Governors' Education Policy Advisors Institute

September 25, 2019

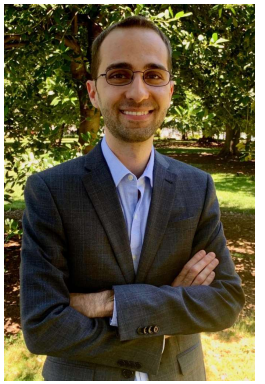
Welcome and Overview

Beth Caron
Director, NGA Education
NGA Solutions: The Center for Best Practices

Discussion: What NGA Can Do for You










NGA

GEPA-Only Programming

Tami Pyfer
Education Advisor
Office of Governor Gary Herbert - UT

LaTanya Pattillo
Teacher Advisor to the Governor
Office of Governor Roy Cooper - NC

Brian Mitchell
Director
Office of Science, Innovation, and Technology - NV

Siri Smillie
Policy Director
Education Commission of the States - MT

Lunch

Role of the GEPA: Seizing the Moment of Opportunity

Beth Caron
Director, NGA Education
NGA Solutions: The Center for Best Practices

Scott Palmer
Managing Partner and Co-Founder
EducationCounsel

SEIZING THE MOMENT

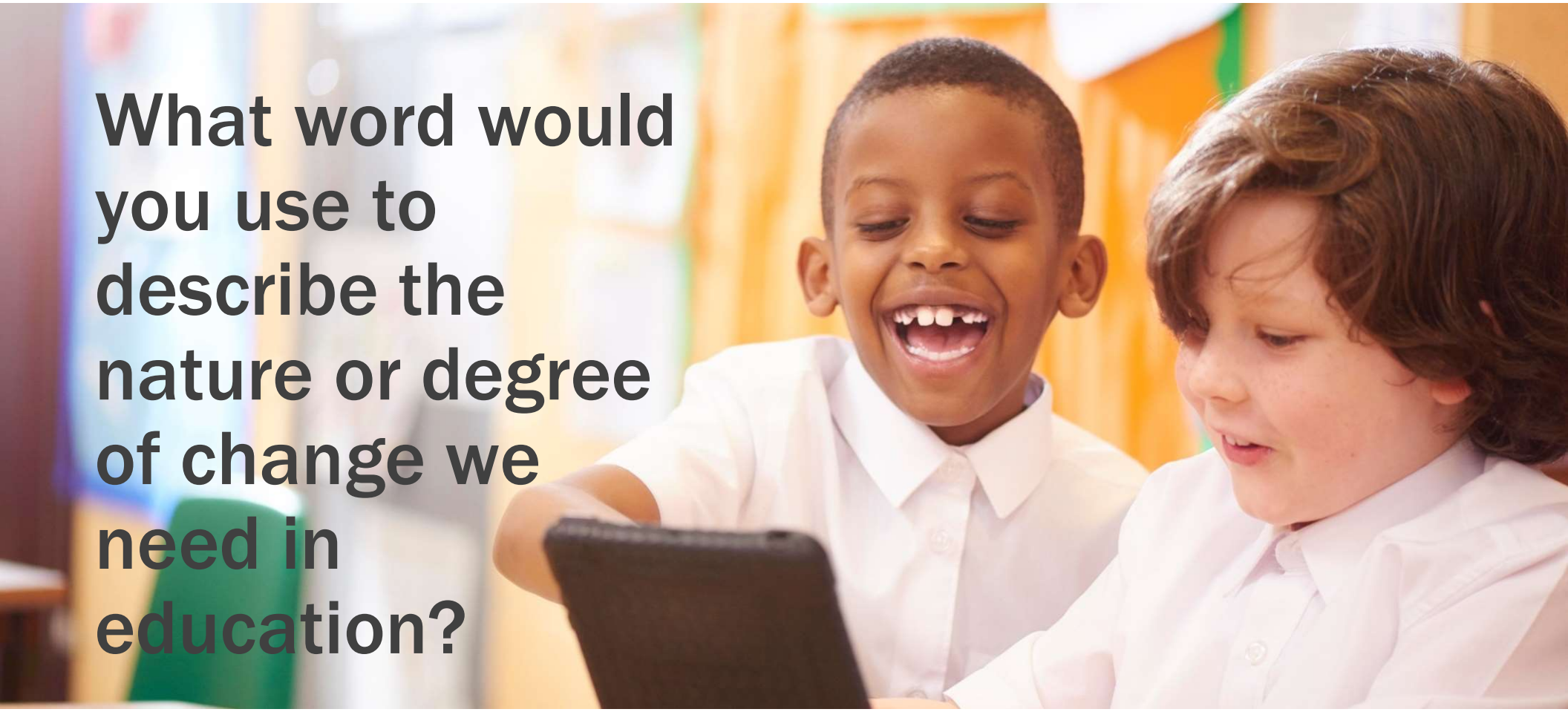
The Critical State Role in Education Policy Leadership

