REFORM, MONEY, AND POLITICS

The Post-Election Outlook For American Education

November 12, 2010
Washington, D.C.

Event sponsored by
THE WILLIAM AND FLORA HEWLETT FOUNDATION
EDITORIAL PROJECTS IN EDUCATION

Editorial Projects in Education (EPE) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization based in Bethesda, Md. Its primary mission is to help raise the level of awareness and understanding among professionals and the public of important issues in American education. EPE covers local, state, national, and international news and issues from preschool through the 12th grade. Editorial Projects in Education publishes Education Week, America’s newspaper of record for precollegiate education, Digital Directions, the Teacher Professional Development Sourcebook, and the TopSchoolJobs employment resource. It also produces periodic special reports on issues ranging from technology to textbooks, as well as books of special interest to educators.

The American Enterprise Institute’s education policy studies program, directed by Frederick M. Hess, promotes common-sense solutions to K-12 and higher education problems. The program is guided by two philosophies of school reform: accountability and entrepreneurship. To achieve these aims and create a climate open to change, AEI education scholars work to inform and improve the national debate on a number of issues, including obtaining accurate education data and research, the management of school budgets and finance, the Race to the Top program and the No Child Left Behind Act, student loans and graduation rates, the teaching profession, and urban school reform.

Center for American Progress

The Center for American Progress is dedicated to improving the lives of Americans through progressive ideas and action. Its work addresses 21st-century challenges such as energy, national security, economic growth and opportunity, immigration, education, and health care. As progressives, CAP scholars believe America is a land of boundless opportunity, where people can better themselves, their children, their families, and their communities through hard work and the freedom to climb the ladder of economic mobility. The Center develops new policy ideas, critiques the policy that stems from conservative values, and challenges the media to cover the issues that truly matter and shape the national debate.
Dear Education Leader,

Welcome to “Reform, Money, and Politics.” This one-day event exploring the post-election outlook for American education is presented by Education Week, in partnership with the American Enterprise Institute and the Center for American Progress, and has been made possible by support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

We stand at a pivotal moment for education reform. The winners of the Race to the Top and i3 competitions have been announced and are setting about their work. The historic infusion of some $100 billion in economic stimulus money into education has largely run its course. And this month’s elections have resulted in a major power shift in Congress and in statehouses from coast to coast.

Today’s forum offers an opportunity to discuss a historic confluence of economic events, political dynamics, and educational initiatives. Together, we will ask: What have we learned about what will likely become known as the “stimulus era” reforms? Will they survive and flourish once federal funding dries up? And, will they provide a coherent and durable agenda that states and districts can rally around?

In short, you and your fellow education leaders will delve into the forces that will determine the trajectory of the today’s school-improvement movement and define the education agenda for years to come.

It is our hope that today’s conversations will engage, inform, and contribute to a constructive dialogue around the challenges that face America’s schools.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Swanson
Vice President
Editorial Projects in Education

The nonprofit publisher of Education Week
AGENDA

10:00 A.M. Registration and Refreshments

10:30 A.M. Welcome and Opening Remarks

CHRISTOPHER B. SWANSON, Vice President, Editorial Projects in Education
MATT KELLEHER, Consultant for the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

10:45 A.M. The Post-Election Environment

GEOFFREY GARIN, President, Peter Hart Research Associates
DAVID WINSTON, President, The Winston Group

Moderator: ANDREW L. YARROW, Blogger, Education Week

11:30 A.M. Lunch Break

CAFÉ 9
9th Floor

12:30 P.M. The Education Agenda

DAVID P. CLEARY, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Children and Families (Minority Staff), U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
JAMIE FASTEOU, Senior Education Policy Advisor (Majority Staff), U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor
FREDERICK M. HESS, Resident Scholar and Director of Education Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute
CARMEL MARTIN, Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, U.S. Department of Education

Moderator: ALYSON KLEIN, Staff Writer, Education Week
1:15 P.M.  Networking Break and Refreshments

**CAFÉ 9**
9th Floor

1:30 P.M.  Education’s Economic Challenges

**ANDRÉS ALONSO**, Chief Executive Officer, Baltimore City Public Schools

**CYNTHIA G. BROWN**, Vice President for Education Policy, Center for American Progress

**WILLIAM R. HITE, JR.**, Superintendent, Prince George’s County (Md.) Public Schools

**KAREN HAWLEY MILES**, President and Executive Director, Education Resource Strategies

**Moderator**: **Michele McNeil**, Assistant Editor, *Education Week*

2:15 P.M.  Keynote Address

**MELODY BARNES**, Director, White House Domestic Policy Council

2:45 P.M.  Concluding Remarks

**VIRGINIA B. EDWARDS**, Editor-in-Chief, *Education Week*, and President, Editorial Projects in Education
Melody Barnes is the President’s domestic policy advisor and the director of the Domestic Policy Council, which coordinates the domestic policy-making process in the White House.

