

WELCOME TO THE LOW-HANGING FRUIT OF ED POLICY TOURNAMENT

OVERVIEW

Each policy idea has been randomly paired to another, and the matchups will proceed in a single elimination format. There were 32 policy entries so we will begin with rounds of 32, 16, 8, 4, and then the final 2 will battle it out in the championship. Matchups will be announced in the morning and will stay open for 7 days.

See the NORTH & SOUTH brackets below to follow along as results are updated!

VOTING

Anyone is allowed to vote, and feel free to encourage other friends, family or colleagues who may be interested to participate also. Please vote as you see fit. However, we also ask that you do your best to choose policies based on evidence that a change will benefit students and that consider feasibility (i.e., known implementation issues). Please limit votes to 1 per-person.

GOAL

At the end of the tournament we would like to invite contributors of policies that make it to the final round(s), to jointly write a short policy brief on the issues and why these low-hanging policy options could be implemented to benefit students.

Thank you to all who participate and extra thanks to those who submitted policy ideas!

[For more detail on each policy click here](#)

Play-in!!!

Round of 32

Round of 16

Round of 8

Final 4

Timely FOIA Response (11.5%)

3yr Tch Ret. Bonus (88.5%)

FAFSA Simplification (66%)

Req Adv MS Math (34%)

3yr Tch Ret. Bonus (45.8%)

FAFSA Simplification (54.2%)

Req ELL/SWD (26.3%)

4yr Free College Tuition (73.8%)

Multi Subj Accountability (25%)

1st Grade Reading Program (75%)

Highly-Effectv Mentor Tchrs (65.9%)

Flex Jobs In CTE Areas (34.1%)

Min \$25hr Presch Tchr (56%)

Recruit/Retain ToCs (44%)

Tchr \$ High Need Areas (79.4%)

Natl Stu-Teaching Regs (20.6%)

Tching Plcmnt Consistency (50.8%)

Extra FTE Roving Sub-Tch (49.2%)

Req 45min Outdoor (49.1%)

High-Quality Curriculum (50.9%)

FAFSA Simplification (38.1%)

4yr Free College Tuition (61.9%)

1st Grade Reading Program (71.8%)

Highly-Effectv Mentor Tchrs (28.2%)

Min \$25hr Presch Tchr (52.3%)

Tchr \$ High Need Areas (47.7%)

Tching Plcmnt Consistency (40.2%)

High-Quality Curriculum (59.8%)

4yr Free College Tuition (28.6%)

1st Grade Reading Program (71.4%)

Min \$25hr Presch Tchr (52%)