Scott Palmer, Managing Partner, EducationCounsel

2019 GEPA Boot Camp

September 25, 2019

EducationCounsel
Policy | Strategy | Law | Advocacy



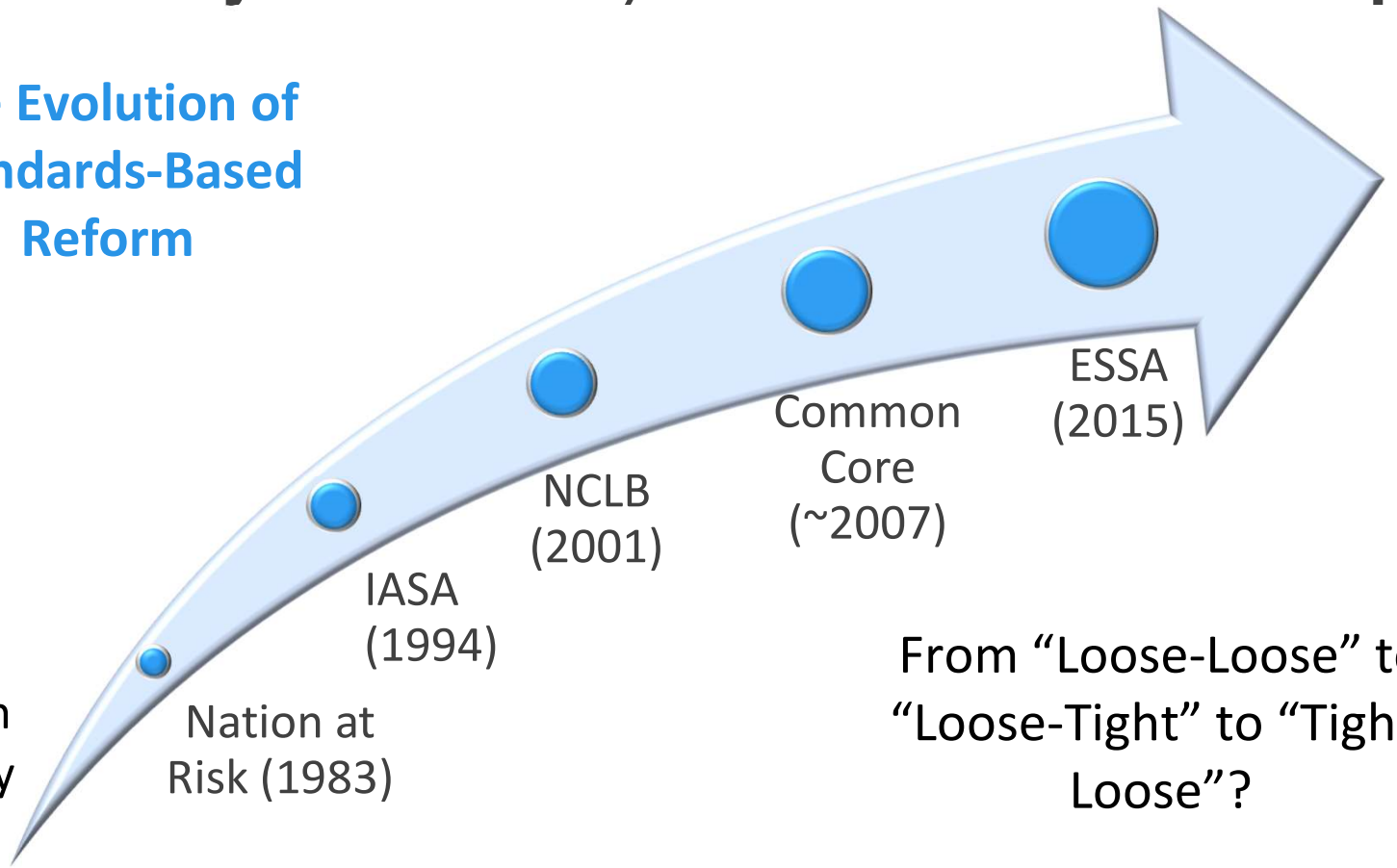
EducationCounsel
Policy | Strategy | Law | Advocacy

This is a critical inflection point in education

- Changing world requires “deeper learning” for all – as moral, economic, and democratic imperative.
- Longstanding inequities and shifting demographics increase urgency.
- Political shifts and devolution create opening and need for new, deeper, balanced frame for education reform.
- Increasing knowledge and evidence provides new insights on what it takes to advance equity and excellence.
- Political election cycle creates heightened opportunities and risks.