Before joining the White House, Ms. Barnes served as the senior domestic policy advisor to President Obama’s campaign. Prior to joining the campaign, she was the executive vice president for policy at the Center for American Progress. From 1995 to 2003, she served as chief counsel to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

In those capacities, and as director of legislative affairs for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and assistant counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, she worked extensively on civil rights and voting rights, women’s health, religious liberties, and commercial law.

Ms. Barnes received her bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received her law degree from the University of Michigan. She began her career as an attorney with Shearman & Sterling in New York City, and is a member of both the New York State Bar Association and the District of Columbia Bar Association.
ANDRÉS ALONSO | Chief Executive Officer | Baltimore City Public Schools

At the age of 12, Dr. Andrés Alonso emigrated to the United States from Cuba with his parents. Originally speaking no English, he attended public schools in Union City, N.J., graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia University, and earned a J.D. and a doctorate in education from Harvard University. After practicing law in New York City, he changed course to become an educator.

On July 1, 2007, Dr. Alonso was named CEO of the Baltimore City Public Schools and immediately launched a series of innovative programs. Dr. Alonso’s reform agenda has moved resources and autonomy to principals and school community leaders, while streamlining the central office to provide guidance, support, and accountability for schools. His achievements have been recognized by newspapers and other prestigious organizations in the community. Among his honors are the “Audacious Individual Award” from the Open Society Institute Baltimore, “Innovator of the Year” from The Daily Record, “School Superintendent of the Year” from the Fullwood Foundation, “Hispanic Hero Award” from U.S. Hispanic Youth Entrepreneur Education, and the “Howard Pete Rawlings Courage in Public Service Award” from the Greater Baltimore Committee. Throughout his career, Dr. Alonso has been defined by his fervent commitment to students and their families.

CYNTHIA G. BROWN | Vice President for Education Policy | Center for American Progress

Cynthia G. Brown is vice president for education policy at the Center for American Progress and served as director of the Renewing our Schools, Securing our Future National Task Force on Public Education, a joint initiative of the Center and the Institute for America’s Future. Ms. Brown has spent more than 35 years working in a variety of professional positions addressing high-quality, equitable public education. From 1986 through September 2001, Ms. Brown served as director of the Resource Center on Educational Equity of the Council of Chief State School Officers. In 1980, she was appointed by President Carter as the first assistant secretary for civil rights at the U.S. Department of Education. Previously, she served as principal deputy of the Office for Civil Rights with the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. She has also worked for the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights under Law and the Children’s Defense Fund. Ms. Brown has a master’s degree in public administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University and a bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College. She serves on the boards of directors of the American Youth Policy Forum and the Hyde Leadership Public Charter School, and on the Education Advisory Committee for Boys and Girls Clubs of America.
David P. Cleary is the staff director for Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., on the Subcommittee on Children and Families of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. Mr. Cleary serves as Sen. Alexander’s principal education advisor and covers all components of education (including Head Start, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and higher education), workforce development, and disability policy. Previously, Mr. Cleary helped set up the Aspen Institute’s Commission on No Child Left Behind as the director of policy and research. Before that, he worked for the U.S. House of Representatives Education and Workforce Committee for then-Chairman John A. Boehner, R-Ohio, focusing on disability policy. He was the lead Republican staffer during the 2004 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Mr. Cleary started his education career at the U.S. Department of Education, where he worked in the Budget Office on elementary and secondary education programs.

Jamie Fasteau is a senior education policy advisor for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor, where she co-leads the committee’s K-12 education policy team. She previously served as vice president for federal advocacy at the Alliance for Excellent Education, where she led the organization’s federal policy efforts on secondary school reform. While there, she also served as the director of policy, managing the Alliance’s legislative agenda.

