FOCUS ON EDUCATION
This Week in Washington

FEBRUARY 13 – FEBRUARY 17, 2017
Kuna Tavalin, Editor
ktavalin@wpllc.net

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This Week in Washington, a weekly publication of WPLLC, provides an overview of upcoming events in Washington, D.C. affecting American education. Please use the bookmarks below to navigate to your area of interest.

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Weekly Calendar

Monday, February 13, 2017
None.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Career and Technical Education
Subject: The U.S. Senate Career and Technical Education (CTE) Caucus will hold a briefing, “CTE: Past, Present and Future.” The event will include a presentation on the evolution of CTE as well as a panel discussion.
Participants: Kimberly Green, executive director, Advance CTE; Kris Martini, director, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, Arlington County Public Schools, VA; Kathy Oliver, former assistant state superintendent for career technology and adult learning, Maryland State Department of Education; Jessica Strait, junior, Abingdon High School, Abingdon, VA; and Stephen DeWitt, deputy executive director, Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE).
Time and Location: 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.; 430 Dirksen SOB.
Contact: RSVP to jnagurka@acteonline.org.

Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Reforming Federal Student Loans
Subject: The American Enterprise Institute (AEI) will hold an event, “Mix Carefully: Using Private Capital to Reform Federal Student Loans.”
Participants: Beth Akers, senior fellow, Manhattan Institute; James P. Bergeron, president, National Council of Higher Education Resources (NCHER); Jason Delisle, resident fellow, AEI; Michael Grunwald, senior staff writer, Politico; Rob Lavet, general counsel, SoFi; and Zakiya Smith, strategy director, Lumina Foundation.
Time and Location: 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.; AEI, 1789 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.
Contact: Register here.
Future of Research in Policymaking
Participants: Michael Feuer, dean, Graduate School of Education and Human Development, professor, Education Policy, George Washington University; Randy Bennett, chair in assessment innovation, ETS; Peggy Carr, acting commissioner, National Center for Education Statistics; and Kadiyre Ercikan, vice president for statistical analysis and psychometric research, ETS.
Time and Location: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; ETS, 1800 K Street, NW, 9th Floor, Washington, DC.
Contact: Register here.

College Transition in State ESSA Plans
Subject: The College in High School Alliance will host a webinar, “Strengthening College Transition in State ESSA Plans.” Panelists will highlight the provisions in the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) related to dual and concurrent enrollment and Early College High Schools, in addition to how states and local education agencies can leverage federal funds and state policy best practices.
Participants: Lexi Barrett, director of national education policy, Jobs for the Future; Clara Haskell Botstein, associate vice president, Bard Early Colleges; and Adam Lowe, executive director, National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships.
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Contact: Register here.

Thursday, February 16, 2017
House Science, Space and Technology Committee Hearing on NASA
Subject: The House Committee on Science, Space and Technology will hold a hearing, “NASA: Past, Present and Future.”
Witnesses: The Honorable Harrison Schmitt, Apollo 17 Astronaut, Former U.S. Senator; Lieutenant General Thomas P. Stafford, Astronaut and Chairman, NASA International Space Station Advisory Committee; Dr. Ellen Stofan, former chief scientist, NASA; and Tom Young, past director, Goddard Spaceflight Center, past president and COO, Martin Marietta, past chairman, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC).
Time and Location: 10:00 a.m.; 2318 Rayburn HOB.
Contact: For inquiries on the hearing, contact: 202.225.6371.

Friday, February 17, 2017
History of Executive Orders
Subject: The National History Center of the American Historical Association will hold a briefing on the history of executive orders. Panelists will discuss the origins of the executive order and how it has been used in past Administrations.
Participants: Julia Azari, associate professor, Marquette University; Matthew Dallek, associate professor, George Washington University; and Andrew Rudalevige, professor of government, Bowdoin College.
Time and Location: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 2103 Rayburn HOB.
Contact: Register here.

Latino/a Students and Postsecondary Education
Subject: The Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) will hold an education policy forum to discuss Latino/a students and postsecondary education pathways. Featured speakers will examine the challenges and opportunities for this student group in the changing policy landscape.
Participants: Jose Luis Santos, vice president, Higher Education Policy and Practice, The Education Trust; and Deborah Santiago, co-founder and COO, Excelencia in Education.
Time and Location: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; IEL, 4301 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC.
Contact: Register here.
Future Hearings and Events

Thursday, February 23, 2017
School Bureaucracy and Effective Teaching

Subject: The American Enterprise Institute (AEI) will hold a briefing, “Busting the School Bureaucracy: A Curriculum for Cage-Busting Teachers.” The event will discuss how teachers can successfully navigate the challenges of policy, administrators and inadequate funding.

Participants: Frederick Hess, resident scholar, AEI; Joshua Parker, 2012 Maryland Teacher of the Year; Peggy Stewart, 2005 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year; Wendy Uptain, founder, Hope Street Group Fellowship; and Dianna Wentzell, commissioner of education, Connecticut Department of Education.

Time and Location: 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.; AEI, 1789 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

Contact: Register here.

On The Floor This Week

Senate Floor:
Confirmation of Steven Mnuchin as Secretary of the Treasury
Confirmation of David Shulin as Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Confirmation of Linda McMahon as Administrator of the Small Business Administration

House Floor:

H.R.428 – Red River Gradient Boundary Survey Act
H.J.Res.42 – Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to drug testing of unemployment compensation applicants
H.J.Res.66 – Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to savings arrangements established by States for non-governmental employees
H.J.Res67 – Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to savings arrangements established by qualified State political subdivisions for non-governmental employees
H.J.Res.69 – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Department of the Interior relating to “Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska”
H.J.Res.43 – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule submitted by Secretary of Health and Human Services relating to compliance with title X requirements by project recipients in selecting sub-recipients

Bills to Watch

FY 2017 APPROPRIATIONS

S.Con.Res 3 – FY 2017 Concurrent Budget Resolution (1/13/17 Passed by the House; 1/12/17 Passed by the Senate)
H.R.2028 - FY 2017 Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act (12/9/16 Signed by President and Passed by the Senate; 12/18/16 Passed by the House)

Links for Up-to-Date Information on Hearings, Legislation, and Events

U.S. House of Representatives 2016 Schedule
U.S. Senate 2016 Schedule
U.S. Department of Education
U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce
U.S. Senate Budget Committee
U.S. House Budget Committee
Congressional Budget Office
Federal legislative information

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