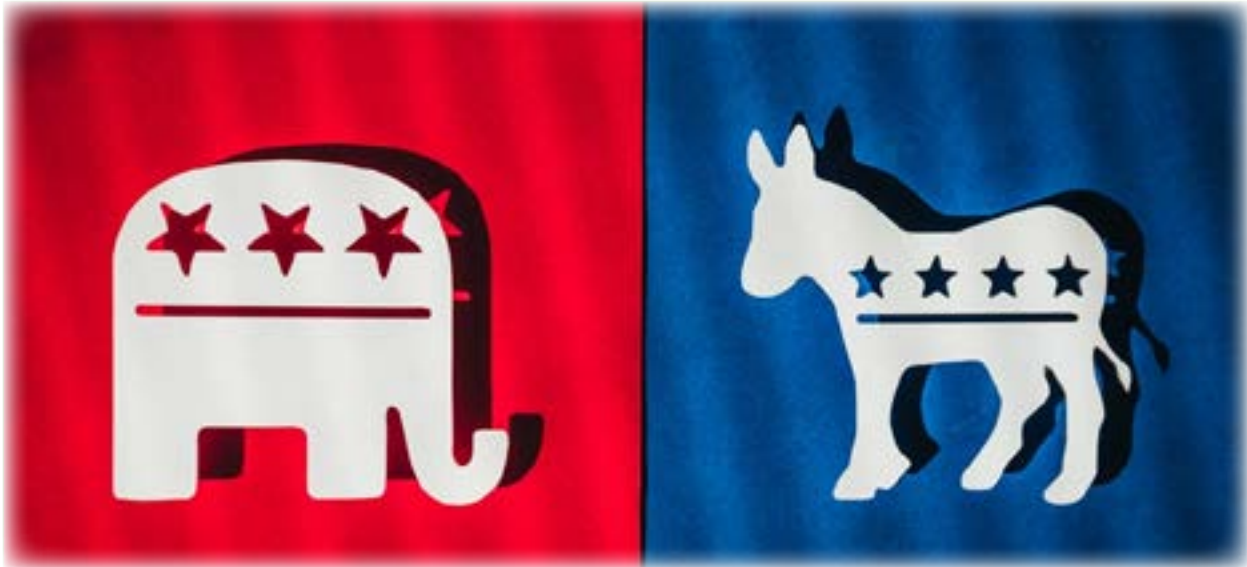


The Presidential Election and K-12 Education



K-12 education has not played a starring role in this year's presidential campaign. Yet this year's election results have the potential to impact millions of elementary, middle, and high school students, especially when it comes to issues of educational equity, which has historically been a focus of federal education policy. As voters head today to the polls, NEPC is sharing a series of Q&As conducted with experts in the areas most likely to be impacted by results of the elections. Each Q&A provides background information, describes the parties' positions, and summarizes relevant research on the topic.

The 10 Q&As ran as newsletters between August 22nd and October 29th.

1. **What Role Should the Federal Government Play in Education Policy?**: Elizabeth DeBray of the University of Georgia kicks off the series with an overview of the federal role in K-12 education policy and how that might change post-election.
2. **Protections Against Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Discrimination in Schools: The Federal Role**: Elizabeth Meyer of the University of Colorado Boulder examines federal regulations related to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in schools.
3. **Help or Harmful? The Federal Role in Supporting Students with Disabilities in Schools**: Edward García Fierros of Villanova explains the current and proposed federal role in supporting students with disabilities in schools.

4. **Federally Funded School Vouchers: Contrasting Party Views:** [Josh Cowen](#) of Michigan State University lays out Republican and Democratic Party positions on federally funded school vouchers and explains what research does and does not say about this topic.
5. **Testing and Accountability: The Federal Role:** Accountability and assessment are the focus of this Q&A with [Lorrie Shepard](#) of the University of Colorado Boulder.
6. **Early Childhood Education and the 2024 Elections:** [W. Steven Barnett](#) of Rutgers describes current and proposed federal involvement in early childhood education, including Head Start, the nation's longstanding federal preschool program.
7. **What Will Happen to Bilingual Education After the Elections?:** [Patricia Núñez](#) of the University of Texas at Austin discusses partisan positions that might impact bilingual education and multilingual learners.
8. **National School Lunch Program and the 2024 Elections:** [Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach](#) of Northwestern University describes current and proposed federal involvement in the nation's main child-nutrition program, which dates back to 1932, including the Community Eligibility Provision, which allows schools, districts, and groups of schools within districts to offer free meals to all students.
9. **Community Schools and the Elections:** [Marisa Saunders](#) of UCLA discusses how the presidential election might impact community schools, which typically take a whole-child approach by focusing on academics, health and social services, youth empowerment, and community development and engagement.
10. **The Elections and Issues Around Racial and Ethnic Diversity:** In the final Q&A of the series, [Kevin Lawrence Henry, Jr.](#) of the University of Wisconsin-Madison discusses how the presidential election might impact issues concerning racial and ethnic diversity in schools.

Politics

This newsletter is made possible in part by support provided by the Great Lakes Center for Education Research and Practice: <http://www.greatlakescenter.org>

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