohesive framework for globally focused K-12 education. Trained in both developmental psychology and education, Mr. Jackson is one of the nation's leading experts on secondary school reform and adolescent development.

Sterling C. Lloyd

Senior Research Associate,
EPE Research Center
Editorial Projects in Education



Sterling Lloyd is a Senior Research Associate with the Editorial Projects in Education Research Center. In this capacity, he manages the development of policy surveys and data collections for the *Diplomas Count* and *Quality Counts* annual reports of *Education Week*.

Prior to joining EPE, Mr. Lloyd assisted researchers at The Education Trust in collecting data on academic assessments, high school reform, and state accountability systems. While serving as an intern at The Education Trust, he co-authored a report on black superintendents and their districts for the organization.

Mr. Lloyd developed a broad background in education policy while teaching courses for high school students participating in an enrichment program at Howard University. For that program, he designed a course on policy issues in American education to familiarize students with a wide range of key topics, including: racial-and-ethnic and income-based achievement gaps; charter schools; and teacher quality.

Mr. Lloyd earned a bachelor's degree in Government from Georgetown University.

The Honorable Martin O'Malley

Governor
State of Maryland



Martin O'Malley is Governor of the State of Maryland. First elected in 2006, he was re-elected in 2010. In his second term, Maryland businesses have been creating jobs again, Maryland students are achieving record success in the classroom, and the men and women of Maryland law enforcement are making Maryland's streets and neighborhoods safer for our families. In 2009, *Governing Magazine* named Gov. O'Malley "Public Official of the Year" and credited his administration with "accomplishing more in one year than most administrations accomplish in four."

Under Gov. O'Malley's leadership, Maryland's public school system has been ranked first in America for four years in a row; the state's elementary and middle school students have achieved their highest scores ever on state tests; and its high school students have achieved the nation's highest passage rate on Advanced Placement exams. Today, college education is now more affordable for more Maryland families, as a result of Gov. O'Malley's successful push for a four-year freeze on in-state tuition at the state's public colleges and universities.

Gov. O'Malley is the Chair of the Democratic Governors Association and co-Lead on Homeland Security for the National Governors Association Public Safety Task Force. He was appointed to the nation's first-ever Council of Governors by President Barack Obama on January 11, 2010. Gov. O'Malley has devoted his career to public service, including two terms as Mayor of the City of Baltimore.

Gary W. Phillips

Vice President and Chief Scientist
American Institutes for Research



Dr. Gary W. Phillips is a Vice President and Chief Scientist at the American Institutes for Research (AIR), where he conducts research that advances the state-of-the-art in statistical and psychometric techniques. In a career of more than 25 years applying procedures related to psychometrics and statistical analyses, he has published or presented more than 200 papers, taught dozens of advanced graduate-level statistics courses, and presented hundreds of workshops on advanced statistical and psychometric topics.

Dr. Phillips is nationally and internationally known for his expertise in large-scale assessments and complex surveys. His recent publications have focused on the need for international benchmarking, including: "Chance Favors the Prepared Mind: Mathematics and Science Indicators for Comparing States and Nations;" "Counting on the Future: International Benchmarks in Mathematics for Comparing Cities and Nations;" "The Second Derivative: International Benchmarks in Mathematics for American States and School Districts;" and "Internationally Benchmarking State Performance Standards."

Prior to working at AIR, Dr. Phillips served as the Acting Commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics within the U.S. Department of Education for three years. Before that, he was the Deputy Commissioner of NCES and directed the National Assessment of Educational Progress, Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study, and Programme for International Students Assessment. He has conducted many national press conferences, press interviews, and Congressional hearings.

Pasi Sahlberg

Director General
Centre for International Mobility and
Cooperation, Finnish Ministry of Education



Pasi Sahlberg is Director General of the Centre for International Mobility and Cooperation at the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, in Helsinki. He has worked as a teacher, teacher-educator, and policymaker in Finland, as an education specialist at the World Bank in Washington, and for the European Union in Italy.

An internationally known speaker, Dr. Sahlberg has published over 100 articles, chapters, and books, among them: "The Fourth Way of Finland," "Rethinking accountability in a knowledge society," "Creativity and innovation through lifelong learning," and "Education reform for raising economic competitiveness." His latest book is *Finnish Lessons: What can the world learn from educational change in Finland?*, which was published in 2011.

Dr. Sahlberg is on the board of directors of ASCD, the Alexandria, Va.-based education group, and serves as Adjunct Professor at the University of Helsinki and the University of Oulu. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Jyväskylä (Finland) in 1996.