A brief history of federal/national education policy

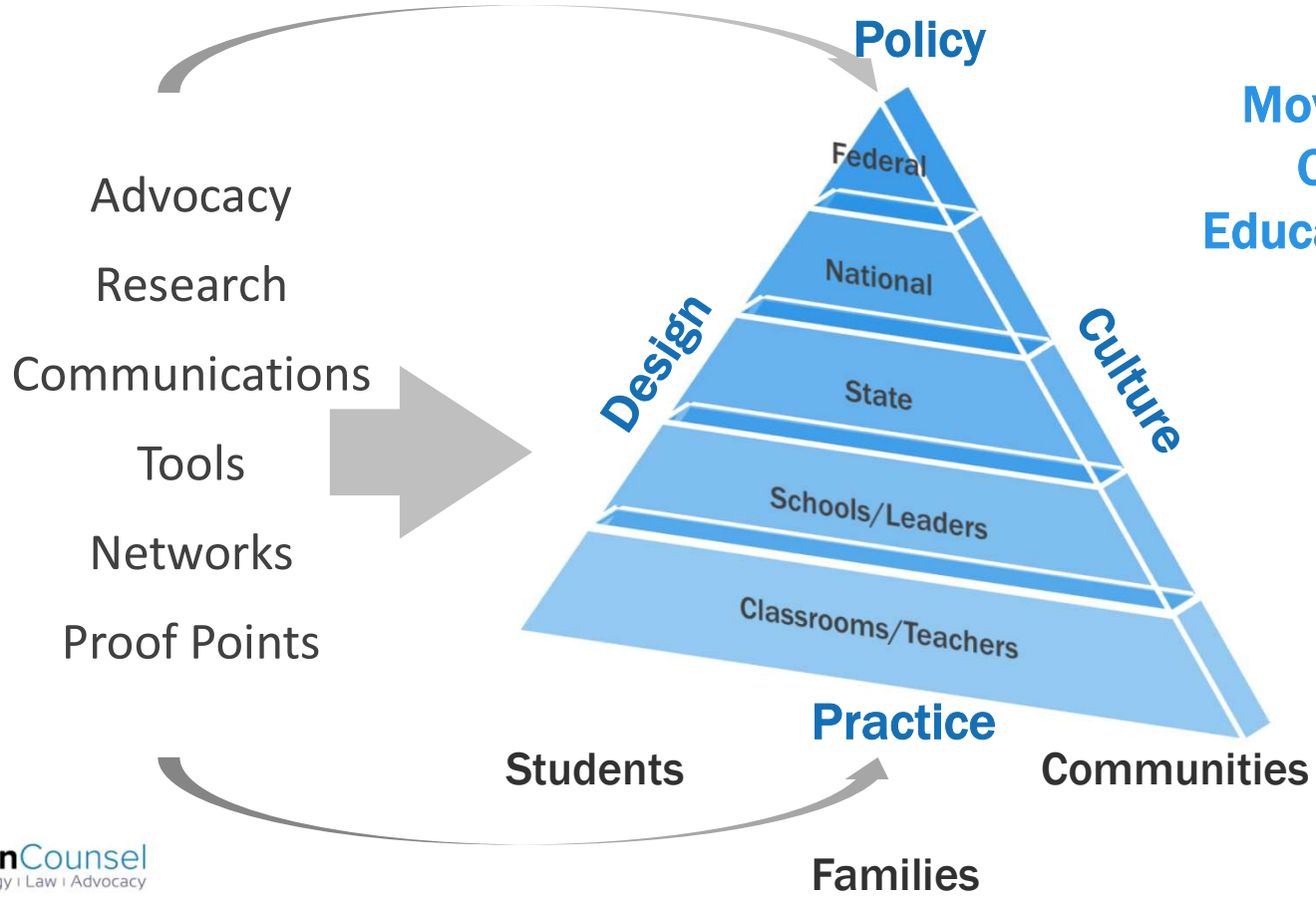
The Evolution of Standards-Based Reform



From "Loose-Loose" to "Loose-Tight" to "Tight-Loose"?