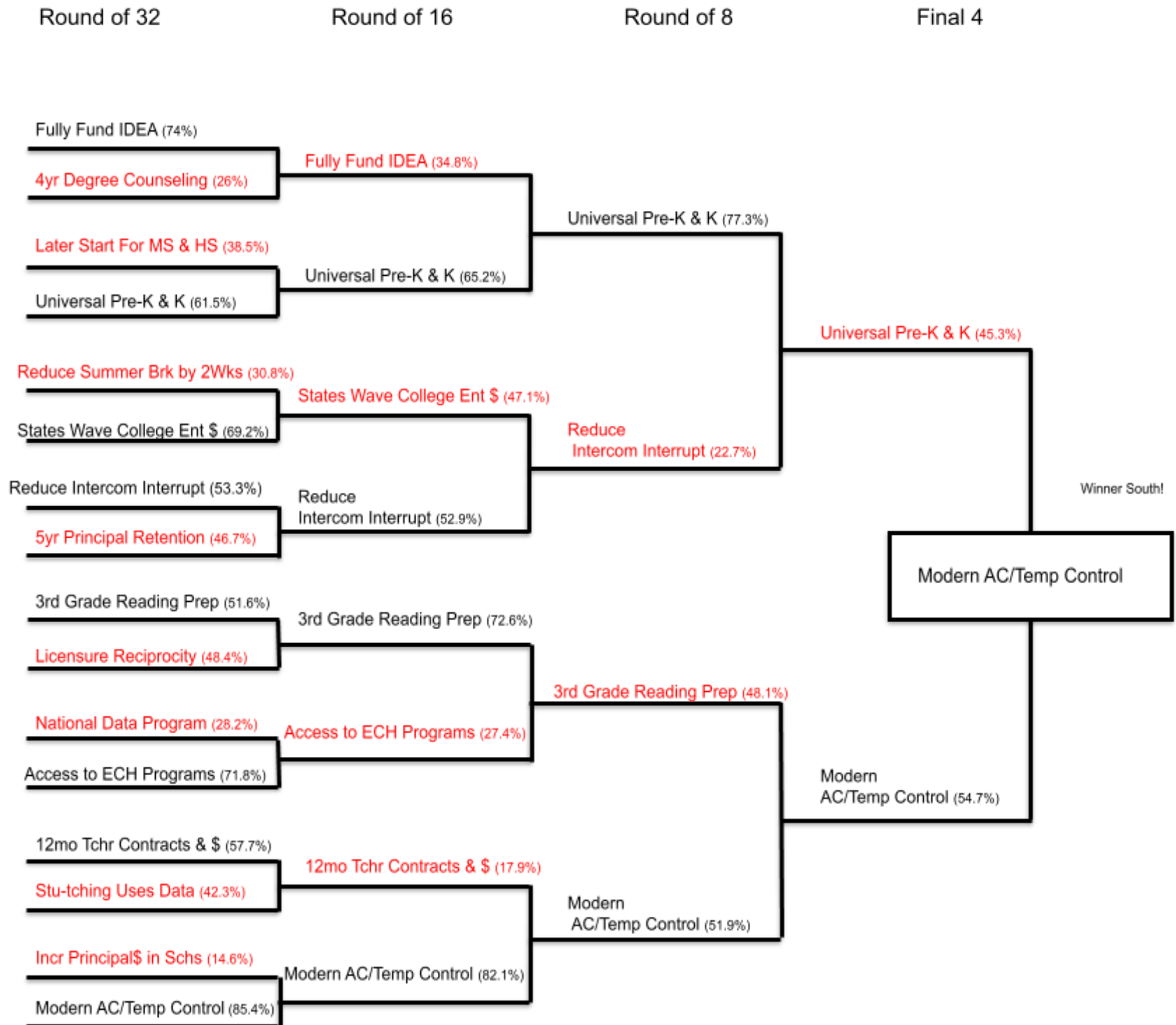
High-Quality Curriculum (48%)

1st Grade Reading Program (56%)

Winner North!

1st Grade Reading Program

Min \$25hr Presch Tchr (44%)



A federal incentive program for states to adopt agreements that allow teachers licensed in State A to be accepted in State B. No hoops, no fees (paid by teachers), and no onerous paperwork.

- Dan Goldhaber

States or districts require that counselors provide students and families information regarding the benefits of obtaining a 4-year degree.

- Kevin Haynes

National or state requirement where all students found to be proficient (top 40%) on 5th grade state assessment are defaulted into advanced middle school math course pathway.

- Dr. Fletcher

National or state requirement for all buildings where students receive instructions to have modernized HVAC and temperature control systems.

- Matt Kraft; Alvin Christian; David Liebowitz

National or state requirement that all teachers have access to, and supports and expectations to use, high-quality curriculum materials (as judged by alignment with state standards and principles of how students learn).

- Robert Pondiscio; Morgan Polikoff

National reduction of summer breaks by two weeks.

- Hans Bos

Provide districts with lists of recommended mentor teachers, to use these lists in combination with their own judgment. Recommendation lists developed based on administrative data including observation ratings, value-added measures, and years of experience, among other possible indicators of effectiveness.

- Kevin Schaaf

National program targeting recruitment and retention of teachers of color.

- Betheny Gross

National program to increase principal pay in high-needs schools.

- Samantha Viano

1st grade reading program - National screening and SoR interventions for 1st graders not meeting reading benchmarks.

- Kathleen O'Conner

National or state requirement that teachers/admin cannot be hired unless they have demonstrated competency (i.e., passed coursework) in teaching ELLs and students with disabilities.

- L Mason-Williams

National program with funding to ensure all families and students have access to early childhood programs.

- Li Feng

Facilitate teaching placement consistency by providing incentives and support to keep teachers in their grades and subjects.

