



CES NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

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Feature Article

Five Myths About Education

The United States is mired in a swamp of doubt mongering, outright hokum, and fake accusations of fake news. Education has hardly been immune. A new book aims to address this morass of “alternative facts” by providing evidence-based answers to a series of frequently asked questions about schools. Entitled *Public and Private Education in America: Examining the Facts*, the volume was written by NEPC Fellows Casey Cobb of the University of Connecticut and Gene Glass, Regents’ Professor Emeritus at Arizona State University. It’s the latest addition to ABC-CLIO’s Contemporary Debates series, which uses evidence to counter common misperceptions about high-profile issues such as immigration, climate change, and guns. Below are five of the myths refuted in the book.

Myth 1: Private schools outperform public schools.

Private schools typically come out on top in direct comparisons between their academic performance and outcomes in public schools. However, once researchers account for the fact that private school students are, on average, from wealthier families than public school students, these differences virtually disappear. In fact, some studies have found that, all things being equal, public school outcomes are

superior.

Myth 2: U.S. schools lag way behind schools in other nations.

Scores on the internationally administered Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) suggest that U.S. students rank toward the middle of the pack, worldwide, in science and in math, but toward the top in reading. The Trends in Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), the world’s other most commonly cited international exam, indicates that the U.S. ranks 14th out of 49 in Grade 4 math and 10th out of 39 in Grade 8. However, scholars have raised numerous concerns about the



validity of these rankings, including differences in the socioeconomic status of the students taking the test in different nations and difficulties related to translating and equating tests in different languages. Scholar Yong Zhao, Foundation Distinguished Professor at the University of Kansas, has also raised questions about claims that tests are actually measuring “knowledge and skills essential for the modern society.” In the end, these exams and their associated rankings have limited utility when it comes to identifying higher and lower performing educational systems.

Myth 3: Unlike in private industry, it is nearly impossible to fire teachers for poor performance and that's because of unions.

While it is true that it is uncommon for teachers to be fired for poor performance, evidence actually suggests that teachers are more likely to be fired for performance-related issues in unionized school districts and states. Further, schools fire teachers at rates similar to those of the finance and insurance industry, which was used as a

comparative benchmark because it requires similar levels of education for its employees.

Myth 4: Schools are getting more and more dangerous.

The opposite is true. Although high-profile shootings are certainly tragedies, today's students are actually less likely to be the victims of violence or theft at school than were their predecessors at the turn of the 21st century. For instance, four times as many children were killed in schools in the early 1990s than in 2015.

Myth 5: More homework will definitely lead to better student achievement.

The amount of homework assigned to U.S. students has nearly tripled since the early 1980s. Yet research findings are mixed when it comes to whether or not homework increases student achievement, with any benefits varying by grade level, by subject, and by the method used to assess student outcomes. An added wrinkle is that homework assignments themselves vary widely, ranging from worksheets requiring basic memorization to complex tasks like essay writing. Yet studies have rarely attempted to tease out the impact of different types of homework or the appropriateness of different types and amounts of homework for students at different grade levels. The reality is that U.S. students spend a good deal of time at home on tasks that, while potentially beneficial, are not necessarily evidence based.

The National Education Policy Center (NEPC), a university research center housed at the University of Colorado Boulder School of Education, produces and disseminates high-quality, peer-reviewed research to inform education policy discussions. Visit us at: <http://nepc.colorado.edu>.



Tip of the Month

TIP OF THE MONTH

Address Problems Right Away

Addressing a horde of complaints or negative comments seems overwhelming. But the truth is, it doesn't have to be. There are ways of dealing with hold-ups, even if you must tell your customers you don't know the answer.

Put yourself in their shoes

- Acknowledge the customer's issue – even if you think the mistake might be on the customer's side. Be sure the customer knows you've heard and understood the issue.
- If you can solve the problem right away, do it. The old quote is famous for a reason. "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today."
- If you can't solve the problem immediately, tell your customer when you can solve it. When they know you're working on a solution, even if it's behind the scenes, it will bump up customer satisfaction.