EducationCounsel
Policy | Strategy | Law | Advocacy

State policy leadership can play a critical role

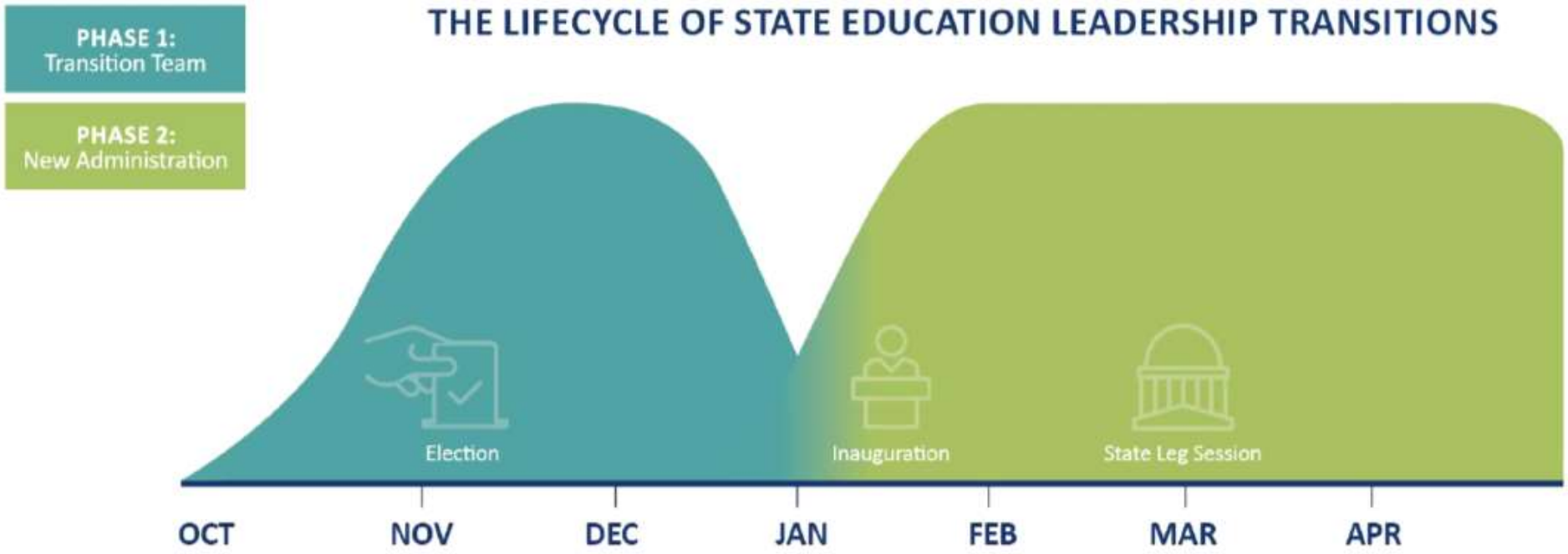


Moving Change in Our Complex Education Ecosystem

State policy leadership can play a critical role

- Establishes requirements
- Creates incentives
- Removes barriers
- Provides resources
- Establishes rights
- Defines vision and agenda

Building a state leadership strategy



Building a state leadership strategy

- Establish education as a priority
- Set a clear vision
- Engage stakeholders
- Analyze state data and context
- Review key research and practice
- Engage partners
- Set and advance priorities
- Consider the long term
- Think reactively and proactively
- Leverage the leverage
- Consider the cultural impact

The science of learning and development

A SoLD Alliance

In 2016, a diverse group of education researchers, practitioners, and policymakers came together to test a shared hypothesis that ***the science of learning and development provides powerful and actionable insights across multiple disciplines on how to transform our education and youth-serving systems, in terms of both structure and culture, to achieve our greatest hopes for our students in the 21st-century.***

AIR® American Institutes for Research®

LEARNING POLICY INSTITUTE Research. Action. Impact.