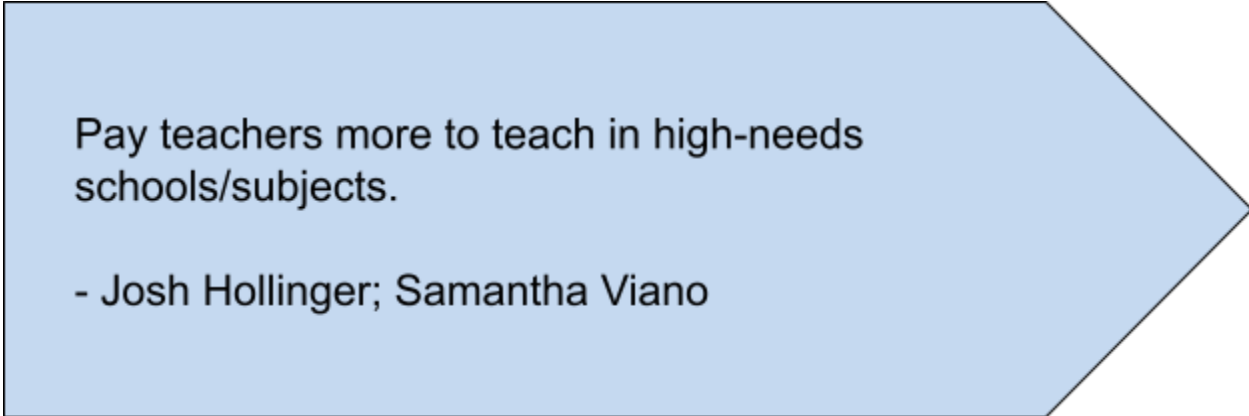
- Ed Fuller

Entice principals to remain at same school at least 5 yrs.

- Ed Fuller

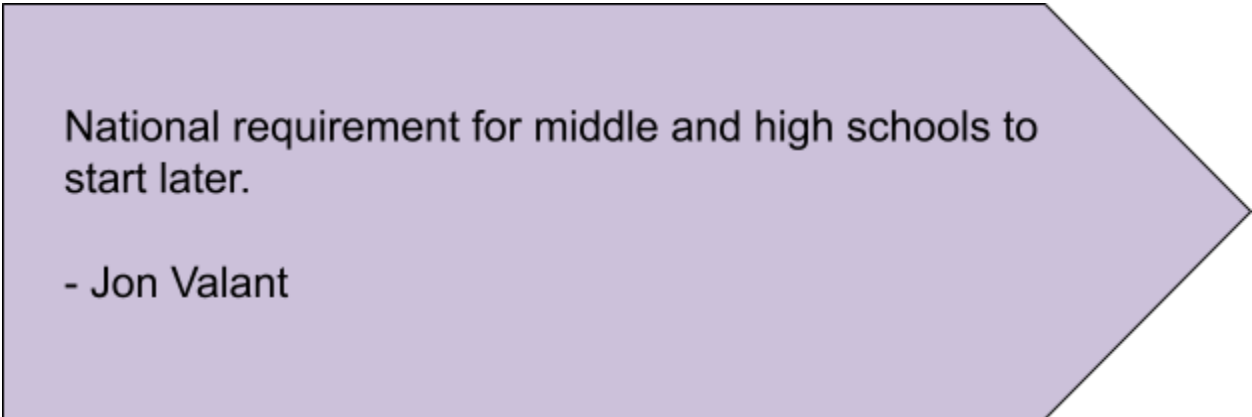
Require that announcements take up no more than 2 minutes or use of intercom system interrupts instruction. Announcements do not occur during specified blocks of time during instruction.