Procurement News

1) **Contract Expirations:** None

2) **Contract Extensions:** None

3) **Name Changes:**

- Integrated Control Systems sold to Automated Logistics/Carrier Corporation. The change will take place in a few months.
- Workspace Dynamics sold to Goodmans Interior Structures. The change will take place soon.

4) **Terminations:**

- BSN Sports (aka Varsity Brands Holding Co. DBA Sports, LLC) no longer has a contract with CES, effective immediately.

5) **New Contract Awards:**

2022-04 Robotic, Self-Motorized, Autonomous Disinfection and Sterilization	Build with Robots SNAP Solutions Inc.	2022-04-C101-ALL 2022-04-C102-ALL
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6) Current & Upcoming Solicitations

RFP #	RFP Description	Release	Due	Awards
2022-05 New Category	<i>Devices with iOS Operating System for K-12 (all dates are tentative)</i>	01/24/22	02/21/22	02/28/22
2022-06 New Category	<i>Electric Charging Stations, Batteries & Related (all dates are tentative)</i>	01/24/22	02/21/22	02/28/22
2022-07 New Category	Automotive (aviation, heavy equipment, industrial, etc.) Lubricants (category & dates are tentative)	01/24/22	02/21/22	02/28/22
2022-09	<i>Fuel – Gasoline, E85, Diesel, Biodiesel, and Related</i>	03/28/22	04/22/22	05/03/22
2022-10	<i>Heavy Equipment, Parts, Accessories, Leasing and Related</i>	03/28/22	04/22/22	05/03/22
2022-11	<i>Material Handling Equipment, Parts, Accessories, Leasing and Related</i>	03/28/22	04/22/22	05/03/22



CES is pleased to announce
a contract has been awarded to

Apple

for all Apple and Mac products
except iPhones, iPods, and iWatches



Calendar of Events

- 2/2 Last Day to Introduce Bills – NM Legislature
- 2/2 Groundhog Day
- 2/2 CES Executive Committee Meeting
- 2/3 TAP: Addressing Trauma through Social Emotional Learning
- 2/3-5 NMSBA Legislative Conference
- 2/4 Winter Olympics Begin
- 2/4 NMML Municipal Day
- 2/9 TAP: Universal Design for Learning
- 2/10 TAP: Writing Functional Behavior Assessments & Behavior Intervention Plans
- 2/14 Valentines Day
- 2/16 TAP: Comprehension: The End Goal of Reading
- 2/16-18 NMASBO Winter Conference
- 2/17 TAP: Sensory Self-Regulation Supports
- 2/17 NM Legislature Adjourns
- 2/21 Presidents' Day
- 2/22 TAP: Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis
- 2/23 TAP: Learning Strategies to Improve Memory, Attention, Organization, etc.
- 2/24 TAP: The IEP From A-Z

FEBRUARY 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					



The Order Corner

When accessing the Bluebook online, there are a couple of things you can do to make your experience go more smoothly:

1. Setting a bookmark for the actual Bluebook Page introduces errors into the login process.

INSTEAD: Go to the CES homepage (www.ces.org) and set your bookmark. Then anytime you need to access the Bluebook, begin at the CES homepage and select the 'Bluebook' link in the upper right corner.

2. Logging out then back in within a tab that has been in use through two or more logins often introduces errors into the login process.

INSTEAD: Always begin your login process by opening a new tab or window in your browser and go from there.

Compliance Corner

Everything you always wanted to know about
Special Education Compliance*

*but were afraid to ask!

Compliance Corner

Introducing: Cindy Soo Hoo, TAP Consultant

- CES is excited to announce a monthly segment called Compliance Corner featuring hot topics involving special education. Look for information, guidance, and tips on navigating through processes involving special education.
- Do you have questions pertaining to special education services, processes, situations and/or paperwork? As a former compliance officer, I hope to provide tried and true solutions. If seeking legal advice, contact appropriate personnel for your district. Otherwise, please address your questions to Loretta Garcia, TAP Coordinator, at lgarcia@ces.org or Lianne Pierce, Director of Ancillary Services, at lianne@ces.org
- At this time, we are gathering questions in preparation for the first edition of the Special Education Compliance Corner to be available in the Ancillary and CES monthly newsletters published in March.
- When emailing your questions to either Loretta or Lianne please indicate in the subject line, "Question for Compliance Corner." We look forward to hearing from you.