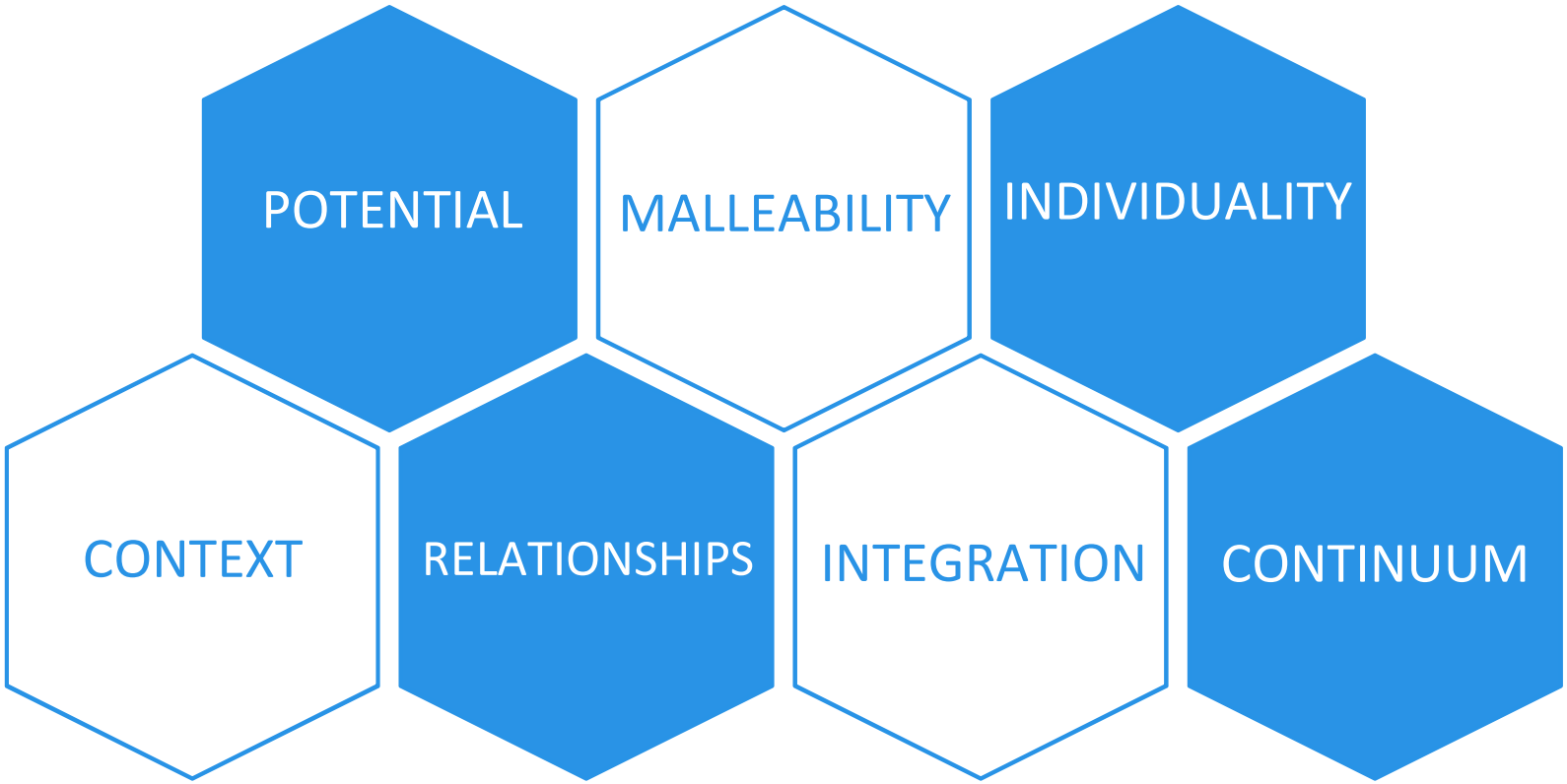
TURNAROUND FOR CHILDREN

EducationCounsel Policy | Strategy | Law | Advocacy

the forum FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT

populace

SoLD Alliance initial core findings



THANK YOU

Scott Palmer

P: (202) 689-2916

E: scott.palmer@educationcounsel.com

National State Membership Organizations Listening Session

Facilitator

Beth Caron
Director, NGA Education
NGA Solutions: The Center for Best Practices

Speakers

Jeremy Anderson
President
Education Commission of the States

Michelle Exstrom
Group Director, Education Program
National Conference of State Legislatures

Kathryn White
Director of Budget Process Studies
National Association of State Budget Officers

Steve Bowen
Deputy Executive Director, State Leadership
Council of Chief State School Officers

Robert Hull
President and CEO
National Association of State Boards of Education

Networking Break

Data Resources to Support Your State

Facilitator

Beth Caron
Director, NGA Education
NGA Solutions: The Center for Best Practices

Speakers

Paige Kowalski
Executive Vice President
Data Quality Campaign

Steve Voytek
Senior US Government Relations Manager
ACT

Wayne J. Camara
Horace Mann Research Chair
ACT


The Time for Data Driven Policymaking is Now
DQC
DATA QUALITY CAMPAIGN

How To Be A Savvy Consumer of Data

Q: How can I know I can trust this data to help me make decisions?