Ms. Fasteau’s work experience includes serving as a legislative assistant for Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., focusing on education, children and families issues, and civil rights. She has also worked on education and civil rights policy for the National PTA, the American Association of University Women, and the U.S. Student Association. Ms. Fasteau is a graduate of Claremont-McKenna College in Claremont, Calif.
GEOFFREY GARIN | President | Peter Hart Research Associates

Geoffrey Garin is the president of Peter D. Hart Research Associates, one of the nation’s leading survey research firms. He assumed that role in 1984, after having worked in the firm since 1978 as a senior analyst and vice president. Mr. Garin has brought his skill, insight, and innovative approaches as a researcher and strategist to a wide variety of fields, including social and economic policy, consumer marketing, and politics.

Mr. Garin has undertaken landmark policy research for many of the nation’s leading foundations and educational institutions, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the University of California system, the College Board, and the Association of American Colleges and Universities. In politics, Mr. Garin is recognized as a leader in helping Democratic campaigns incorporate advanced analytical techniques, including segmentation analysis and predictive modeling, and has a well-earned reputation for helping candidates win in difficult circumstances.

A 1975 graduate of Harvard College, Mr. Garin has appeared on the news programs of every major network, and he has served as an on-air analyst for CBS Radio’s coverage of the national election returns for every election cycle since 1990.

FREDERICK M. HESS | Resident Scholar and Director of Education Policy Studies | American Enterprise Institute

An educator, political scientist, and author, Frederick M. Hess studies a range of K-12 and higher education issues. In addition to his Education Week blog, Rick Hess Straight Up, he is the author of influential books on education, including: The Same Thing Over and Over, Education Unbound, Common Sense School Reform, Revolution at the Margins, and Spinning Wheels. His work has appeared in scholarly and popular outlets such as Teachers College Record, Harvard Education Review, Social Science Quarterly, Urban Affairs Review, American Politics Quarterly, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Phi Delta Kappan, Educational Leadership, U.S. News & World Report, The Washington Post, and National Review. He has edited widely cited volumes on education philanthropy, urban school reform, the impact of education research, and the No Child Left Behind Act. He serves as executive editor of Education Next, as lead faculty member for the Rice Education Entrepreneurship Program, on the Review Board for the Broad Prize in Urban Education, and on the boards of directors of the National Association of Charter School Authorizers and the American Board for the Certification of Teaching Excellence. A former high school social studies teacher, he has taught at the University of Virginia, the University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown University, Rice University, and Harvard University.
PANELISTS

William R. Hite, Jr.  |  Superintendent  |  Prince George’s County Public Schools

On April 3, 2009, Dr. William R. Hite, Jr., was named superintendent of the Prince George’s County Public Schools, Maryland’s second-largest school system and the 18th-largest district in the nation. He had previously served as interim superintendent and deputy superintendent of the district. Throughout his tenure, Dr. Hite has focused on student access and educational equity to ensure that all students graduate ready for college and work. He has led major efforts resulting in increased student achievement and significant improvements in teaching and learning, including the Intensive Support and Intervention Schools initiative and a partnership with the Institute for Learning at the University of Pittsburgh to improve the capacity of teachers and administrators to strengthen the teaching and learning process. Dr. Hite also recently oversaw a major reorganization of the district’s regions into zones to reduce cost and provide greater support to schools.

Dr. Hite previously served as assistant superintendent in Georgia’s Cobb County School District and as a director of middle school instruction and as a middle and high school principal in Henrico County, Va. He has earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education from Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia, respectively, and a doctorate in educational leadership from Virginia Tech.

Carmel Martin  |  Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development  |  U.S. Department of Education

Carmel Martin was confirmed as assistant secretary for planning, evaluation, and policy development at the U.S. Department of Education by the United States Senate on May 1, 2009. In this capacity, she serves as a senior advisor to U.S. Secretary of Education Duncan on K-12 and postsecondary education policy and also oversees the Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, which coordinates policy and budget activities with the Department’s principal offices as well as with the Office of Management and Budget, the House and Senate education committees, and state education agencies.

Ms. Martin previously served as general counsel and chief education advisor to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy for his work on the Senate’s Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. She has also worked at the Center for American Progress as the associate director for domestic policy, and in the U.S. Senate for Senators Jeff Bingaman and Tom Daschle. Through her years as a Congressional staffer, she worked on legislation related to education, welfare, and other issues important to children and families. Early in her career, Ms. Martin worked as a trial attorney for the Civil Rights Division of the Educational Opportunities Section at the U.S. Department of Justice, and in the private sector as a member of the education practice at Hogan & Hartson.
KAREN HAWLEY MILES | President and Executive Director | Education Resource Strategies

Karen Hawley Miles founded Education Resource Strategies and oversees the organization’s work with urban districts to realign resources to create systems that make high-performing schools the norm rather than the exception. ERS accomplishes this through a two-part strategy of partnering with urban districts to deeply analyze their resource use and then working side-by-side with districts to change their resource strategies in ways that improve school performance. ERS focuses especially on helping districts to: redesign their funding systems; create new schools that organize talent, time, and technology to maximize learning; restructure teaching to encourage individual and team effectiveness; and develop powerful school turnaround strategies.