- Gray Kimbrough



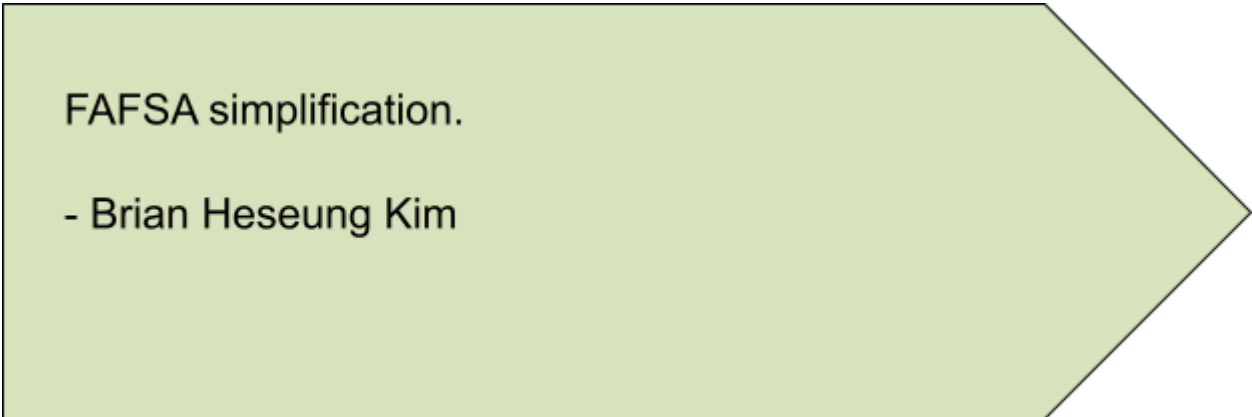
Pay teachers more to teach in high-needs schools/subjects.

- Josh Hollinger; Samantha Viano



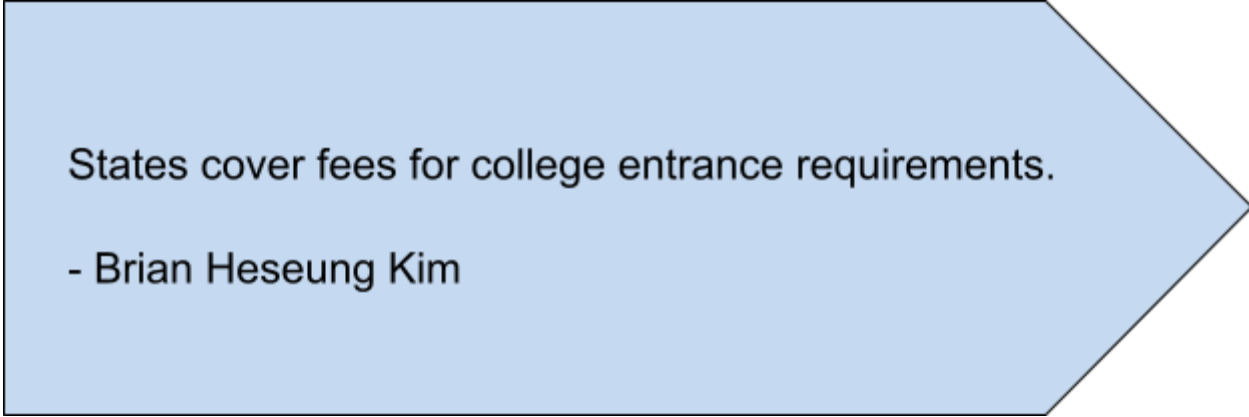
National requirement for middle and high schools to start later.

- Jon Valant



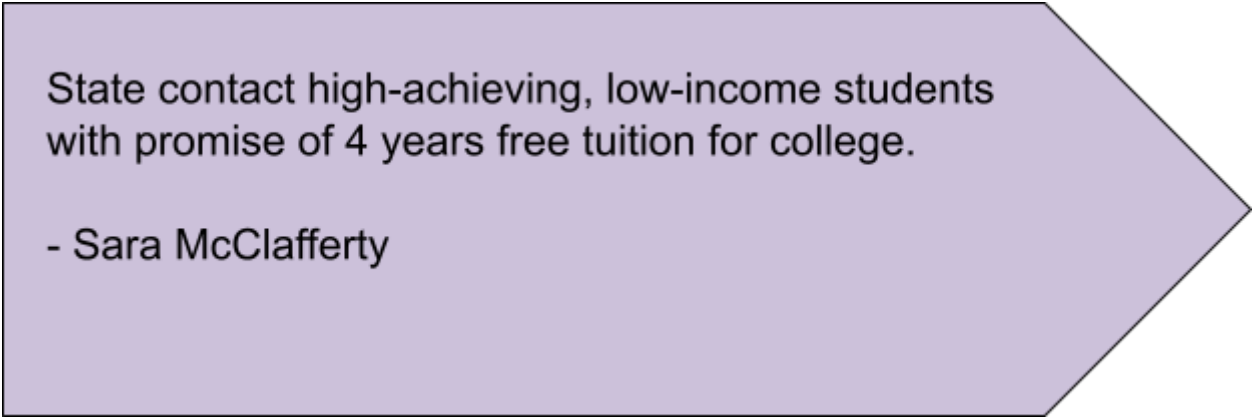
FAFSA simplification.