Q: Where do these numbers come from?

Q: Is this data giving me a complete picture of what's happening in schools and classrooms?

DQC
DATA QUALITY CAMPAIGN

COLLECTED: *Data reflects a series of decisions made by people.*

COMMUNICATED: *Data does not create meaning, people create meaning.*

CONSUMED: *Data will be met by critical consumers.*

DQC
DATA QUALITY CAMPAIGN

Things to consider when making decisions with data

Determine who was a part of the process of generating the data.

Q: *Has anything been left out?*

Consider if the narrative being presented captures the whole story.

Q: *Are there any other possible explanations for the findings?*

Evaluate whether the data is presented with sufficient context.

Q: *Do I have enough information to develop a clear picture?*

Be mindful of what questions the data can and Cannot help you to answer.

Q: *Can I use this data to make decisions on a larger scale?*

DQC
DATA QUALITY CAMPAIGN

Put Your Savvy to Work

You are presented with this data:

56% of Achieve More students who entered college in 2015 had graduated, transferred to a four-year university or remained in school two years later

39% of recent high school graduates outside of Achieve More had done the same

What questions do you have?

Using Data to Inform Policy: Opportunities & Cautions

Steve Voytek & Wayne Camara

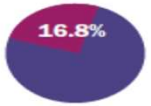
September 25, 2019
NGA GEPA Conference

NGA-ACT 2018 Gubernatorial Profiles Project

- Starting point: 2018 Gubernatorial elections
- Resources that can help states think about their educational *systems*
- Snapshot in time for educational priorities and state of education
- Primary point of comparison: state vs. national average
- Identifying gaps or potential areas for attention / new policymaking

State of Hawai'i Education

Early Childhood Facts[2]



Four-year-olds enrolled in public pre-k or Head Start

Childcare Worker Mean Wage (hourly)

$11.58 State

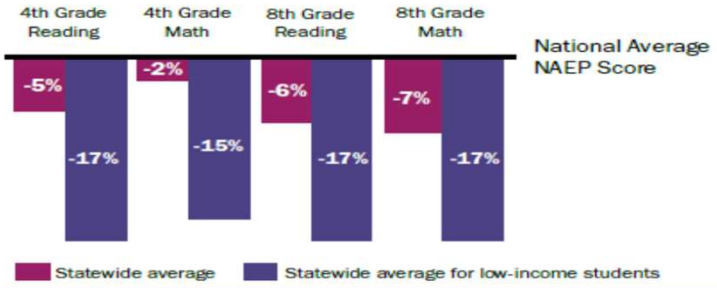
$10.72 National

High School Graduation Rate[4]

82.7%	77.9%	84%
Hawai'i	Hawai'i Low-Income Students	National Average

Hawai'i National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Scores[3]

Percentage of students performing at or above proficient level



Are Hawai'i Students Ready for College?

The ACT test is the most frequently taken college entrance exam in the U.S. The chart below shows the ACT Composite score distribution for students in Hawai'i and the U.S. All public school students in Hawai'i take the ACT.

ACT COMPOSITE	HAWAI'I	NATION
1-18	53.4%	39.9%
19-23	27.3%	29.1%
24-36	19.3%	31%

STEM Careers: Are Hawai'i Students Interested and Ready?

In Hawai'i, **43.5 percent** of ACT-tested students from the class of 2018 had aspirations to pursue a future in STEM. Of those students, **17.6 percent** are prepared for first-year college coursework related to STEM fields.

College Readiness is More than ONE Number

Along with their ACT Composite score, students also receive scores in four subject areas – Math, Science, English and Reading – along with target (or "Benchmark") scores that will help them gauge their likelihood of earning a B or C in credit-bearing first-year college courses. The percentages of students who met at least three of these four Benchmark scores are provided below.