Dr. Miles has taught district and school leaders in partnership with prominent school systems, reform organizations, and universities; serves as a key advisor to the Aspen Institute Urban Superintendents Network; co-directs the Aspen Urban CFO Network; and is co-author (with Stephen Frank) of *The Strategic School*.

Prior to founding ERS, Dr. Miles worked at Bain & Company as a strategy and management consultant for hospitals and corporations. She brings a decade of experience supporting Fortune 500 corporations to her work with public schools. She earned a doctorate in education from Harvard University.

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DAVID WINSTON | President | The Winston Group

David Winston is the president of The Winston Group, a Washington, D.C., strategy and message design firm, and has served as a strategic advisor to Senate and House Republican leadership for the past 10 years. Mr. Winston was formerly the director of planning for then-Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, has advised center-right political parties throughout Europe, and was a senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation, where he did statistical policy analysis and econometric modeling. He has also served in a senior staff role to four RNC Chairmen.

Mr. Winston has been an adjunct professor at American University and has lectured at the Wharton School of Business, MIT, Harvard University, Georgetown University, The College of William and Mary, George Washington University, and the National War College. His writings have appeared in a variety of publications, including *Policy Review, International Wall Street Journal, Brookings Review, The Brown Journal of World Affairs,* and *The Washington Post.* He authored the chapter on strategy for the college textbook *Campaigns and Elections American Style,* and he is credited for originating the concept of “security mom.” Mr. Winston is an election analyst for CBS News and was a columnist for *Roll Call.* He frequently appears on cable, network news, and National Public Radio.
MODERATORS

**Virginia B. Edwards | President, Editorial Projects in Education, and Editor-in-Chief, Education Week and edweek.org**

As the president of Editorial Projects in Education, Virginia B. Edwards oversees the nearly 90-person, $13 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 more than 1 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, the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, the Student Press Law Center, and the Center for Teaching Quality.

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**Alyson Klein | Staff Writer | Education Week**

Alyson Klein covers federal policy and Congress for Education Week, and co-writes the blog Politics K-12. Before coming to Education Week, Ms. Klein was a staff writer for National Journal’s CongressDaily, where she covered a variety of beats, including education. She has also interned at The Chronicle of Higher Education and The Baltimore Sun. Ms. Klein has discussed education news on C-SPAN, National Public Radio, New York Public Radio, San Francisco Public Radio, and other media outlets. She has spoken before the Education Commission of the States, the Committee on Education Funding, the Knowledge Alliance, and other education organizations, as well as at Loyola College and the University of Maryland in College Park.
Michele McNeil is an assistant editor at Education Week, where she covers the U.S. Department of Education, federal education policy, and school finance issues. In September of 2007, she launched Education Week’s popular campaign and political blog, which chronicled the presidential election and now tracks the intersection of education and politics. Ms. McNeil continues to co-author that blog, which is now called Politics K-12.

Christopher B. Swanson is the vice president for research and development at Editorial Projects in Education, the nonprofit corporation that publishes Education Week. In this capacity, he oversees the EPE Research Center, Library, and Knowledge Services units and has responsibilities for fundraising activities and strategic project and product development. He also leads EPE’s involvement in the National Charter School Resource Center, a five-year federally funded effort to support the continued development of high-quality, effective charter schools.

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.
Andrew L. Yarrow | Blogger | Education Week

Andrew Yarrow is a public policy professional, journalist, and historian who has done research and written extensively on a wide variety of economic, cultural, and education topics. He has worked on education issues for Public Agenda and the U.S. Department of Education, and is a blogger for Education Week, where he writes K-12, Parents & the Public. An adjunct professor of 20th-century U.S. history at American University, Dr. Yarrow for many years was a reporter for The New York Times, covering education, as well as the arts and politics. He writes a column for The Baltimore Sun, and his third book, Measuring America: How Economic Growth Came to Define American Greatness in the Late 20th Century, is being published this month. He also has worked for the Brookings Institution and the U.S. Department of Labor, and is a senior fellow at the nonprofit organization Convergence.