- Brian Heseung Kim



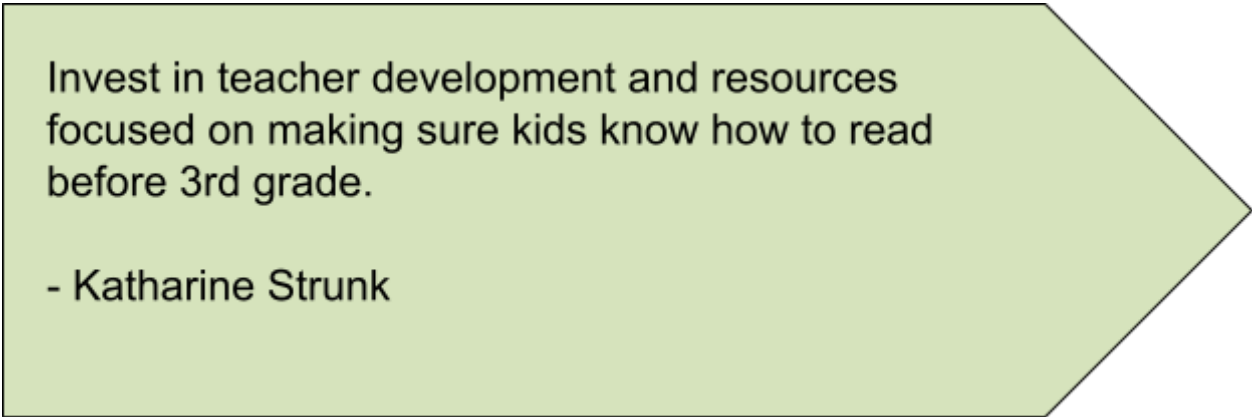
States cover fees for college entrance requirements.

- Brian Heseung Kim



State contact high-achieving, low-income students with promise of 4 years free tuition for college.

- Sara McClafferty



Invest in teacher development and resources focused on making sure kids know how to read before 3rd grade.

- Katharine Strunk

National standards on student teaching requirements.

- Stephen Holt

Compulsory daily outdoor recess time (e.g., 45 minutes for elementary).

- Kate Kennedy

Fully fund IDEA.

- Tanner Delpier

National compulsory Pre-K & Kindergarten

- Tanner Delpier & Paula Herbart

Increase preschool teacher average hourly wage to minimum of \$25.

- Megan Tomkins-Stange

Allow for flexible part-time teaching arrangements in high demand/high wage CTE areas.

- Shaun Dougherty

Well rounded curriculum, weigh arts in state accountability system (similar to policies in MD).

- Joe Elefante

Require 12-month contract and increase teacher salaries, commiserate with 12 month salaries.

- Elizabeth Arons

Federal incentive program nudging states into uniform collection and definitions of key data points across states. Resulting data will be comparable across geographic location. ED will offer a streamlined version of data collection for states that commit to working together with the CDO Council to develop standards.

- Doug Hummel-Price

Extra FTE for a substitute in schools to improve teacher work conditions by making the cost-benefit of teachers attending meetings and appointments tilt in the right direction.

- Ilana Horn

Embed within-school student-teacher assignment as a component of school/district accountability systems, provide school leaders with proactive and responsive data tools to inform their decisions.

- Meagan Comb

Relevant agencies must respond to FOIA requests in a timely manner.

- Dahlia Bazzaz

Give bonuses to 3rd year teachers in Title 1 schools with Proficient+ evaluations for staying (vesting incrementally through year 6).

- David Liebowitz

----- Original Instructions -----

Thank you to everyone for submitting your ideas! We would like to release the policy suggestions in a head-to-head format where we arrive at a final subset of what were identified as the top low-hanging fruit education policy options.

You likely received a message from Dan Goldhaber or Nate Brown requesting you review or add additional detail to your policy idea. To do that...

- Please find your idea in the list below,
- Right click (or control click for Mac) the box that contains your idea,
- Select comment from the list of options,
- and then please either approve the text or enter any requested changes

If you run into any problems or have questions, please contact @nate_brown12 on Twitter or by email at nrb9@uw.edu