Students in Hawai'i Who Met at Least 3 of 4 College-Ready Benchmark Scores

OVERALL	25.6%	NATION: 38.3%
FIRST GENERATION	14%	NATION: 17.1%
LOW INCOME	14%	NATION: 18.9%

Higher Education Stats[5]

	HAWAI'I	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Educational Appropriations per Full-Time Equivalent	$10,810	$7,642
Total State Grant Expenditures as Percentage of State Fiscal Support for Higher Education	0.5%	12.7%
Percent Change in Total Spending Since 2008	-0.9%	-11.6%
State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	$76.45	$816.79
Need-based State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	$76.45	$623.66

Higher Education Outcomes[6]

Percent of Residents with an Associate's Degree or Higher:

41.8% Hawai'i — 39.2% National Average

Percent of Residents with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher:

31.4% Hawai'i — 30.9% National Average

Average Student Debt:

$25,125 Hawai'i — $28,650 National Average

Data informing policy

Two paths:

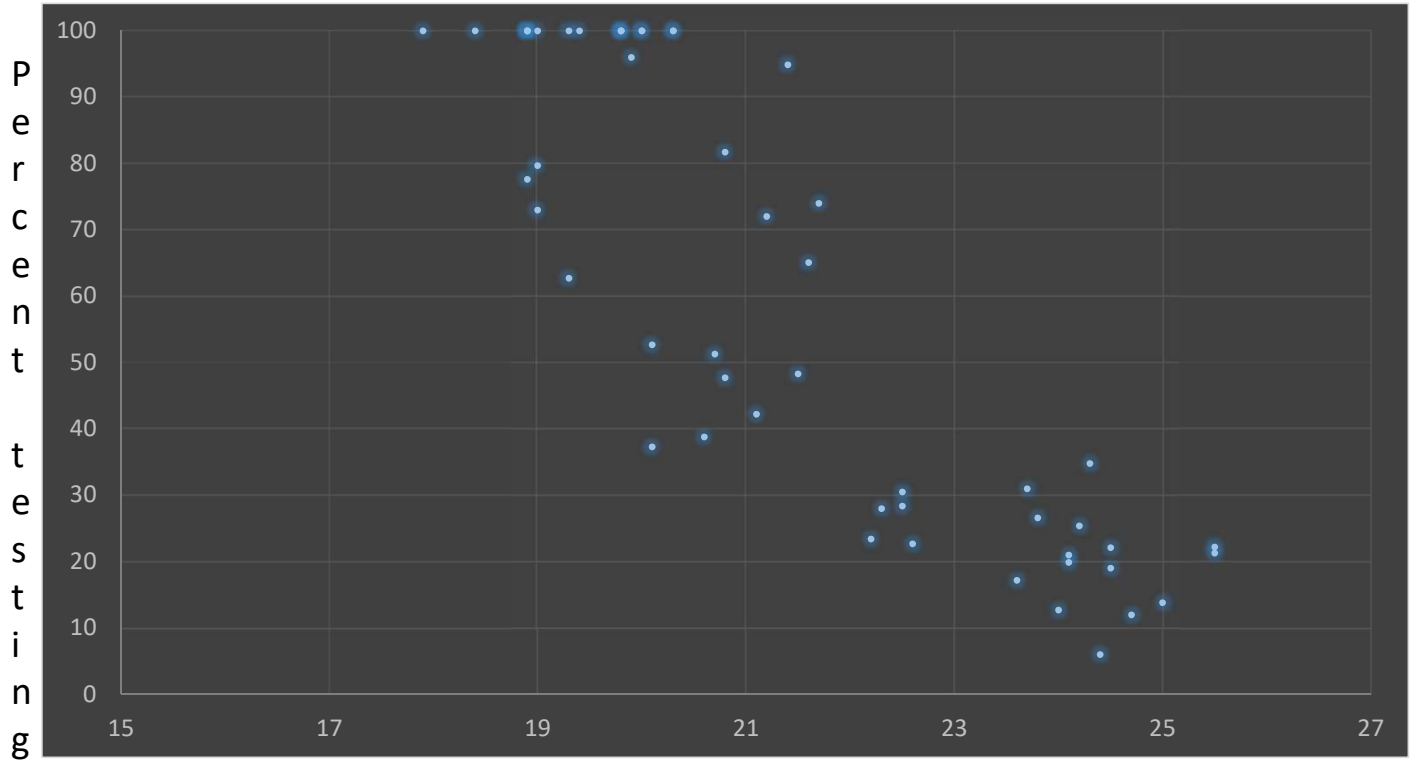
- Begin by identifying the question…then determine the type of data you need, OR
- By understanding your data… who is included, how it was collected, what is says and what it doesn't say.