New Staff

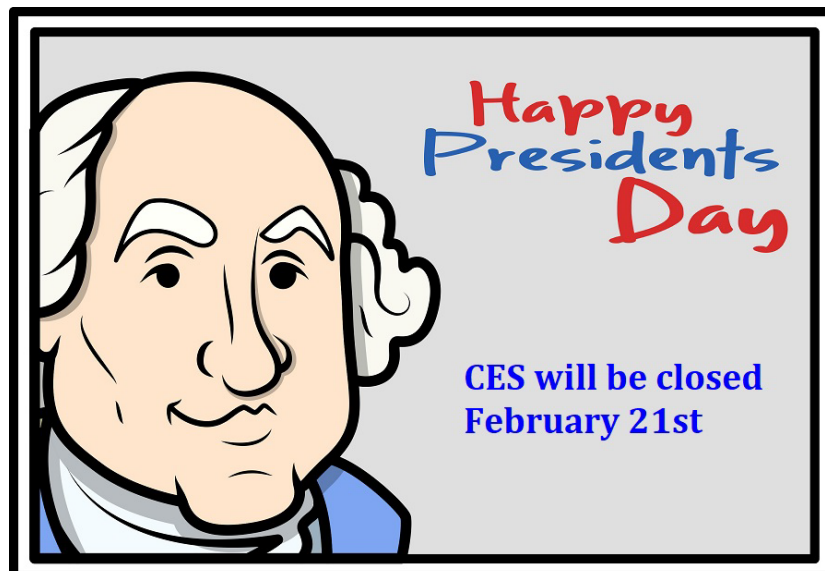
NEW AT CES!



My name is Michael Floyd, and I started working for CES as a purchasing specialist on December 28th of 2021. I grew up in Amarillo TX, and on October 17th of 2020 I married my wife. We have 2 pets that I love to spend time with, a tabby cat and an Australian shepherd. For most of my free time, I love to spend time with my family, play basketball, watch movies, and travel.



Hi. I am Amanda Hall, the new Executive Administrative Assistant at CES. I began January 31st, so watch for my photo and bio in the March newsletter.



Job Opportunities at CES

Ancillary Specialty Vacancies by Region

Adaptive Physical Educator – Region 4

Audiologist – Regions 1, 2

Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant – Region 4

Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist – Regions 2, 4

Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist/TVI – Regions 1, 2

Educational Diagnostician – Regions 2, 3, 4, 8

Occupational Therapist – Regions 2, 4, 8

Physical Therapist – Regions 2, 4

Registered Nurse – Regions 1, 2, 4, 8

Rehabilitation Counselor – Region 2

Recreational Therapist – Region 4

School Psychologist – Regions 1, 3, 4, 6, 7

Social Worker – Regions 2, 3, 4

Speech/Language Pathologist – Regions 1, 2, 4, 7

Teacher for the Visually Impaired – Region 4

Other CES Vacancies

Purchasing Specialist

Bulletin Board



2022 Board Member Institute

February 2-5, 2022, Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe, NM

The New Mexico School Boards Association will conduct the 2022 Board Institute during the Annual Legislative Session in Santa Fe and allow board members to advocate for education priorities with State Legislators. The Board Institute will feature informative general sessions and a variety of webinars on school governance and public education topics.





2022 Winter Conference

When: February 16-18, 2022

Where: Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, NM

Registration will open beginning of January 2022.

Licensure credit/CE hours will be given for all of the sessions attended at this conference.



Attendee Fees

In-Person Conference

Member: \$295

Non-Member: \$395

Virtual Event

Member: \$295

Non-Member: \$395

Q: How many of the months have 28 days?

A: All of them

Q: How many days in 4 years?

A: $(365 \times 4) + 1 = 1461$



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