The Honorable Margaret Spellings

President and CEO
Margaret Spellings & Company



Margaret Spellings is one of the nation's leading experts in public policy. She serves as President and CEO of Margaret Spellings & Company and provides strategic guidance to some of the most recognized philanthropic and private-sector organizations in the world. Ms. Spellings is also a senior advisor to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and President of its Forum for Policy Innovation.

From 2005 to 2009, Ms. Spellings served as the U.S. Secretary of Education, overseeing an agency with a budget of nearly \$70 billion and more than 10,000 employees and contractors. Prior to serving in the Cabinet, she was the Chief Domestic Policy Advisor to the President of the United States of America from 2001 to 2005.

Although Ms. Spellings arrived in Washington in 2001, the Lone Star State is still home. While in Texas, she served as a senior advisor to then-Gov. George W. Bush and in various strategic roles for the Texas legislature.

An experienced public speaker and media personality, Ms. Spellings frequently appears on major network and cable broadcast stations and is often quoted in such leading publications as *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Wall Street Journal*. But it is her past appearances on *Celebrity Jeopardy*, *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart, and *The Colbert Report* that have prompted many a tap on the shoulder at our nation's airports.

Christopher B. Swanson

Vice President
Editorial Projects in Education



Christopher B. Swanson is the Vice President of Editorial Projects in Education, the nonprofit corporation that publishes *Education Week*. As a member of EPE's senior leadership team, his responsibilities include project and product development, strategic planning, fundraising activities, and building relationships with other organizations working to advance American education. Dr. Swanson heads EPE's research and development division, which includes the Research Center, Library, and Knowledge Services units, as well as the Education Week Press, a book-publishing imprint and a portfolio of digital publications.

From 2005 to 2009, Dr. Swanson served as the Director of the EPE Research Center, which conducts annual policy surveys, collects data, and performs analyses that appear in the *Quality Counts*, *Technology Counts*, and *Diplomas Count* annual reports of *Education Week*. The center also contributes data and analysis to special coverage in *Education Week*, the *Teacher Professional Development Sourcebook*, and *edweek.org*, hosts live webinars and online chats on research topics, and maintains the Education Counts and EdWeek Maps online data resources.

Dr. Swanson is a frequent commentator on a variety of issues, among them: high school dropout and completion, educational policy and research, standards and accountability, instructional reform, student mobility, and public school choice. His work has been extensively profiled in national and regional media, presented at professional conferences, and published in leading scholarly journals.

Marc S. Tucker

President and CEO

National Center on Education and the
Economy



Marc S. Tucker is President and CEO of the National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE). An internationally respected expert on academic and occupational standards and assessment, he is recognized as a leader in research on the policies and practices of the countries with the best education systems in the world.

In the 1970s, Mr. Tucker served as the Associate Director of the National Institute of Education. He later created the Carnegie Forum on Education and the Economy at Carnegie Corporation of New York and, in 1986, authored the forum's report *A Nation Prepared: Teachers for the 21st Century*. He also led the Carnegie Forum as it created the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and served as the board's first president.

Mr. Tucker then founded NCEE and, in that role, created the Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, the New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, the New Standards Consortium, the America's Choice school reform program, and the National Institute for School Leadership and Excellence for All. Cited by President Clinton as a major intellectual contributor to the administration's education and labor policies, he was appointed by the President to the National Skills Standards Board.

Mr. Tucker has testified frequently to the U.S. Congress and state legislatures and is the author or co-author of numerous articles and books, most recently: *Surpassing Shanghai: An Agenda for American Education Built on the World's Leading Systems*.

Emiliana Vegas

*Lead Education Economist, Human
Development Network*

The World Bank



Emiliana Vegas is Lead Economist at the Human Development Department of the World Bank, where she leads applied research on global education policy issues, including: teacher policies, education finance systems, early childhood development policies, and system-wide quality assurance systems. From 2003 to 2008, Dr. Vegas worked in the World Bank's Latin America and Caribbean Region. In this capacity, she advised the Chilean and Uruguayan authorities on early childhood development policies and interventions to raise the quality of basic and secondary education.

Dr. Vegas is the author of several articles in peer-reviewed journals as well as institutional reports focusing on education quality, teacher labor markets, and teacher incentives. Her recent book, *The Promise of Early Childhood Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (with co-author Lucrecia Santibáñez), focuses on early childhood development in that region and examines evidence of policy and program impacts on early childhood development. Her previous books include *Raising Student Learning in Latin America: The Challenge for the 21st Century* (with co-author Jenny Petrow) and *Incentives to Improve Teaching: Lessons from Latin America*.

Dr. Vegas holds a bachelor's degree in Communications with a concentration in journalism from Andrés Bello Catholic University in Caracas, Venezuela, and a master's degree in Public Policy Studies from Duke University. She earned a doctorate in Education from Harvard University, with a concentration in the economics of education.