Data informing policy

Two paths:

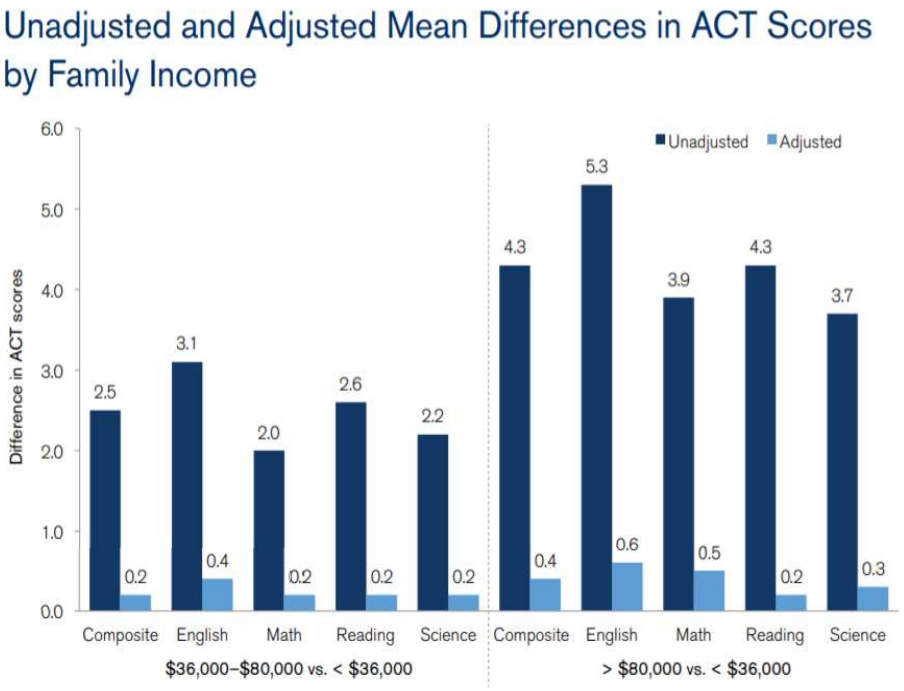
- Begin by identifying the question…then determine the type of data you need, OR
- By understanding your data… who is included, how it was collected, what is says and what it doesn't say.
- ACT data – represents a graduation cohort in 15 states, but self selected populations in 35 states.
- Valid comparisons (within state year to year – across state) among those 1 census testing states and schools/districts.
- Caution is needed in making comparisons in other jurisdictions.

Scatterplot – Percent students testing x 2019 mean ACT state average



Understanding Subgroup Differences by Socioeconomic Status

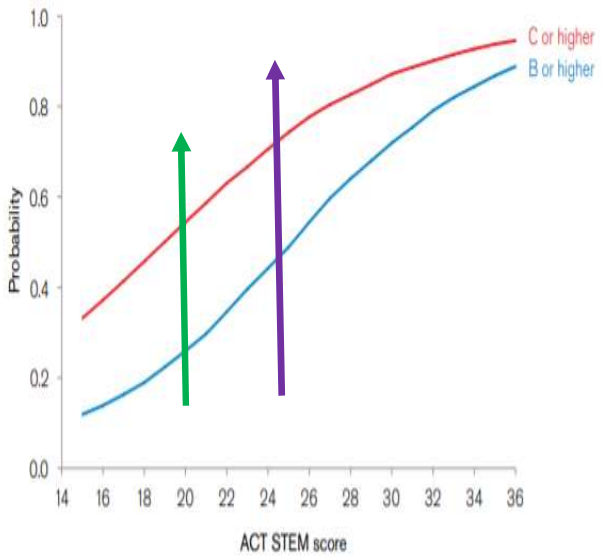
- Large ACT performance differences by family income
- Mean differences were reduced significantly (87-95%) after account for student and school characteristics
- Takeaway: Subgroup differences by income largely attributable to differential academic preparation



ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark

Preparation and Academic Advising

- Benchmarks for all students and majors may disguise the level achievement required for success in STEM
- STEM majors take more rigorous math and science course: calculus, biology, chemistry and physics.
- STEM Benchmark of 26 (vs 22-23)
- Indicator of students' readiness to succeed in a STEM major



Yea-to-Year Change in Average School or District Scores

School/District Test Takers	20 - 49	200 or more
Score Change	21 to 19.5 (-1.5)	21 to 19.5 (-1.5)
Score Change % rank	11th percentile	1st percentile
Interpretation	Your score change matched or exceeded that of **11% of all districts**	Your score change matched or exceeded that of **1% of all districts**

Closing Remarks

Beth Caron
Director, NGA Education
NGA Solutions: The Center for Best Practices